

Here's <sup>THE</sup>  
**THING**  
Charlie Brown



Inspired by the Films  
of John Carpenter

Written by Eric Moyer

**HERE'S THE THING,**  
**CHARLIE BROWN**

Written by  
Eric Moyer

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**EXT. SNOW-COVERED FIELD - DAY**

We hear the thumping bass of a synthesizer score.

The bass goes...

Boom.

Boom. Boom.

SNOOPY runs across the field as if his life depends on it.  
Pretty fast for a beagle.

Swish. Swish. Swish. The sound of an approaching helicopter.

Snoopy turns around, sees it, then runs even faster.

The helicopter speeds up as a PASSENGER points at Snoopy down below.

Snoopy turns a corner and leaps into his red doghouse.

Does a quick change inside and emerges as the World War I  
Flying Ace: green hat, red scarf and goggles.

A motor starts and the doghouse rises into the sky. Snoopy  
puts on a glass astronaut helmet.

WOODSTOCK joins him, sporting a mini glass helmet.

The doghouse weaves around the helicopter, then launches into  
space.

**EXT. SPACE - DAY**

The doghouse floats gracefully among the stars.

Snoopy looks back at planet Earth below.

A satellite passes him blaring music: (I CAN'T GET NO)  
SATISFACTION by THE ROLLING STONES.

Snoopy and Woodstock dance to the beat.

In the distance, a UFO blasts into Earth's atmosphere as we  
fade to:

**EXT. PUMPKIN PATCH - NIGHT**

Spooky synth music gives way to the familiar pumpkin patch.  
Ghosts wail and cackle.

**BEGIN MONTAGE**

A full moon.

The sound of car engines revving.

Lightning flashes. Thunder rumbles.

Kids in costumes run. They all wear one of three masks: witch, jack-o'-lantern, and skull.

Black cats hiss and dance around an overflowing canister of green ooze.

Skeletons with flamethrowers set floating pumpkins ablaze.

Seven silver spheres combine to form a gigantic pumpkin. It morphs from silver to orange as a single black crayon writes on it, like fingernails on a chalkboard:

**HERE'S THE THING, CHARLIE BROWN**

The pumpkin explodes, sending a vampire bat flying into the screen.

**END MONTAGE****EXT. CHARLIE BROWN'S HOUSE - DAY**

The familiar "Linus and Lucy" Peanuts theme plays, but with a hint of dark 80's synth.

The door pops open and CHARLIE BROWN strolls out with his usual early morning happy dance.

Everything seems normal, until a dense, thick fog sets in.

The entire house is engulfed in the fog as we hear Charlie Brown's voice.

CHARLIE BROWN  
Good grief. Just my luck.

Charlie Brown stands by the door and waits for the fog to slowly move away, revealing Snoopy's doghouse. He hurries over and looks inside.

CHARLIE BROWN (CONT'D)  
Snoopy?

He darts around the yard, looking behind and under things.

CHARLIE BROWN (CONT'D)  
Snoopy?! Where are you old buddy,  
old pal?! Snoooooopyyyyy?!

Nothing. He sighs and heads down the sidewalk.

And there she is...

THE LITTLE GREEN-EYED GIRL.

She's dressed in a gray skirt with a buttoned-down collared shirt. Her blonde hair is styled in an old-fashioned shoulder-length bob.

Charlie Brown blushes as hearts float above his head. We actually hear his heartbeat.

He snaps out of it and waves.

CHARLIE BROWN (CONT'D)  
My name's...uhhh...my name  
is...well...what's your name?

Charlie Brown waits for an answer that never comes.

CHARLIE BROWN (CONT'D)  
Would you like to go trick or  
treating tonight with me and my  
friends?

Still no response. She just stares straight through him. That's enough for Charlie Brown.

He raises his arms above his head and runs off down the street.

#### **EXT. BRICK WALL - DAY**

LINUS sucks on his thumb and clenches his blanket. His elbows rest on top of the brick wall, the usual meeting place for the kids.

He's joined by Charlie Brown, who is still a bit dazed with lingering hearts spinning recklessly above his head.

CHARLIE BROWN  
I saw her again, Linus.

LINUS  
Saw who, Charlie Brown?

