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Hallowe'en Candle

By YETZA GILLESPIE

STANDING like a woman, Her candle blown out, Who hides in stillness From what may be about

> The earth's heart thuds But its breath comes light. And the trees give tongue, "Tonight! Tonight..."



The dry leaves tick On the paving stones With the sapless sound Of a cane, or bones.

Oh, stealthy! Oh, swiftly! Lay a wary head On safe goosefeathers At middle of the bed.



The stars burn green
As the eyes of owls;
At the moon's white heels
The grey wind howls.

