

## Lumpkintales

### *Chapter 3*

Snow on the ground, sun streaming through the window of the lumpkinhaus..

“I miss Dorrie”, says Rose.

“Me too”, chirps Star.

“She’ll be back after Dark-Day and after Jolly Pater comes”, says Pater.

“It’s almost time to start getting ready for the Dark-Day feast”, says Mater. “I love the black bread and turnip soup.” (Lumpkins love their celebrations and even more, their eats.)

BANG, BANG, comes a knock on the door.

“Who can this be Pater?” says Star.

Mater opens the door with and with a great smile says, “Come Little Lumpkins, it’s your uncle Heartwood here for the Dark-Day festival. Hugs from everyone!” as all rush to Heartwood hugging legs and arms and talking all at once.

Then from under his heavy overcoat a “snuff”, then a “sniffle”, then a full fledged

“Whaaaa”.

“Meet your new cousin, Spooner H. Heartwood the (One, two, three) third. I guess he’s hungry. “

“What’s the H. for?” says Star.

“Helpful” says uncle Heartwood as they all break into uncontrollable giggles... Spooner pokes his head out from under the coat and grins a great big one-toothed smile and starts to giggle too.