The hearts disappear. Charlie Brown is defensive.

CHARLIE BROWN

Who do you think? The Little Green-Eyed Girl.

LINUS

You should invite her to my party tonight. The Great Pumpkin Movie starts at nine o'clock sharp and the Great Pumpkin promises lots of candy and surprises for the most sincere parties.

CHARLIE BROWN

I already tried to ask her to go trick or treating, but you know me, I'm a failure.

LINUS

Not so fast, Charlie Brown. You just need a confidence booster. Maybe you should talk to my sister.

Charlie Brown perks up. Rummages through his pockets. Finds a nickel and holds it up.

CHARLIE BROWN

Great idea, Linus!

Charlie Brown hurries off.

Linus just sits there, in deep thought. He hears something in the distance. Puts his hand to his ear.

LINUS

Is that what I think it is?

Sure is. It's a music box rendition of the children's song, TURKEY IN THE STRAW.

It's an ice cream truck!

**EXT. SIDEWALK - DAY**

Linus follows the music down the sidewalk. Kicks a pile of leaves along the way.

A red and white 1958 Plymouth Fury slowly drives by. Linus doesn't even notice it.

He reaches the ice cream truck, which is pulled over to the side of the road, the music playing on a loop.

At the end of the street, the Plymouth Fury does a u-turn and passes again.

Linus peruses the ice cream menu that is painted on the side of the truck.

ICE CREAM MAN

What can I get you?

Linus can't decide, his hand on his chin. So many choices. Finally, he snaps out of it and holds up a finger.

LINUS

I'll take one vanilla twist ice  
cream cone please.

Almost instantly, a hand extends from the truck holding an ice cream cone. This startles Linus, as the hand has a fresh cigarette burn on it.

Linus shivers and hesitates, but then snatches it. He wastes no time in licking the cone and heads back down the sidewalk.

He passes a man in a phone booth as a LITTLE GIRL in pigtails runs to the ice cream truck.

The Plymouth Fury approaches the little girl, but turns and follows Linus instead.

Linus keeps going, enjoying his ice cream cone, oblivious to the Plymouth Fury that is tailing him.

#### **EXT. VAN PELT RESIDENCE - DAY**

Charlie Brown approaches what looks like a lemonade stand, but the sign above it reads: PSYCHIATRIC HELP - 5 CENTS. Down below it reads: THE DOCTOR IS OUT.

Charlie Brown sighs and hangs his head.

CHARLIE BROWN

Who am I going to talk to now? The  
doctor is out. My dog is missing  
and...

Something or someone whizzes past Charlie Brown, causing him to spin. He sways for a moment, stars swirling above his head.

When he looks back up, LUCY sits before him and the sign below now reads: THE DOCTOR IS IN.

Lucy shakes a tin can. Charlie Brown knows the drill and drops his nickel inside.

LUCY  
May I help you?

CHARLIE BROWN  
I'm a failure.

LUCY  
Well...that is true, but here's the thing, Charlie Brown. You just need confidence.

CHARLIE BROWN  
That's what Linus said. How do I get confidence?

LUCY  
First, let me tell you what your problem is. It's television.

CHARLIE BROWN  
Really? How?

LUCY  
Too much TV will melt your brain.

CHARLIE BROWN  
It will?

LUCY  
Just ask my blockhead brother. He's not even going trick or treating tonight. Again. All he cares about is that stupid Great Pumpkin Movie. Do you want your brain turned to mush like his?

Charlie Brown puts both hands on the back of his head.

CHARLIE BROWN  
Is that why I sometimes feel an electric shock on the back of my head?

Lucy shakes the tin can at Charlie Brown again.

LUCY  
That'll be five more cents, please.

CHARLIE BROWN  
What? Why? You never charge me more than five cents.

LUCY  
Didn't you ever hear of inflation,  
Charlie Brown?

CHARLIE BROWN  
Ugh!

Charlie Brown pulls his pockets inside out. Nothing.

CHARLIE BROWN (CONT'D)  
That was all I have.

Lucy changes the sign to read: THE DOCTOR IS OUT. She struts away with her nose in the air. Charlie Brown sulks and heads home.

**EXT. SIDEWALK - DAY**

Linus is about halfway finished the ice cream cone. He sees a UPS truck drive past him and screams.

