

## **Ghosts**

By C. E. Warner 12-26-21

**They come out at Halloween, late at night.**

**They fill our books, movies, pictures, nightmares.**

**Harmless fun, people enjoying the fright.**

**Casper, ghouls, goblins filling the night airs.**

**But more dangerous are the real ghosts.**

**Not from Simon Schuster or tinsel town,**

**not shown at Halloween Haunt Disney hosts.**

**These are distractions behind the mask's frown.**

**More frightening – memories from our past.**

**Mistakes, suffering, angers upon us.**

**They bring the enduring pain that will last.**

**The terrors in our mind are brought forth thus.**

**Our own memories are the chains we drag,**

**until torched at stake like a ghost's old rag.**