

A woman was sitting at her reel
one night; and still she sat, and
still she reeled, and still she
wished for company.

In came a pair of broad, broad
soles, and sat down at the
fireside!

And still she sat, and still she
reeled, and still she wished for
company.

In came a pair of small, small
legs, and sat down on the broad,
broad soles!

And still she sat, and still she
reeled, and still she wished for
company.

In came a pair of thick, thick
knees, and sat down on the
small, small legs!

And still she sat, and still she
reeled, and still she wished for
company.

In came a pair of thin, thin
thighs, and sat down on the
thick, thick knees!

And still she sat, and still she
reeled, and still she wished for
company.

In came a pair of huge, huge hips, and sat down on the thin, thin thighs!

And still she sat, and still she reeled, and still she wished for company.

In came a wee, wee waist, and sat down on the huge, huge hips!

And still she sat, and still she reeled, and still she wished for company.

In came a pair of broad, broad shoulders, and sat down on the wee, wee waist!

And still she sat, and still she reeled, and still she wished for company.

In came a pair of small, small arms, and sat down on the broad, broad shoulders!

And still she sat, and still she reeled, and still she wished for company.

In came a pair of huge, huge hands, and sat down on the small, small arms!

And still she sat, and still she reeled, and still she wished for company.

In came a small, small neck, and
sat down on the broad, broad
shoulders!

And still she sat, and still she
reeled, and still she wished for
company.

In came a huge, huge head, and
sat down on the small, small
neck!

"How did you get such broad,
broad feet?" quoth the Woman.
"Much tramping, much
tramping!" (GRUFFLY.)

"How did you get such small,
small legs?" "Aih-H-H!--late--and
WEE-E-E-moul!" (WHININGLY.)

"How did you get such thick,
thick knees?" "Much praying,
much praying!" (PIOUSLY.)

"How did you get such thin, thin
thighs?" "Aih-h-h!--late--and
wee-e-e-moul!" (WHININGLY.)

"How did you get such big, big
hips?" "Much sitting, much
sitting!" (GRUFFLY.)

"How did you get such a wee,
wee waist?" "Aih-h-h!--late--and
wee-e-e-moul!" (WHININGLY.)

"How did you get such broad, broad shoulders?" "With carrying broom, with carrying broom!" (GRUFFLY.)

"How did you get such small arms?" "Aih-h-h!--late--and wee-e-moul!" (WHININGLY.)

"How did you get such huge, huge hands?" "Threshing with an iron flail! Threshing with an iron flail!" (GRUFFLY.)

"How did you get such a small, small neck?" "Aih-h-h!--late--and wee-e-e-moul!" (PITIFULLY.)

"How did you get such a huge, huge head?" "Much knowledge, much knowledge!" (KEENLY.)

"What do you come for?"

"FOR YOU! ! !"

(AT THE TOP OF THE VOICE,
WITH A WAVE OF THE ARMS
AND A STAMP OF THE FEET.)

The Strange Visitor



Halloween Stories



By Joseph Jacobs