LINUS  
My package!

Linus drops his ice cream cone onto the sidewalk and runs as fast as he can to catch up. His blanket blows in the wind like a cape.

As Linus reaches the house, the UPS truck drives away.

Linus hurries to the porch and reads the label on a big cardboard box.

LINUS (CONT'D)  
For Linus Van Pelt. That's me! And  
it's from SSN! It's here! It's  
here!

Linus shifts into paranoid mode and looks all around, his hair standing on end.

LINUS (CONT'D)  
Time to start getting ready!

He grabs the box and darts inside.

**EXT. VAN PELT RESIDENCE - NIGHT**

A passage of time as the sun sets and the full moon rises. Silhouettes of kids in costumes approach the house.

**INT. VAN PELT RESIDENCE - NIGHT**

The doorbell rings.

Linus is dressed as a FISHERMAN and wields a metal hook. Lucy runs down the steps dressed as a VAMPIRE.

LINUS

That's strange. You're usually a witch.

LUCY

You're usually in that stupid pumpkin patch.

Linus ignores her and opens the front door revealing the kids:

SALLY walks in dressed as a POLICE OFFICER. Hearts swirl above her head.

SALLY

Happy Halloween, my sweet babboo!

Linus blushes as PEPPERMINT PATTY and MARCIE walk in.

Marcie looks like she's wearing a RED BEACH BALL with yellow spots. Her feet are webbed like a duck.

Peppermint Patty is dressed as a SKELETON GHOUL.

LUCY

What are you two supposed to be?

Peppermint Patty and Marcie pose.

PEPPERMINT PATTY

We're aliens!

MARCIE

I thought we were ghosts, sir?

PEPPERMINT PATTY

Yeah! Ghosts of Mars!

Linus shrieks.

LINUS

More like Formaldehyde Face.

He tries to touch the make-up job on Peppermint Patty but she swats his hand away.

Next is SCHROEDER, dressed as ELVIS. He takes a bow.

SCHROEDER  
(like Elvis)  
Thank you very much.

Lucy is stunned. She tries to touch his taped-on sideburns, but he knocks her hand away too.

And then a cloud of dust appears. It's PIG-PEN, dressed as SNAKE PLISSKEN, complete with an eye patch and a briefcase handcuffed to his wrist.

LINUS  
Hi, Pig-Pen.

PIG-PEN  
Call me Snake.

There's someone else in Pig-Pen's dust cloud. This person wears a suit, hat, and sunglasses over a bandaged face. It's Charlie Brown as the INVISIBLE MAN.

MARCIE  
Is that you, Charles?

CHARLIE BROWN  
How did you know?

LUCY  
Who else would dress as the  
Invisible Man? The story of Charlie  
Brown's life!

Schroeder looks down at a cardboard box on the floor. He tries to peek inside, but Linus quickly grabs it.

LINUS  
No! It's a surprise!

LUCY  
Come on, everybody. Let's go get  
some candy!

The kids cheer.

LINUS  
Don't forget! The Great Pumpkin  
Movie starts at nine o'clock sharp.  
Don't be late!

Lucy rolls her eyes, while Sally grabs onto Linus, more floating hearts above.

SALLY

Why don't you come trick or  
treating with us?

Linus clenches his blanket as he glances around the room.

LINUS

The Great Pumpkin will bring treats  
and candy and a special surprise  
for the house with the most sincere  
decorations. I have lots of work to  
do.

Peppermint Patty elbows Charlie Brown. He nearly falls over.

PEPPERMINT PATTY

You ready, Charlie Brown?

CHARLIE BROWN

I was born ready!

Linus quickly pulls Charlie Brown aside.

LINUS

What if you see the Little Green-  
Eyed Girl? She won't recognize you.

CHARLIE BROWN

Maybe that's a good thing.

LINUS

But how are you going to invite her  
to the movie party?

Charlie Brown sighs.

CHARLIE BROWN

You're right, Linus. What would I  
do without a good friend like you?

LINUS

I don't know, Charlie Brown. I  
guess you'd probably be invisible.

Charlie Brown hands his sunglasses to Linus, then removes the  
bandages from his face.

Sally starts to follow the kids out the door, but keeps  
looking back at Linus.

