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Hallow-E'en, 1914

Winifred M. Letts

"Why do you wait at your door, woman,
Alone in the night?"

"I am waiting for one who will come, stranger,
To show him a light.
He will see me afar on the road
And be glad at the sight."

"Have you no fear in your heart, woman,
To stand there alone?
There is comfort for you and kindly content
Beside the hearthstone."
But she answered, "No rest can I have
Till I welcome my own."

"Is it far he must travel to-night,
This man of your heart?"
"Strange lands that I know not and pitiless seas
Have kept us apart,
And he travels this night to his home
Without guide, without chart."



"And has he companions to cheer him?"
"Aye, many," she said.
"The candles are lighted, the hearthstones are swept,

The fires glow red.
We shall welcome them out of the night—
Our home-coming dead."

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