

Date With a Zombie?

1. Noun
2. Noun
3. Noun Plural
4. Adjective
5. Verb Base Form
6. Adjective
7. Adjective
8. Noun Plural
9. Adjective
10. Adjective
11. Verb Base Form
12. Noun
13. Adjective
14. Noun
15. Noun
16. Adjective
17. Adverb
18. Noun Plural
19. Verb Base Form
20. Adjective
21. Adjective
22. Verb Base Form
23. Adjective

24. Adjective

25. Noun

26. Noun Plural

27. Noun

28. Noun

29. Adverb

30. Verb Base Form

31. Adverb

32. Adjective

33. Noun Plural

34. Verb Present Ends In Ing

35. Noun

36. Verb Present Ends In S

37. Noun

38. Noun

39. Noun

40. Adjective

41. Adjective

42. Noun

43. Noun

44. Adjective

45. Adjective

46. Adjective

47. Verb Present Ends In Ing

48. Adjective

49. Noun _____

50. Noun _____

51. Noun _____

52. Noun _____

53. Adjective _____

54. Verb Base Form _____

55. Verb Base Form _____

56. Noun Plural _____

57. Adjective _____

58. Verb Present Ends In S _____

59. Adjective _____

60. Noun Plural _____

61. Verb Present Ends In Ing _____

62. Noun Plural _____

63. Adjective _____

64. Verb Present Ends In S _____

65. Verb Present Ends In Ing _____

66. Adjective _____

67. Adjective _____

68. Noun _____

69. Noun _____

70. Adjective _____

71. Noun _____

72. Adjective _____

73. Noun _____

74. Noun Plural

75. Noun

76. Verb Base Form

77. Adjective

78. Noun

79. Noun Plural

80. Noun

81. Noun Plural

82. Verb Present Ends In Ing

83. Adjective

84. Verb Past Tense

85. Noun Plural

86. Adjective

Date With a Zombie?

I _____ in a deep _____ and hesitantly walk into the bar.

This probably isn't a good _____, but it's been months since I've been on a proper date, and when Cora--

my over-involved, happily married younger sister--insisted I join this new dating app called People With

_____, I gave in. I can be a bit of a dork, so it seemed more up my alley than the Tinders of the

world, and I'd hoped signing up would get her off my back about my _____, desert-dry love life.

I wasn't expecting a guy to _____ me so quickly. Or suggest a date before we even had much of a

chance to chat on the app. Or for that date to be on--of all days--Halloween. But like I said, it's been a while, and

Kyle seemed as _____ a guy as any.

Of course, a Halloween date at a semi-crowded bar creates an entirely _____ issue of what to wear.

Costume or no costume? In the end, I went with my usual--all black. And at the very last second, I added a cat-

ears headband, a reasonable compromise, I hope.

The bar itself is far more dressed up for the occasion, decked out in fake _____, jack-o-lanterns,

stuffed bats, and comically _____ witches. It's a hodgepodge mix of creepy and cartoonish, not unlike

the current clientele. It's more _____ than usual, , and though I've been here several times before, it's

impossible to tell whether I _____ anyone with their faces covered by _____ and

costume makeup.

I take a seat at the only available bistro table, which is conveniently positioned in the _____ corner of

the venue opposite the hall leading to the restrooms.

My

nerves flutter beneath my _____ Noun _____ really been that long--as a waiter dressed as a _____ Noun _____ asks for my order. I glance at the small laminated menu of the day's drink specials.

"A zombietini," I order, figuring I might as well get into the spirit of the holiday, and a bright green,

_____ Adjective _____ martini is _____ Adverb _____ delivered.

I peek at my watch, noting my date is already several _____ Noun Plural _____ late. Fantastic.

I down the zombietini faster than I normally would, willing it to calm my jitters. I don't even _____ Verb Base _____

Form _____ this guy, let alone like him, and I have no rational reason to be this _____ Adjective _____. Except I'm

_____ Adjective _____ at dating, and I'm starting to wonder if I even remember how.

But as the minutes tick by, and I order and not-so-slowly _____ Verb Base Form _____ yet another zombietini, I wonder if my "date" will show at all.

The costumes in the bar are borderline _____ Adjective _____. The women are dressed as the usual _____ Adjective _____

witches and such. The men's costumes have more variety. There's a guy dressed as Big _____ Noun _____, and

another wearing _____ Noun Plural _____ and covered in glitter, and I smirk as I get the _____ Noun _____ satire.

I let out another _____ Noun _____ as I raise my hand to order my third drink--the last I'll have before I give up on

Kyle and leave--when my eyes catch on an _____ Adverb _____ convincing zombie at the far end of the bar. He

stands there alone, staring straight ahead, and I _____ Verb Base Form _____, wondering if the features beneath the

layers of zombie makeup resemble those of Kyle's profile picture. I wave _____ Adverb _____ in his direction, unsure

if it's even him, but even more so, put off by the _____ Adjective _____, dead look in his _____ Noun Plural _____.

And then those eyes notice me, and without even the slightest hint of recognition, he begins to make his way to my

table, slowly _____ Verb Present ends in ING _____ a strange, thick, deep red _____ Noun _____ in his hand.