SALLY

Are you sure the Great Pumpkin is  
going to pick this house? For real  
this time?

LINUS

The Great Pumpkin has to pick this house. I don't see how he won't.

Sally looks back and forth between Linus and the kids, then finally slams the door shut and stays behind. Linus smiles ear to ear.

**EXT. STREET - NIGHT**

The kids make their way across the sidewalk. Pig-Pen's dust cloud follows.

They reach a door.

KIDS

Trick or treat!

The kids all open their bags as a hand reaches out and throws candy.

Something different lands in Charlie Brown's bag. It's definitely not candy.

The kids stop down the street and all look inside their bags.

LUCY

I got a candy bar!

PIG-PEN

I got a quarter.

PEPPERMINT PATTY

I got bubblegum. And I was all out of bubblegum too!

Charlie Brown removes something from his bag and holds it up for everyone to see.

CHARLIE BROWN

I got...sunglasses? I already have sunglasses!

Everyone laughs at him as they move along to the next house.

Charlie Brown tries on the new sunglasses. When they reach the street corner, we see from Charlie Brown's perspective.

A sign in big black letters reads: NOT SAFE.

Charlie Brown removes the sunglasses and takes a second look. It's just a stop sign.

Puts the sunglasses back on and there it is again: NOT SAFE.

Lowers the sunglasses to the bridge of his nose. Sees a speed limit sign and pushes the glasses back up with his finger. The speed limit sign now reads: GO HOME.

CHARLIE BROWN (CONT'D)

Stupid glasses.

Charlie Brown puts the sunglasses back in his trick or treat bag and catches up with the rest of the gang.

**EXT. MYERS HOUSE - NIGHT**

The kids stop in front of a creepy old house. A jack-o'-lantern flickers on the railing of the front porch. The mailbox has the name MYERS written in crayon.

We hear voices coming from inside the house.

FEMALE VOICE

My parents won't be home until ten.

MALE VOICE

Are you sure?

An owl hoots in the distance as a LITTLE BOY in a clown costume peeks into a first floor window.

The kids watch as Charlie Brown points at the little boy.

CHARLIE BROWN

Maybe we should ask Michael if he wants to trick or treat with us?

LUCY

He's a weirdo, Charlie Brown.

CHARLIE BROWN

Well, I'm a weirdo too. We're all weirdos.

LUCY

Speak for yourself.

We hear the distant voices again.

MALE VOICE

We are alone, aren't we?

FEMALE VOICE  
Michael's around someplace.  
(laughter)  
Take off that thing!

MALE VOICE  
Let's go upstairs.

FEMALE VOICE  
Okay.

The little boy hears the kids on the sidewalk. He runs over to join them. This is MICHAEL.

MICHAEL  
Hey! Can I go trick or treating  
with you?

CHARLIE BROWN  
Sure, Michael-

LUCY  
(interrupting)  
No freaks allowed!

Lucy pulls Charlie Brown along and the rest follow.

Michael just stands there by himself and stares straight ahead, no emotion. He turns around to see a light turn off on the second floor.

Michael goes inside and re-emerges moments later with a plastic clown mask in one hand and a knife in the other.

He looks back and forth between the second floor window and the kids as they head down the street.

He decides to follow the kids.

#### **EXT. STREET - NIGHT**

The kids wait to cross the street.

A car idles at the intersection, revving its engine. It's that red and white 1958 Plymouth Fury.

The kids take a few steps but the Plymouth Fury revs its engine even more, causing them to back up.

PEPPERMINT PATTY  
Ummm. I think we should keep  
moving. That could be Street  
Thunder gang members.

MARCIE

How do you know what a gang member  
looks like, sir?

PEPPERMINT PATTY

Movies. TV.

Charlie Brown takes notice of something.

CHARLIE BROWN

Hey guys, it can't be gang members.  
I don't see anyone driving.

The other kids look. Charlie Brown's right. There's no one in  
the driver's seat.

LUCY

Maybe it's a real invisible man.  
Right, Charlie Brown?

Charlie Brown leads the way and they all cross the road.

The Plymouth Fury revs and squeals its tires as it barrels  
straight for the kids.

