

AUTUMN MEMORIES

Autumn: reds, oranges, yellows, browns, and greens. Leaves cascading down as if to a symphony orchestra. The crisp morning air is invigorating and the afternoon sun is wonderful to sit and read by.

One of my favorite activities as a child was to shuffle through the leaves and take in the smells on the way home from school. We'd rake the leaves into piles and jump into them. Then, we'd make rooms out of them to play house.

Warm cider with cinnamon, baking apple pies, apple crisp and baked apples. Pumpkins, gourds, squash, sweet potatoes. Fall arrangements with orange leaves, pumpkins, yellow sunflowers, gourds, brown leaves and feathers. Mums of gold, orange, cranberry, purple and lavender.

Halloween parties at church: bobbing for apples, eating donuts off a string, pinning the tail on the donkey. At school: dressing up in a Halloween costume, sitting in a different chair in class, and fooling my classmates as to whooooo I was!

Dressing up like a purple and green witch, a turquoise and silver mermaid, a Victorian lady, and Mae West in a hot pink outfit. Attending various Halloween parties and delighting in winning a prize for my homemade, mermaid costume.

Autumn is a time of change. A time to sit by the wood-burning fire and reminisce. A time to think about the upcoming holidays. A time of warm days and cold nights. A time to quietly sit by a window and watch the leaves slowly falling to the ground. A time to change one's wardrobe and bedding. A somewhat melancholy time, but a beautiful, peaceful time.