cutest little pumpkin in the patch

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cutest little pumpkin in the patch

by Anonymous

Summary

Every year Shane always drove past their local pumpkin patch wondering if they were worth the hassle of going out into the patch to pick your own pumpkin. Pumpkin carving alone sounded like an entire sensory nightmare and going out into a patch full of plants sounded just as bad.

He really didn't have a want to do it growing up, too busy with hockey but now he had a pup of his own and she needed to have a variety of experiences in her little life — according to his mom that was one of the things she wanted to do very badly with him but the first time they carved a pumpkin as a family, baby Shane (around a year old) cried, screamed and wanted absolutely nothing to do with it.

Shane didn't want Sofia to be afraid and Ilya had been begging to go to one ever since Harris mentioned them at practice earlier that week.

Or the one where they take Sofia to a pumpkin patch.

Notes

See the end of the work for notes

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"Shane, she would love it — she loves pumpkin baby food. She loves the Snoopy — we have to take to her." Ilya had gone on and on and on until Shane finally agreed.

"I can't believe we're actually going, I swear if we have to carve a pumpkin—"

"I will be sure to let you stick your hands in first, *moya lyubov*." Ilya reassured playfully, nudging Shane with his shoulder as they got out of the car and started unloading Sofia's stroller.

She was five months old and so curious about everything around her, her eyes bright with wonder. Everyone always told him what an alert baby he had for her age, he really hadn't been around many other babies except the Pike pack — okay so maybe there were more babies than he thought he had been around. But the point being was that he never really noticed whether or not they were paying attention to everything around them.

With Sofia, he noticed the way she would watch carefully and take it all in. She would look at them with her big hazel eyes watching and waiting to see what was next. Ilya would joke that she

"She will love it, what is not to love about picking your pumpkin? I'm not sure what else they have but the website says they have a petting zoo. Shane, I bet there will be baby animals." Ilya was starting to get way more excited than Shane and Sofia combined.

"Mhm, yeah so I packed enough hand sanitizer for us both." Shane re-checked the diaper bag making sure the hand sanitizing wipes were still in the front pocket where he always kept them.

Sofia was just waking up from a nap, silently taking in everything until she saw her papa's face and began squealing happily. She made grabby hands towards him, her chubby cheeks turned up in a big grin now.

"Are you excited to see baby animals and pick a pumpkin, *malyshka*?" Ilya cooed, scooping their pup up out of her carseat to strap her in the stroller. She was wearing her pumpkin outfit that said 'Cutest baby in the patch' courtesy of Harris. It had a knitted matching pumpkin hat that she wasn't a fan of, one that she kept tossing off her head.

"She looks enthused." Shane gestured to their pup who was staring at the pumpkin mascot that they had to walk through to get into the little shop part at the beginning of the patch.

"I think she said she wants to pet the sheep—" Ilya glanced over at the petting zoo portion quickly, having to do a double take. "Oh that is a baby goat apparently named Pumpkin Spice."

"Pumpkin Spice? I— wow okay." Shane wasn't exactly keen on the whole petting zoo part but he had everything he needed to clean her hands after and there were sinks nearby but he had a feeling she would try to chew on the baby goat — afterall she was teething and everything was a teething toy apparently.

Sofia gurgled as she was pushed over to the fluffy baby animals awaiting their pets.

"I think it says we can give them a bottle." Shane read the little sign. "Ilya, we are not taking it home." He glanced over at his husband who was busy scratching the top of the baby goat's head talking to it in Russian.

"Is very cute, I think Sofa likes it because she is a baby goat too. Get it? She is baby goat, Shanya." Ilya elbowed Shane, a grin on his face.

"Yeah, yeah really funny."

Sofia was busy trying to eat the bottle that was made for the baby goat. "Sofi, you can't have this bottle. That's not for you it's for the goat." Shane gently took it out of her hands and fed it to the correct baby.

After they finished up, they were able to pick from the patch a pumpkin that they wanted to take home. Ilya was more than glad to pick one out — he wanted it to be special for Sofia's first Halloween.

"Ilya, we have to be able to fit it in the car, just remember this ." Shane reminded his over excited husband who was already taking off into the patch with their pup in his arms.

"It will fit! I am good at this, you should know this!" Ilya called out luckily it was just the two of them in this part of the patch.