He says nothing as he approaches and sits down across from me. He barely even _____ Verb Present ends in S _____ his greeting, so I take the cue. "Hi," I say.

He grunts a _____ Noun _____ that resembles a hi back, so I take it. "Did you have any trouble finding the _____ Noun _____?" I ask, trying to give him an excuse for his _____ Noun _____, but he doesn't take it.

Kyle shakes his head and half shrugs at the same time, _____ Adjective _____ and noncommittal.

I catch the waiter's eye and point to my drink. I'm already more than a little _____ Adjective _____, but something tells me it's not going to be enough to get me through the evening.

Kyle takes a long sip of his strange crimson drink and I use the moment to take in his makeup. He's really committed to his _____ Noun _____, apparently, because his _____ Noun _____ is professional grade and incredibly _____ Adjective _____. I wonder if his job gives him access to a movie set or something like that, but recall his profile saying he worked in the _____ Adjective _____ field.

"So, what do you do again?" I ask nervously.

Kyle looks at me, though his exceptionally _____ Adjective _____ makeup, and it's _____ Verb Present ends in ING _____ me out. "Work in the medical field," he murmurs cautiously, doing nothing to quell my nerves.

The sad thing is, beneath the makeup, he's extremely _____ Adjective _____. His profile picture, I shamefully admit, is part of what made me agree to this _____ Noun _____. But now, whether it's the _____ Noun _____ or his weird _____ Noun _____, I can't help but wonder how long ago that photo was actually taken. Like before he died and came back as a _____ Noun _____. I push away the _____ Adjective _____ thought.

"Doing what?" I breathe, my trembling voice doing nothing to _____ Verb Base Form my nerves.

"Coroner's office."

My heart speeds up exponentially. What does he do in the coroner's office? _____ Verb Base Form the freaking brains of corpse's?

I don't dare ask. Instead my _____ Noun Plural follow the lines of his skin, the patches of missing flesh. It's just so utterly _____ Adjective.

"So you're really into Halloween," I muse.

He just _____ Verb Present ends in S. I'd suggested alternative nights to get drinks, but he was always busy, always _____ Adjective, except for this one night.

"Halloween?" I'd asked, skeptical. "Is it?" he'd replied, as if he'd neither realized nor cared. But then why does he look like he spent _____ Noun Plural in hair and makeup _____ Verb Present ends in ING the effect of a brain-munching _____ Noun Plural?

I wait for him to ask about me, but I get nothing, and when I try to make conversation, Kyle seems more _____ Adjective communicating in one-word answers and grunts. He _____ Verb Present ends in S down the last of his drink, and when I ask if he wants to order another, he hastily stops me from waving over the waiter, says he'll be right back, and disappears around the corner of the bar.

I'm _____ Verb Present ends in ING for almost ten minutes, and I nearly get up and leave, when Kyle suddenly emerges from the back hallway that leads to the restrooms, with another _____ Adjective, dark red drink in his pale, made up hands. He sits back down, but makes no effort to explain where he'd been, where he'd gotten his drink,

or to make conversation at all, for that matter.

Maybe I've had one zombietini too many, but I'm starting to wonder if this guy actually is a zombie.

My eyes fall to his tattered, sullied _____ Adjective t-shirt. Had it had that much fake blood on it before he'd left and returned?

My _____ Noun races even faster and nausea rises in my gut. I know it's a ridiculous notion--utterly preposterous. But...at the same time, I'm starting to wish I'd spent less time reading _____ Noun and more time watching The Walking Dead with Cora.

I shake my head, ridding it of these _____ Adjective thoughts.

"Dance?" Kyle grunts at me.

I shrug. Dancing with him can't be much worse than sitting here trying to force _____ Noun through his grunts.

We dance, slowly for about two songs, but he's too _____ Adjective. I'm about to make an excuse to cut the date short when I feel his breath on my _____ Noun, like he's positioning to take a bite.

I panic.

Whether it's too many zombietinis, or his makeup, his personality (or lack thereof) I'm not taking any

_____ Noun Plural . Nope, screw that, my brains are staying promptly where they are inside my _____ Noun .

"I'm sorry," I say, backing away from Kyle. "I'm not feeling well."

I _____ Verb Base Form out of the bar thinking myself pathetic. Cora will have something to say about this. She'll go on and on about how I find something _____ Adjective with every guy I meet.

My

first date in months, and, of all things, I manage to convince myself he's a freaking _____ Noun ?

Maybe I'm starting to lose it.

Still, when I'm safe in my apartment, I delete the _____ Noun Plural _____ With Brains app from my phone. Because if

there are zombies on this earth, that is the _____ Noun _____ they're using to find _____ Noun Plural _____...and victims.

It isn't until I'm _____ Verb Present ends in ING _____ my black shirt over my head that I realize there's a _____ Adjective _____

spot on the front of it, where it came into contact with Kyle's shirt as we _____ Verb Past Tense _____. I touch my

_____ Noun Plural _____ to it, my heart stopping when they come away a deep _____ Adjective _____, still wet...still warm.