They all scream and barely make it across the road in time.  
The Plymouth Fury misses Pig-Pen by inches, sending a cloud  
of dust swirling with the exhaust smoke and burnt rubber.

CHARLIE BROWN

Phew! That was a close one!

The Plymouth Fury speeds down the road.

#### **INT. VAN PELT RESIDENCE - NIGHT**

Linus and Sally are busy putting up decorations. Linus stands  
on a chair and hangs fake severed arms from the ceiling.

The radio is playing the song SUPERSTITIOUS by STEVIE WONDER  
as Sally maneuvers around the room on roller-skates.

There's a creepy knock at the door.

Linus falls off the chair. Sally helps him back up.

LINUS

What if it's the Great Pumpkin?  
It's too early! We're not ready!  
What do we do?

Linus looks to Sally for an answer but she doesn't have one.  
She clings onto the back of him as he tiptoes to the door.

The knocking is replaced by scratching. Someone, or something, is desperate to get in.

Linus puts his hand on the doorknob.

LINUS (CONT'D)  
Who goes there?

No answer.

Sally holds Linus tighter as he slowly opens the door just enough to peek outside. He doesn't see anyone, so he opens it a little more. Still no one.

He feels something brush against his leg and leaps into Sally's arms. They both scream as Sally loses her balance on the roller-skates. They fall to the floor and look up to see...

LINUS (CONT'D)  
Snoopy!

SALLY  
Where have you been? My brother and  
I have been worried sick about you.

Snoopy gives them a stone cold stare, definitely not his usual self.

SALLY (CONT'D)  
Snoopy? Are you okay?

Snoopy ignores her. He slowly crawls underneath the ping-pong table, sits down and stares straight ahead.

We hear the thumping sound of a synthesizer score again.

The bass goes...

Boom.

Boom. Boom.

LINUS  
I don't think he's feeling well.

They watch Snoopy for a moment, shrug their shoulders, then get back to decorating. Sally takes off the roller-skates as the Stevie Wonder song continues.

**EXT. STREET - NIGHT**

The kids continue down the street, hopping and skipping.  
Charlie Brown stops in his tracks. The other kids stop too.

PEPPERMINT PATTY  
What's the matter, Chuck?

Charlie Brown ducks behind Schroeder.

CHARLIE BROWN  
It's the Little Green-Eyed Girl!

Peppermint Patty playfully leans in.

PEPPERMINT PATTY  
What's so great about green eyes?

Charlie Brown peeks around Schroeder. The Little Green-Eyed Girl is staring right at him. He panics and gulps.

LUCY  
Let's just get this over with,  
shall we?

Lucy grabs Charlie Brown by the arm and drags him over to the Little Green-Eyed Girl.

CHARLIE BROWN  
Uhhh, Merry Christmas. I mean,  
Happy Easter. No, wait, I meant to  
say...

KIDS  
(yelling)  
Happy Halloween, Charlie Brown!

Charlie Brown is relieved.

CHARLIE BROWN  
Yes. That.

The Little Green-Eyed Girl is expressionless, making Charlie Brown even more nervous.

CHARLIE BROWN (CONT'D)  
So...what are you supposed to be?

No response.

CHARLIE BROWN (CONT'D)  
I'm dressed as the Invisible Man.

He touches his face, but forgot the bandages are gone.

CHARLIE BROWN (CONT'D)

Well, I was the Invisible Man, but  
now I'm just...a man. I mean, a  
boy. A visible boy.

Lucy has seen enough and pulls him away.

LUCY

That was painful to watch, Charlie  
Brown. Haven't you learned anything  
from my psychiatric advice?

The kids keep moving as Charlie Brown looks back at the  
Little Green-Eyed Girl until they turn a corner.

**EXT. NORTH BEND PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL - NIGHT**

The kids pass by a large building. There's something about it  
that scares Charlie Brown.

A sign reads: NORTH BEND PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL.

He rummages through his candy bag and puts the sunglasses  
back on. The hospital sign now reads: YOU'RE INSANE.

Charlie Brown is definitely unsettled. Puts the sunglasses  
back in the bag and sees the shadow of someone looking out  
from a second floor window.

Charlie Brown ducks and hides behind a tree. Lucy laughs.

