

A Holiday Hill Farm® Book  
Joe Troiano

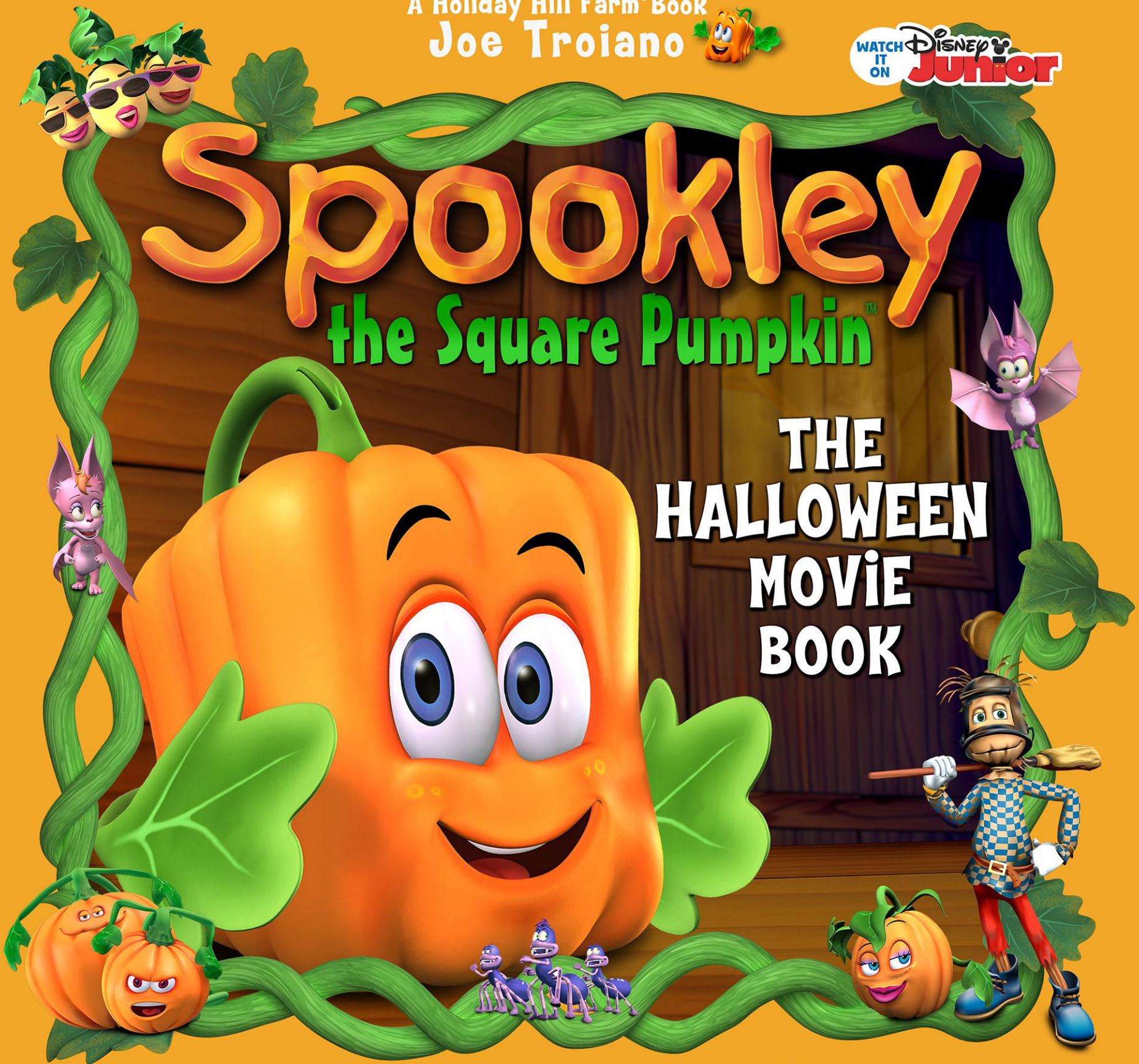


WATCH IT ON **Disney Junior**

# Spookley

## the Square Pumpkin™

THE  
HALLOWEEN  
MOVIE  
BOOK



Illustrated by Bernie Denk





“A movie?” That was my reaction to the suggestion to make a film from my son Nicholas’ Halloween-night bedtime story. It had already been turned into a book *The Legend of Spookley the Square Pumpkin*. And yet, I did, and the movie continues to air, year after year, in many languages all over the world.

