The Shield of Toby

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“T’im Navi the fairy! The Great Deku Tree asked me
to be your partner from now on! Nice to meet you!”
—The Legend of Zelda: Ocarina of Time

Hey, Mom! Can I be Link for Halloween?
I’ll need the proper gear to play the part:
chain mail and leggings, tunic (forest green),
brown boots, and forearm bracers, for a start.
I’ll look just like a real live work of art.
Help make a gamer’s awesome dream come true
in elf-like hat and pointy ears. My heart
be still—a Twilight Princess waits for you.
O Zelda, on my way! Just one more thing, or two…

A leather belt to carry around my waist
rupees in a pouch, a dungeon key,
and fairies bottled up (they keep me chaste

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and help control the wolfish side of me).
A shoulder harness is a must, Mom, see—
to sling my sword and shield? They’re Hyrule grade.
I’ll need to take them everywhere with me,
from trick-or-treating to enchanted glade.
O Navi! Don’t ever let my powers fade!

I’ll protect my pillowcase of sweets
and Ordon Village using hidden skill:
Shield Attack! No plundering my treats—
to wield the Master Sword will be a thrill.
I’ll do as Din, Farore, and Nayru will,
that Golden Triangle burnished on my shield
above the winged crest. O Mom, fulfill
this one request? My fate as Link seems sealed—
please strive to shop, to stitch, to paint, and not to yield.