LUCY

It's just North Bend Psychiatric  
Hospital. I'm going to work there  
someday, after I get my degree.  
Maybe you'll be my first patient  
there, Charlie Brown.

Charlie Brown looks back up at the window. The person is  
gone.

CHARLIE BROWN

I don't know why, but I feel like  
someone's watching me. This  
neighborhood just doesn't feel safe  
anymore.

Peppermint Patty pulls Charlie Brown along, but all the kids  
suddenly stop.

Large bags are scattered across the sidewalk. Looks like body bags.

Cars beep all around them, along with the sound of dozens of ringing telephones.

On the other side of the road, adults are on the ground, seemingly unconscious. Trick or treaters step over them.

MARCIE

This is highly unusual.

PEPPERMINT PATTY

Maybe we should help them?

LUCY

Don't be silly. They're fine. It's all just part of Halloween.

In the distance, a building is engulfed in green flames.

Pop. Pop. Pop. Charlie Brown looks up to the sky.

CHARLIE BROWN

Is that fireworks? On Halloween?

No fireworks though.

The 1958 Plymouth Fury drives by with flames shooting out from under the hood, but the kids don't even see it.

Something falls to the ground and startles Charlie Brown. It's a kite.

Charlie Brown slowly looks up at the tree before him. The spooky branches are filled with tangled kites.

CHARLIE BROWN (CONT'D)

You've gotta be kidding. It's a kite-eating tree!

Marcie looks at her watch.

MARCIE

Charles, it's almost nine o'clock.

Charlie Brown needed a good reason to get out of there, and that was it.

CHARLIE BROWN

Come on, everybody! Let's go to the party!

They all run and cheer.

They don't see the Plymouth Fury do a u-turn and follow behind them.

They also don't see the Little Green-Eyed Girl following them.

Or young Michael Myers, still holding a knife in his hand.

**INT. VAN PELT RESIDENCE - NIGHT**

All of the kids are gathered at Linus and Lucy's house, including more kids like VIOLET, FRIEDA, FRANKLIN, and SHERMY.

Even Linus and Lucy's younger brother, RERUN.

Linus and Sally did an amazing job with the decorations: there's hanging pumpkins and skeletons, a bucket with floating apples, and board games spread throughout.

On the coffee table is a book: THE RETURN OF MADNESS by Sutter Cane.

Charlie Brown enters the house, bringing an eerie trail of fog with him. He goes up to Sally, looking sad.

CHARLIE BROWN  
I just checked the house, Sally. I  
still can't find Snoopy!

Sally jumps up and down.

SALLY  
He's here, big brother!

Sally points to Snoopy, still sitting expressionless under the ping-pong table. Looks like he hasn't moved.

CHARLIE BROWN  
Snoopy! Boy am I glad to see you,  
old pal!

Charlie Brown smiles and holds out his arms expecting Snoopy to jump into them, but he doesn't.

Snoopy just stares straight ahead.

CHARLIE BROWN (CONT'D)  
What's wrong with him?

SALLY  
I don't think he's feeling good. He  
doesn't seem like himself.

Something is definitely off as we hear that thumping synth bass again.

Lucy stomps over to them.

LUCY  
Hey! No dogs allowed!

Snoopy just stares at her and growls.

This catches Lucy off guard. She takes a step back, recomposes herself and waves a fist at Charlie Brown.

LUCY (CONT'D)  
If he gets doggie barf on my floor,  
I'll slug you!

Snoopy continues to growl at her as she slowly backs away and joins the others.

The board game LIFE is set up on the floor. Marcie points at it.

MARCIE  
The game of Life! I'm a pro at  
that!

A table holds a large canister of what appears to be swirling green Kool-Aid.

Marcie watches Peppermint Patty fill her glass and take a sip.

MARCIE (CONT'D)  
What is that, sir?

Peppermint Patty gulps it down and makes a funny face. Spits some out.

PEPPERMINT PATTY  
Tastes like sour green apple!

MARCIE  
Looks like liquid Satan to me.

Marcie hears something outside. She peeks out the front window.

We see what she sees: gang members surrounding the house. One of them throws something into the front yard. Looks like a pumpkin.

MARCIE (CONT'D)  
Sir?

Marcie turns around and waves Peppermint Patty over.

