



Wednesday and the Halloween Key



Chapter 1 – The Storm

It was Halloween night. The Addams mansion stood tall and dark under the storm. Wind shook the windows and rain hit the old roof. Lightning crossed the sky, and thunder echoed through the rooms.

In her bedroom, Wednesday Addams sat at her desk. She wore her usual black dress and wrote in her diary. Her scorpion, Nero, crawled across the pages like a tiny reader.

Suddenly, she heard knock, knock, knock. It was not the rain or the wind. The sound was clear, sharp, and very close.

Wednesday looked at the window. Two bright eyes were staring at her from the night.



Chapter 2 – The Raven



Wednesday opened the window. A big black raven flew inside. Its wings were wet, and drops of water fell onto the floor. The bird landed on her chair and looked at her with shiny eyes.

In its beak, it carried a small folded paper. Wednesday took it and opened it carefully. The letters were thin and red, like scratches on the page.

The message said: “Go to the cemetery before midnight. Find the stone with three lines. A secret is waiting.”

Wednesday smiled. “At last, something interesting,” she whispered.

The raven tapped twice on the desk and waited.

Chapter 3 – The Family

Wednesday went downstairs. The family was in the living room. Gomez was cleaning his sword. Morticia was cutting roses and keeping only the thorns. Uncle Fester held a light bulb in his mouth and laughed.

Wednesday gave them the message. “The raven wants us in the cemetery,” she said. “Magnificent!” shouted Gomez.

“Exciting!” laughed Fester.



Thing jumped on the table and pointed to the door. Morticia looked at Wednesday. “Darling, the night has chosen you. We will follow.”

The storm grew stronger outside. Wednesday closed her diary and prepared to leave.

Chapter 4 – The Cemetery



The family walked through the garden. The iron gate of the cemetery opened with a terrible sound. The place was dark and silent, except for the wind. Old gravestones stood in long lines under the moon.

“Look for the stone with three lines,” said Wednesday.

They moved slowly among the graves. Pugsley carried a lantern. Uncle Fester made scary noises for fun.

Suddenly, Wednesday stopped. “Here.” On one gravestone, three long lines shone in the moonlight. The raven landed on the stone and tapped with its beak. The ground began to tremble. The stone moved like a door.



Chapter 8 – The Passage

A black passage opened under the gravestone. The family stepped inside. The air was cold, and water dropped from the ceiling.

Strange carvings of moons and keys covered the walls. “Nice decoration,” said Fester, laughing.

Wednesday touched the stone. It was smooth, as if many hands had touched it before. The raven flew ahead, guiding them.

At the end of the passage, they entered a chamber. In the middle stood a wooden box with a heavy chain around it.

On the lid, words were carved: “Only the brave can open the door to eternity.”

Wednesday smiled. “Perfect.”



Chapter 6 – The Box

Uncle Fester tried to break the chain with his hands.
“Too strong!” he shouted.

Wednesday looked carefully at the box. “It needs more than strength,” she said.

Thing jumped on the lid and tapped three times.
Wednesday copied the taps.

Click! The chain opened by itself.



Inside was a silver key in the shape of a skull. Its black eyes did not shine—they swallowed the light.

Gomez looked at it with admiration. “A key for the night.”

Morticia touched Wednesday’s hand. “Darling, I think it belongs to you.”

Wednesday held the key. It was heavy and very cold.

Chapter 7 – The Raven Speaks

The raven landed on the box and opened its beak.

This time, it spoke. Its voice was deep and slow.

“This is the Halloween Key. Every year, at midnight, it opens a door. The door is never the same. Sometimes it leads to light. Sometimes it leads to danger.”

Pugsley’s eyes grew big. “Can it open a door full of monsters?”

“Perhaps,” said the raven.

Morticia nodded calmly. “The key has chosen Wednesday.”

Gomez smiled. “Perfect, my dear.”

Wednesday closed her fingers around the key. “At last,” she said. “Something new every year.”

The raven’s eyes glowed in the dark.



Chapter 8 – Back Home

The Addams family left the chamber. Behind them, the gravestone closed again. The cemetery was silent, as if nothing had happened.

They walked home under the moonlight. The storm was ending, and the air smelled of wet earth.

In her room, Wednesday placed the skull key on her desk. Nero touched it with his tail. The black eyes of the key looked darker than before.

She opened her diary and wrote: “Tonight we found the Halloween Key. Next year, it will open a new door. We are ready.”

The raven flew into the night sky, carrying the promise of another mystery.



Activities

Before Reading

1. Look at the cover and title (The Halloween Key).

- What do you think the key will open?
- Write down two ideas: one realistic, one supernatural.

2. Match the words with pictures or definitions (no dictionaries!).

- Raven
- Gravestone
- Passage
- Chain
- Chamber

a) A stone marking a grave.

b) A bird, black and mysterious.

c) A corridor under the ground.

d) A strong metal link used to lock something.

e) A small closed room.



While Reading

A. Chapter 1-2

I. True or False

1. Wednesday was playing with a cat in her room.
2. The raven brought a piece of paper.
3. The message told them to go to the family cemetery.
4. The message was written in blue ink.

B. Chapter 3-5

2. Answer the questions

What was Morticia doing in the living room?

What sound did the cemetery gate make?

What symbols were carved on the passage walls?

What was written on the wooden box?



While Reading

C. Chapter 6-8

3. Choose the best answer.

The box opened when...

- a) Fester broke the chain.
- b) Thing tapped three times.
- c) Wednesday used a sword.

The Halloween Key...

- a) always opens the same door.
- b) opens a new door each year.
- c) does not open any doors.

What did Wednesday write in her diary at the end?

- a) She wanted to return the key.
- b) She wanted to keep the key.
- c) She wanted to forget the adventure.



After Reading



A. Vocabulary

I. Complete the sentences with these words: raven, gravestone, key, storm, secret.

1. Wednesday found the skull _____ inside the box.
2. The _____ was strong and the house shook.
3. The _____ brought the message to Wednesday.
4. The family looked for the stone with three lines in the _____.
5. The message said there was a _____ waiting at midnight.

B. Discussion (pair or group work)

- Do you think the Halloween Key is dangerous or magical? Why?
- Which Addams family character do you like best in this story?
- Imagine the door opens again next year. What will be behind it?

C. Writing

Choose ONE:

1. Write Wednesday's diary entry for the next Halloween. (60-80 words)
2. Write a short letter from the raven to Wednesday, giving her new instructions. (60-80 words)
3. Write your own "Halloween Key rulebook": five rules for using the key safely.