“A book?” That was my reaction to the suggestion to turn that Spookley movie into a book. And yet, here I am writing this Author Note in a book based on a movie that was based on a book.

A rather nice circular event that all started with a square pumpkin one Halloween night a long time ago. —JT Cossayuna Lake 2023

*For Palma and Nick with love.*

*–J. T.*

Special thanks to some of the incredibly talented people behind the movie magic:  
Bernie Denk, Jeffrey Zahn, Mark Zander, Sonja Ball, Rick Jones, Michele Perron, Holly Gauthier-Frankel, Bruce  
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**For more information about Spookley  
and his Holiday Hill Farm Friends,  
visit [www.spookley.com](http://www.spookley.com)**

Joe Troiano

# Spookley

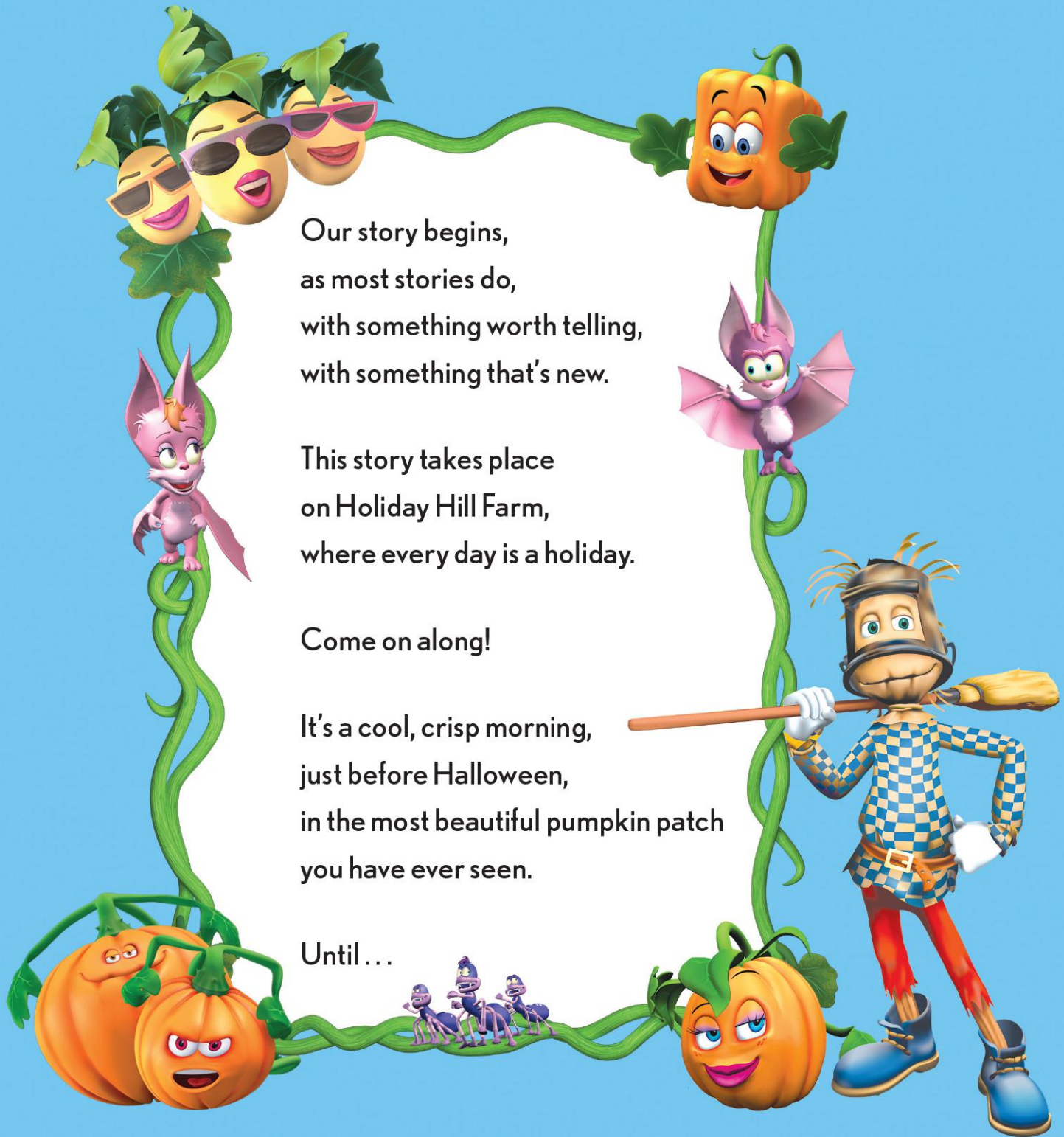
the Square Pumpkin™

THE HALLOWEEN MOVIE BOOK



illustrated by Bernie Denk

A Holiday Hill Farm® Book



Our story begins,  
as most stories do,  
with something worth telling,  
with something that's new.

This story takes place  
on Holiday Hill Farm,  
where every day is a holiday.

Come on along!

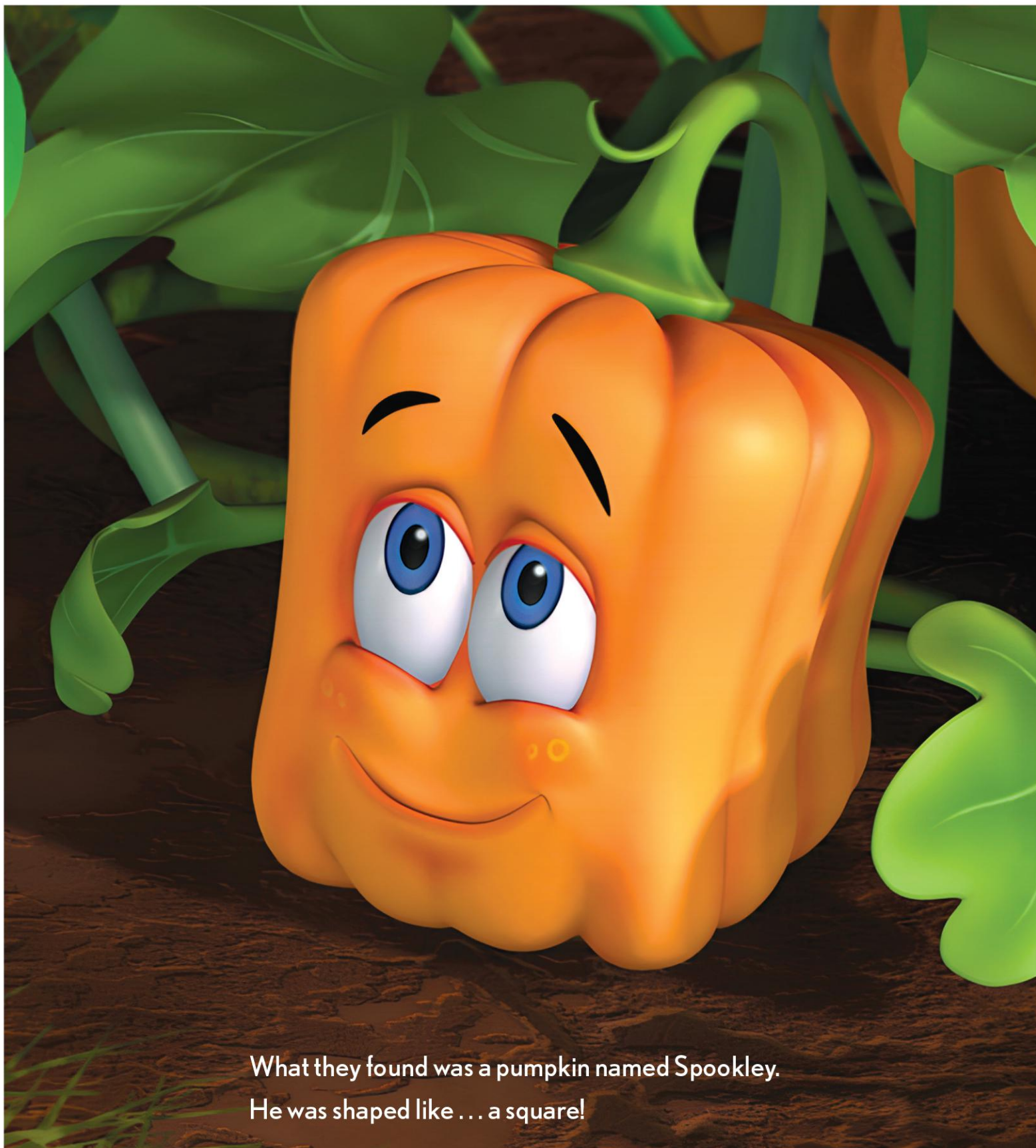
It's a cool, crisp morning,  
just before Halloween,  
in the most beautiful pumpkin patch  
you have ever seen.