"*Ilya*, not here." Shane's cheeks heated up against the cool air. He was going to get him later for that.

They settled on a medium sized pumpkin about the size of Sofia. Shane took Sofia into his arms while Ilya loaded it in the back of their SUV.

"What next?" Shane looked around at the different areas that the 'Pumpkin Palace' had to offer. The hayrides weren't up and going because it was still early in the day and there were

other little activities to do. "Oh! I guess we could get her picture taken with a pumpkin." He noticed there was an area for pictures to be made.

"Wait even better they have carved out pumpkin to put her in, look there are little leg holes and she will look like she is a baby pumpkin." Ilya saw all the pictures of cute babies on the wall that had their pictures made in a pumpkin and wanted Sofia to have one too.

"What if she gets stuck?" Shane eyed the leg holes, they looked fairly small but maybe she would fit.

Ilya was already putting Sofia in the carved out pumpkin, situating her to where she would be comfortable. "There, see? She fits and she is very happy— oh Sofa don't eat the edges of the pumpkin." He tried to offer her a teething toy instead but she didn't want any of that, she wanted the pumpkin instead.

"Sofia, everyone has probably touched that thing." Shane tried to offer her some baby puffs to take her mind off the pumpkin so they could snap a quick picture.

After they took her picture, Ilya tried to pick her up but somehow she was stuck. He tried to maneuver her up a little but to no avail it was like she was only getting more stuck.

"Shanya, she is stuck." Ilya tried to mask the panic in his voice, he had to stay calm because if Sofia sensed that he was getting upset she would get upset too.

"Ilya, please. She can't be stuck, here let me try." Shane stepped up to the plate to give it a try, pulling her up from the back but she was still stuck.

"See I told you this. We have to get her out, she can not live in pumpkin for the rest of her life."

"She's not gonna live in a pumpkin for the rest of her life— we just have to wiggle her out somehow," Shane looked around for something that could help when one of the pumpkin patch workers came by completely shocked that this poor baby was stuck.

"Oh my gosh here let me help," Emma one of the workers pushed up on Sofia's feet as gently as she could while another helped pick her up and of course Ilya and Shane held the pumpkin down in a group effort to free their pup.

All the while Sofia was just smiling not a care in the world as if she weren't even stuck.

After a few more tries, they were able to get Sofia out — they might have also had to use pumpkin butter to help get her out which Shane was *definitely* making sure she got a bath later because if he didn't get her one Anya would think her chunky little legs were food.

"Okay so no more putting Sofia in pumpkins, can we agree on that?" Shane couldn't believe their daughter had gotten stuck in a pumpkin but stranger things had been known to happen.

Shane sent the pictures to the Centaur groupchat and of course everyone loved them. They especially got a kick out of sweet Sofia getting stuck in the pumpkin.

Luca: oh my god i bet it looked like that modern family scene

Video attached

Shane: We did not look like that😑

Ilya: well

Troy: why didn't u just break the pumpkin open?

Harris: they couldn't bc sofi was still in the pumpkin!

Shane: We also got passes to the pumpkin patch for the rest of the month because she got stuck, it's now Sofia's favorite place

Ilya: she wants it on everything so next time you guys come over we are having pumpkin butter cake

Shane: actually anything with pumpkins, we've actually got way too many in fact we could start our own patch

Troy: aren't pumpkins like the enemies of apples?

Luca: wait no i get it like pumpkins and apples are like fall symbols and stuff in this essay i will—

Which started the apples versus pumpkin great debate that Harris was more than glad to school everyone on why apples were a September symbol and Pumpkins were a fall symbol and how they both could co-exist together. This went on all night practically.

Shane had to mute the chat because it kept going off every five seconds it felt like but one thing was for certain — he was glad he took Sofia to the pumpkin patch (even if she did get stuck). He wanted her to experience different things and if that meant coming out of his comfort zone so be it.

End Notes

💌 heyyyy everyone! hockey season is upon us HOORAY 🏒 anywaysss i've been busy with preseason hockey but here i am posting, i've been working on this one a hot minute and with spoopy season also creeping in i thought what better time for the boys to take sofia to the pumpkin patch! 🎃 i hope you guys enjoy!!!!

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