

Adaptation of
Just a Minute: A Trickster Tale and Counting Book
By Yuyi Morales

One day Señor Calavera came to visit Grandma Beetle and told her it was time to go with him.

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“Just a minute, Señor Calavera,” Grandma Beetle said. “I will go with you right away, I have just **ONE** house to sweep.”

So Señor Calavera decided to wait.

UNO – One swept house, counted Señor Calavera, and he headed to the door.

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“Just a minute, Señor Calavera,” Grandma Beetle said. “I will go with you right away, I have just **TWO** pots of tea to boil.”

Señor Calavera sighed.

DOS – Two steaming pots of tea, counted Señor Calavera, and he rose from his seat.

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“Just a minute, Señor Calavera,” Grandma Beetle said. “I will go with you right away, I have just **THREE** pounds of corn to make into tortillas.”

Señor Calavera rolled his eyes.

TRES – Three stacks of tortillas, counted Señor Calavera, and he put on his hat.

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“Just a minute, Señor Calavera,” Grandma Beetle said. “I will go with you right away, I have just **FOUR** fruits to slice, **FIVE** cheeses to melt, **SIX** pots of food to cook.”

Señor Calavera frowned. Señor Calavera tapped his fingers. Señor Calavera threw up his hands.

CUATRO – Four fruits made into salad.,

CINCO – Five melted cheeses.

SEIS – Six pots of delicious food, counted Señor Calavera, and he offered Grandma Beetle his arm.

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“Just a minute, Señor Calavera,” Grandma Beetle said. “I will go with you right away, I have just **SEVEN** piñatas to fill with candy and **EIGHT** platters of food to arrange on the table.”

And Señor Calavera shook his head in disbelief. Enough! Señor Calavera could take no more.

SIETE – Seven piñatas full of candy.

OCHO – Eight platters of food set on the table, but Señor Calavera had lost count.

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“Oh, look here, Señor Calavera,” Grandma Beetle exclaimed, “here come my grandchildren!”

Señor Calavera took a deep breath. One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, **NINE**.

NUEVE – Nine beautiful grandchildren.

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The children and Señor Calavera sat at the table. “All of my guests are here, and together they make **TEN**.”

After blowing out her birthday candles, Grandma Beetle announced, “I am ready, Señor Calavera.”

But Señor Calavera had left a letter saying to count on his return for her next birthday party!