Until ...



Boris and Bella, two wacky bats,  
found a pumpkin in the patch  
that didn't match.

Everyone was excited  
to go find out  
what Boris and Bella  
were fussing about.



What they found was a pumpkin named Spookley.  
He was shaped like ... a square!





Jack said, "I've never seen a pumpkin like this anywhere."

A square pumpkin in the patch caused quite a scene.  
Little Tom was sure Spookley would ruin Halloween.



Little Tom said, "Real pumpkins are round. He's shaped all wrong.  
He doesn't look like us. He doesn't belong!"



And when Farmer Hill sees him... oh... that will be the end.  
He'll never grow another pumpkin on the farm again."




The other pumpkins agreed that Spookley should go, but Jack was in charge and he said, "No! Spookley's a pumpkin, so he can stay right here and try to be Pick of the Patch this year."



Because any pumpkin, square or round,  
who wins the Jack-A-Lympics  
gets to wear The Candy Corn Crown.”

While everyone listened to what Jack had to say,  
poor little Spookley slipped quietly away.

The scene is set in a dark, moody environment, likely a pumpkin patch at night. Large, vibrant orange leaves of a pumpkin plant dominate the upper half of the frame, with their thick, green stems extending downwards. The ground is dark brown and textured, suggesting soil. In the lower right foreground, three cartoonish spiders are gathered. They are bright red with white markings on their bodies and legs. One spider is in the center, facing left with its arms raised in a gesture of surprise or excitement. To its left, another spider is seen from the side, looking towards the central one. To its right, a third spider is facing right, also looking towards the central spider. The lighting is dramatic, with the spiders and the ground in the foreground being more brightly lit than the background, which is mostly in shadow.

Spookley was lost and alone, he didn't know where to go.  
Then he met three spiders named, Edgar, Allan, and Poe.

Edgar said, "You can't give up and run away,  
no matter what the round pumpkins say.

You've got to believe in yourself.  
And if you do,  
the Pick of the Patch  
might just be you!"



“Oh, I don’t know.” Spookley said.

“I might ruin Halloween.”

“Still not convinced?” Edgar asked.

“Well . . . let me show you what I mean.”







Then the spiders did the strangest thing.  
They looked up at Spookley and . . . started to sing.

Spookley liked the spiders' silly song.  
It cheered him up, so he sang along.

And when the song was over,  
when the fun was done,  
Spookley had made three new friends  
and the spiders . . . a square one!

“The Jack-A-Lympics are about to begin.”  
Edgar said with a sly little grin.  
“I’ve got an idea!  
We’ll help you win.  
That will show them you fit in.”





Spookley knew he might get nervous, get scared and even cry,  
but he went back to the pumpkin patch to give it his best try.



The Jack-A-Lympics have three tests to see which pumpkin is the best:  
The Pumpkin 500, where they race round and round.  
The Smack O Lantern, where they knock the pins down.  
And The Pumpkin Pitch, where they fly high off the ground.