PEPPERMINT PATTY

What is it?

MARCIE

Look outside.

Peppermint Patty glances out the window. The gang members are gone.

PEPPERMINT PATTY

What am I looking for? I don't see anything.

MARCIE

I think it's the gang members you were talking about.

Marcie looks over Peppermint Patty's shoulder. Nothing out there.

PEPPERMINT PATTY

I think you need new glasses.

Peppermint Patty gets back to the party. Marcie cleans off her glasses, then follows.

Schroeder finds the electric keyboard in the corner and sits at it. Lifts up his hands, closes his eyes and then starts playing the theme from John Carpenter's Halloween.

This gets all the kids dancing, swaying side to side like zombies.

Outside, Woodstock repeatedly crashes into the window, desperately trying to get in. Woodstock chirps, but no one cares, including Snoopy.

Woodstock flies away as someone steps up to the window. It's young Michael Myers, still wearing his clown costume. He holds the knife up to the window, but nobody sees him.

LINUS

Come on, everybody! The movie's about to start.

Linus disappears around the corner as Charlie Brown turns and sees the Little Green-Eyed Girl standing near the open front door.

Charlie Brown shrieks. He reaches into his pocket, pulls out his sunglasses and puts them on in an attempt to be cool.

We see through the sunglasses. The Little Green-Eyed Girl's face is now a skeleton ghou! , similar to Peppermint Patty's costume.

Charlie Brown rips the sunglasses off and takes another look at her. She appears normal. Puts the sunglasses back on and there's the skeleton face again.

Charlie Brown looks up at the WELCOME GREAT PUMPKIN banner. With the sunglasses, it reads: DON'T WATCH.

He then looks at the HAPPY HALLOWEEN banner. It now reads: GET OUT.

Turns and looks at the television. Through the sunglasses, he sees a deep black hole with teeth and spiders and snakes crawling inside.

Charlie Brown backs away and tosses the sunglasses to the floor. Takes another look at the TV. Just a Cable 54 logo. He joins the other kids.

The clock reads 8:59PM as we hear a revving car engine. Sounds like the Plymouth Fury is outside. Snoopy's ears perk up.

LINUS (CONT'D)

Do you hear that? I think it's the  
Great Pumpkin!

All of the kids crowd around the TV set, some on bean bag chairs, some on the floor.

The TV flashes a strobe light with a pumpkin face, playing eerie music to the tune of London Bridge.

Drip. Drip. Drip. The canister holding the green liquid Kool Aid leaks onto the floor.

At the window, Michael puts on his plastic clown mask and disappears.

TV SET

Happy Happy Halloween, Halloween,  
Halloween. Happy Happy Halloween,  
Silver Shamrock.

Linus returns with the cardboard box. It's now open and overflowing with Great Pumpkin Halloween masks.

LINUS

All we have to do is wear the mask  
during the movie, and the Great  
Pumpkin will appear and bring us  
all candy.

Linus hands one to Charlie Brown. Hands one to Sally, PigPen,  
Franklin, and all the others.

The green liquid oozes across the floor, getting on their  
shoes and pant legs.

TV SET

It's time. It's time. Time for the  
big giveaway. Halloween has come.  
All you lucky kids with Great  
Pumpkin masks, gather round your TV  
set. Put on your Great Pumpkin  
masks and watch the magic pumpkin.  
Waaaaaaaaaatch.

We hear tires squeal outside. A revving engine gets closer  
and closer until...

CRASH! The entire house shakes.

LINUS

The Great Pumpkin! Everyone put on  
your masks! The Great Pumpkin is  
here!

Linus is the first to put on his Great Pumpkin mask. The rest  
of the kids watch Lucy storm off, then put on their masks.  
They're into it!

SALLY

Oh boy! Oh boy! Oh boy!

We hear tires squeal as an engine revs in reverse.

Lucy throws her mask on the floor.

LUCY

I'm not watching this stupid movie.

Lucy suddenly stops, seemingly against her will. She turns  
around to see The Little Green-Eyed Girl, whose eyes change  
from green to orange.

Lucy tries to resist, but can't. She joins the others, puts  
on her Great Pumpkin mask and sits in front of the TV,  
clearly being controlled against her will.

