

# QUICK CARD:

## *LENTIL*



<b>Reference</b>	<i>Lentil</i> . Robert McCloskey. (1940) ISBN: 978-0-14-050287-9
<b>Plot</b>	Lentil, a young boy who loves music, learns to play the harmonica since he cannot sing, or even whistle. When the generous and respected Colonel Carter returns to town, Sneep, the town grouch, sucks on a lemon, causing everyone's lips to pucker and ruining the brass band gathered to celebrate the Colonel's return! Since Lentil cannot pucker his lips, he saves the day—and the Colonel's mood—with his harmonica. Everyone is delighted by Lentil's playing and by the Colonel's announcement of his plans to build a new hospital in town.
<b>Setting</b>	The story takes place in the town of Alto, Ohio, during Lentil's childhood.
<b>Characters</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lentil, the protagonist who loves music and plays a harmonica; he is unable to pucker his lips properly to whistle.</li> <li>• Sneep, the antagonist who doesn't like anybody or anything and tries to ruin the Colonel's homecoming.</li> <li>• Colonel Carter, the respected resident and generous donor to the town of Alto, who returns home after years away.</li> <li>• Other members of the town and band.</li> </ul>
<b>Conflict</b>	<p>Man vs. Himself: Lentil wants to play music but can't sing or whistle, which is embarrassing.</p> <p>Man vs. Man: Sneep threatens to wreck the music of the celebration by "sucking on a lemon."</p>
<b>Theme</b>	Lentil doesn't give up after the initial humiliation of not being able to sing or whistle, allowing him to save the Colonel's celebration and gain the admiration of the town. He displays determination and resilience despite failure.
<b>Literary Devices</b>	Circumstantial Irony Cliché Imagery Foreshadowing Onomatopoeia