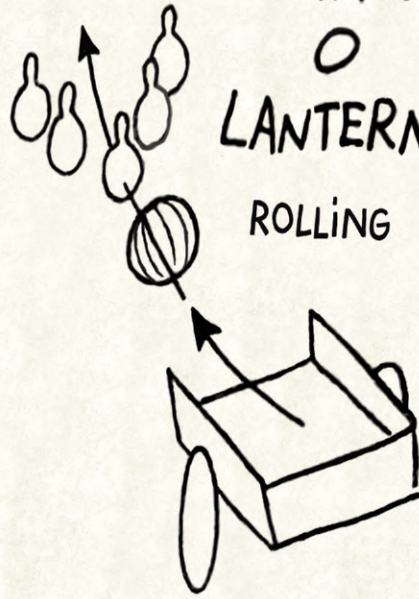
# PUMPKIN 500

## BOUNCING

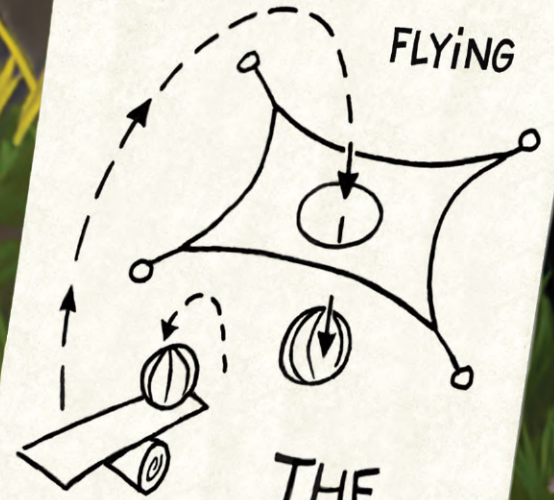


# SMACK O LANTERN

## ROLLING



## FLYING



# THE PUMPKIN PITCH

The Jack-A-Lympic events were fun.  
Well . . . fun for the pumpkin who won each one.



Spookley did get nervous, but didn't cry  
when he couldn't . . . BOUNCE . . . or ROLL . . .



or FLIP ...

or FLY.

But he didn't give up or try to hide.



Still, he came in last no matter how hard he tried.

When the Jack-A-Lympics were over and done, Jack announced that Bobo had won. Her friends gathered around to watch her get crowned. And then ...





... storm clouds covered the sun.



Thunder RUMBLED!

The wind ROARED!

Lightning FLASHED!

The rain POURED!



Spookley watched the round pumpkins roll here and there,  
and for the first time ever was glad to be square.

The pumpkins blew into a wagon and were stacked in the back when the wagon hit a fence, which creaked and then . . . CRACK!



If the fence gave way, if the fence let go,  
the wagon would fall into the river below.


They heard Jack call out, "I'll be right there!"  
But before he could save them . . . BANG! BOOM!  
There was lightning everywhere.



A bolt hit a branch.  
There were sparks all around.  
The branch snapped, then cracked,  
and fell to the ground.

Jack was trapped.  
His broom was on fire.  
He watched as the flames  
grew higher and higher.

Spookley had to do something  
as the flames grew near.  
He looked up at the water tower  
and ...



... got an idea.

He shimmied up the chute  
and blocked the water with his back.  
It flowed over the side  
and down onto Jack.

The fire was out.  
Jack was safe and sound.  
Now it was time for the little square pumpkin  
to save all the ones who were round.

