



Story Guide

THE MOST UNUSUAL GIFT BY Diane Ferlatte

Watch the video of storyteller Diane Ferlatte live at the 2018 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 - 19:35.

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



explore it

- Ed Stivender, the emcee for this teller, gives an uplifting introduction of Diane Ferlatte. What do you expect from the teller after this introduction? How does the introduction support the teller?
- How does the opening song help to set the mood for the story? Do you like being able to sing along?
- Diane asks for volunteers to help her on stage. Would you be willing to volunteer to help a storyteller on stage? Why or why not?



think it

- The Father King tells his three sons that the one who brings him the most unusual thing will be able to marry the princess. Name the 3 things they bring to the King. Describe the magical aspect of each item.
- How do the sons discover that the princess is dying? How do they travel to see her? What cures her of the illness?
- Who does the Father King choose for the princess to marry? How does the princess feel about his choice? Who does she actually marry and why?



create it

- Using materials you have at home like paper towel rolls, paper and markers, play dough or clay draw or build and decorate the three "unusual gifts."
- A percussion instrument is one that is sounded by being struck. Diane uses her wooden cane as a percussion instrument and the volunteers learn that it is harder to play than it looks! Find something to keep the beat in a song, like a stick, box or can. Try playing it with your favorite song or use this [tract](#). Keep practicing until you get really good at it!



tell it

- Extend the story and write about how the other two brothers find their wives. Do they use their unusual gifts? Do they find new gifts?
- Share with a friend what you will do if you possess the three magic items. Where will you go? What might you see? Who will you make well? Use the items you created in the "Create It" section to help.
- Journal about what Diane might mean when she says, "Sometimes you gotta go back to go forward in the right direction."