The front door opens and Michael walks in. Clown costume. Clown Mask. Knife in hand.

For a moment, we see from Michael's POV, through the eyes of the mask as he looks around at all the kids.

Michael stands next to the Little Green-Eyed Girl. He raises his knife.

Through the open front door, we see dozens of gang members approach the house.

More fog seeps inside.

Charlie Brown doesn't notice the green ooze slither up his shirt, up his neck and under his mask.

Snoopy continues to growl, foam forming on the edges of his mouth.

Tires squeal again, followed by the revving engine. Another CRASH into the house!

The London Bridge music pulsates. Louder. Faster. Intense.

There's a logo on the back of the mask that says Silver Shamrock. It starts blinking.

Charlie Brown leans forward and grabs the back of the mask with his hands. It looks like the mask is squeezing his head. Pushing inward. The pressure is too much.

We hear the sounds of crawling bugs and snakes.

Everyone screams as we cut to:

**EXT. BACKYARD - DAY**

Charlie Brown is intensely focused on Lucy in the distance. She holds a football in place.

Charlie Brown licks his lips, squints his eyes, then runs as fast as he can. He's determined to kick that football.

As he gets closer, he readies his foot for the big kick. But out of nowhere, a thick fog surrounds Lucy and the football. Now he can't even see. He kicks, but misses, and instead finds himself floating in slow motion in the fog.

VOICES

You Blockhead! You're a failure!  
Why? Because you're Charlie Brown!

We hear the buzz of an electric shock as he lands with a thud and we cut to:

**INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY**

Charlie Brown is on a hospital bed. He wears a helmet with electrodes and clenches the back of his head as if being shocked.

We see a FEMALE DOCTOR with green eyes and long dark hair. She removes the helmet from Charlie Brown's head.

Other than the yellow shirt with a black zig-zag stripe, this isn't the Charlie Brown we know and love. He's a disheveled teenager now.

There's a stuffed beagle down near his feet.

The doctor notices a drawing on a piece of paper on the bed. It's a stick figure with a block for a head.

There's a badge on the doctor that reads: DOCTOR LUCY VAN PELT - NORTH BEND PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL.

Doctor Lucy looks at her clipboard. At the top, it says: MULTIPLE PERSONALITIES. Underneath are a bunch of names: Charlie, Charles, Chuck, Linus, Schroeder, Peppermint Patty, Marcie and more.

Lucy hands Charlie Brown a mirror.

DOCTOR LUCY  
Waa Waaa Waaaa Wa Waa.

Charlie Brown holds the mirror. We see what he sees, but it's not his reflection. Instead, Charlie Brown see the faces of all the members of the Peanuts gang, like a spinning wheel until it stops on the face of Linus.

DOCTOR LUCY (CONT'D)  
Waa Wa Waaa?

CHARLIE BROWN  
My name is Linus.

Lucy puts a checkmark next to the name Linus as Charlie Brown grabs his blanket and wraps it around himself. Puts his thumb in his mouth.

Lucy tosses Charlie Brown a bag of peanuts and leaves the room, nearly tripping over a baseball glove and football on the floor.

CHARLIE BROWN (CONT'D)  
I'm not insane!

Charlie Brown looks down at the stuffed beagle. It's like something changes in him, like he's being shocked again. Another personality emerges.

He rips his thumb out of his mouth and grabs the back of his head in pain. He throws the blanket across the room and reaches under the mattress and pulls out a makeshift homemade kite.

CHARLIE BROWN (CONT'D)  
Charlie Brown just looks the big  
ole kite-eating tree right straight  
in the eye and says, give me your  
best shot pal, I can take it.

He looks down at the stuffed beagle.

CHARLIE BROWN (CONT'D)  
Today's the day, Snoopy. I can feel  
it.

Charlie Brown opens the bag of peanuts, pops one in his mouth and smiles as we hear the sound of an approaching helicopter.

And the bass goes...

Boom.

Boom. Boom.

Charlie Brown continues to stare into Snoopy's eyes as we hear what sounds like thousands of cicadas coming from within the stuffed animal. That's followed by a high-pitched screech.

We see from Charlie Brown's perspective as the stuffed beagle's face distorts. Tentacles shoot from its mouth as it morphs into...

**THE THING**