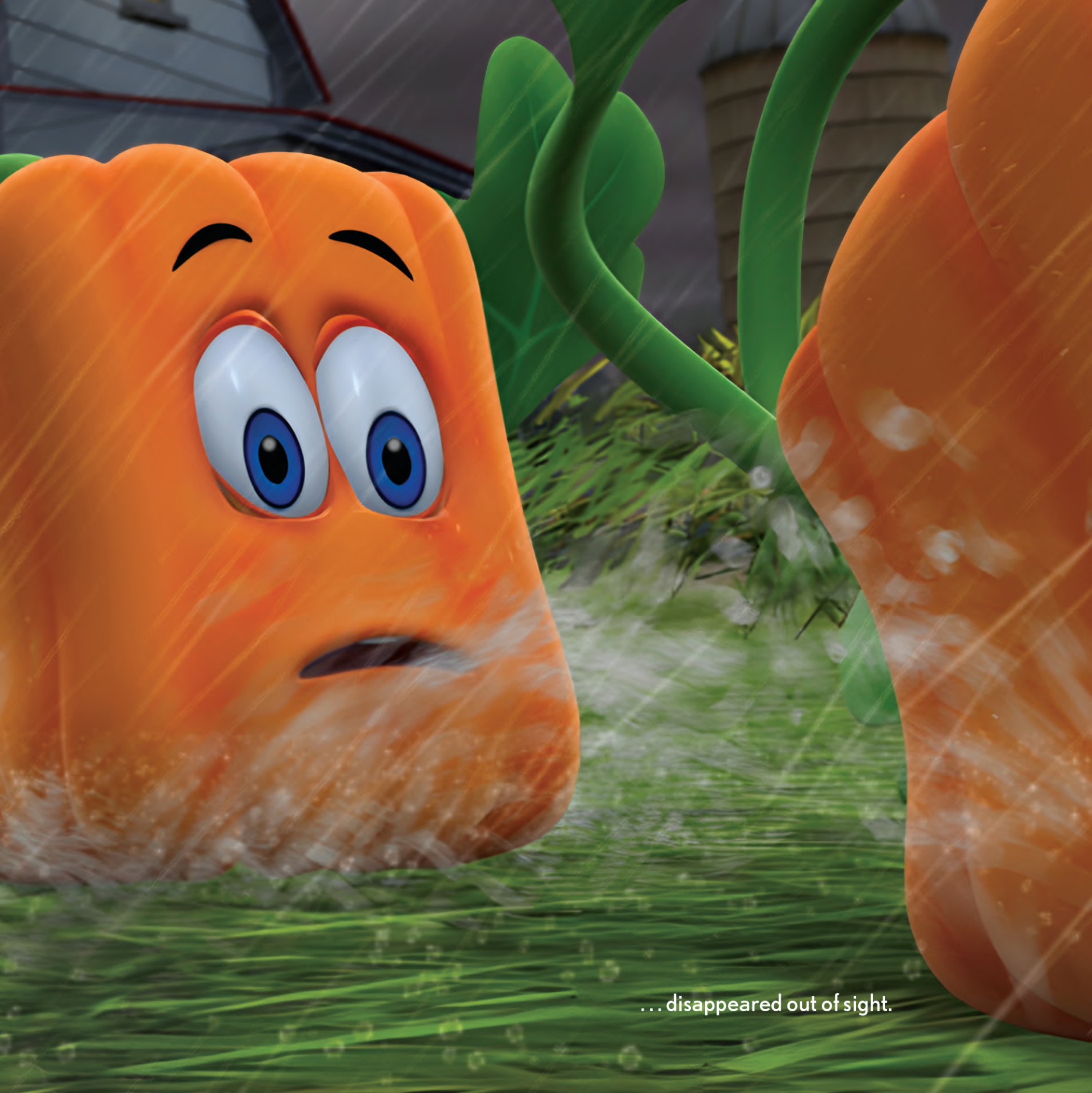
Spookley let go of the side  
and slid down the slide.

He skipped!  
He skidded!  
He tried to glide.

Faster  
and faster  
and faster he flew.



And just as the river came into view, Spookley knew what he had to do.  
He twisted and turned with all his might. He slid under the wagon and ...



... disappeared out of sight.



The wagon **BUMPED** into something  
that made a loud **THUMPING** sound.  
The wheels **JUMPED** just a little  
and then slowly slowed down.





Spookley had blocked the wheel  
and the wagon had stopped.  
He was bruised,  
but refused  
to let it drop.

He had saved every pumpkin  
in Farmer Hill's crop.

The storm was over. The sky was blue.  
The pumpkins were safe, and Jack was too.



Little Tom told Spookley he was sorry  
and hoped they'd be friends.  
And promised to never judge anyone  
by the way they looked ever again.





And later . . .

Farmer Hill put Spookley on his porch  
where everyone could see  
the little square pumpkin  
that was special as could be.

And all the children loved the sight  
and the warmth of his square orange light.

And from then on . . .

Halloween was Spookley's night.

A night when every pumpkin's

shape is right—

round, or square,

big, or small,

flat, or fat, or tiny, or tall,

we celebrate them every fall.

We celebrate them . . . one and all.



Our story begins,  
as most stories do,  
with something worth telling,  
with something that's new.

In a world where the only good pumpkins are round pumpkins,  
Spookley the Square Pumpkin is teased because of his unusual shape.

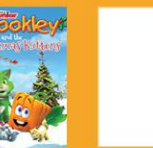
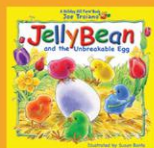
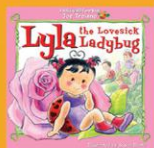
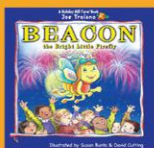
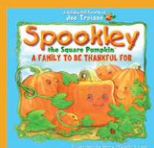
But when a mighty storm threatens the patch, Spookley  
begins the adventure of a lifetime and discovers that sometimes  
being different can make all the difference in the world.



**EVERY DAY IS A HOLIDAY**<sup>®</sup>

Have fun reading & watching these Holiday Hill Farm books & movies.

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