



Story Guide

GUITAR LESSONS

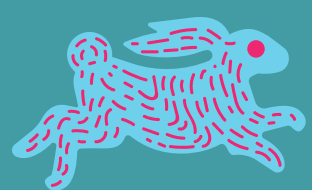
BY

REVEREND ROBERT JONES

Watch the video of storyteller Rev. Robert Jones live at the 2019 National Storytelling Festival [here](#).
(Right click on link to open it in a new tab.) All videos include ASL interpretation.

Story run time is 00:00 to 12:44.

Now, enjoy exploring the story with the activities outlined below.



explore it

- How does Rev. Jones use his guitar to share his story? What songs does he use? How does playing while he tells add excitement to his story?
- How does Rev. Jones change his voice when describing Billy? What voice does he use when acting like his grandmother?
- Rev. Jones ends his story with a clincher, something that settles a matter in a story. What is revealed about what he has learned from his experiences when he ends by singing *I'm Free Now*?



think it

- After watching Billy play, what does Rev. Jones notice about playing the guitar and why does he want one?
- Why do you think his grandmother says, "Don't act like a fool." before going to the pawn shop to buy a guitar?
- What type of guitar do they find and how much does it cost? What did Grandmother finally pay for the guitar and how does she accomplish this? How does he learn to play?
- What is the first song he learned? What famous blues player does he never want to play? Why?



create it

- Imagery creates a mental picture for the audience. Rev. Jones uses imagery when he says, "Finest hunk of ham fat I've ever seen," and "Two pounds of a woman in a one pound bag." Use imagery to create dramatic phrases to describe items like your favorite stuffed animal or your pet.
- Draw Grandmother's "purse within a purse" and hide something valuable in the hidden purse. How did the purse contribute to "the power of a grandmother" in the story?



tell it

- Journal about a time when you wanted other people to like you. How did you feel? What did you do? Like Rev. Jones in the story, how can you get back to your roots, doubt yourself less, and believe in yourself more?
- Write a story about a time when you learned a new skill like playing the guitar, learning to knit, or learning a new sport. How did that accomplishment make you feel? Did it build your confidence? Share your story and that new skill with a friend or family member.