

# **"Tutokanula"**

**Inspired by Yosemite National Park**

Written by Kendall Bruns, based on a Miwok Legend

# "Tutokanula"

Written by Kendall Bruns, based on a Miwok Legend

[Chorus]

**G**

Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok-A-Nu'-La

Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok-A-Nu'-La

**C**

Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok-A-Nu'-La

**G**

Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok-A-Nu'-La

**D**

Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok-A-Nu'-La

[Verse 1]

**G**

Two baby bears

Splashin' in the cool Merced

**D**

Finally tucker out

**G**

Lay down their weary heads

**G**

Mama bear's not around

**C**

Papa left long ago

**D**

There on the bank of the cool Merced

**G**

A great rock started to grow

**G**

When mama bear returned

**C**

Her two cubs couldn't be found

**D**

A tower of granite rose in to the sky

**G**

And left her on the ground

[Chorus]

**G**

Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok-A-Nu'-La

Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok-A-Nu'-La

**C**

Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok-A-Nu'-La

**G**

Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok-A-Nu'-La

**D**

Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok-A-Nu'-La

[Verse 2]

**G**

The animals gathered around

And peered up into the sky

**D**

A friendly helping fox took it upon herself

**G**

To volunteer and give it a try

**G**

But while the fox, coyote, or mountain lion

**C**

Would never make it to the top

**D**

A tiny inchworm called Tutoka

**G**

Started to slowly give it all he's got

**G**

Everyone laughed at Tutoka

**C**

His little legs—they moved so slow

**D**

But as he steadily climbed

further into the sky

**G**

The distance from their laughs did grow

And he chanted

[Chorus]

**G**

Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok-A-Nu'-La

Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok-A-Nu'-La

**C**

Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok-A-Nu'-La

**G**

Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok-A-Nu'-La

**D**

Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok-A-Nu'-La

[Verse 3]

**G**

It took a little time

**C**

But when the two bear cubs could see

**D**

Tutoka make his journey all  
the way to the top

**G**

They knew they'd make it down safely

Everybody sing

[Chorus]

**G**

Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok-A-Nu'-La

Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok-A-Nu'-La

**C**

Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok-A-Nu'-La

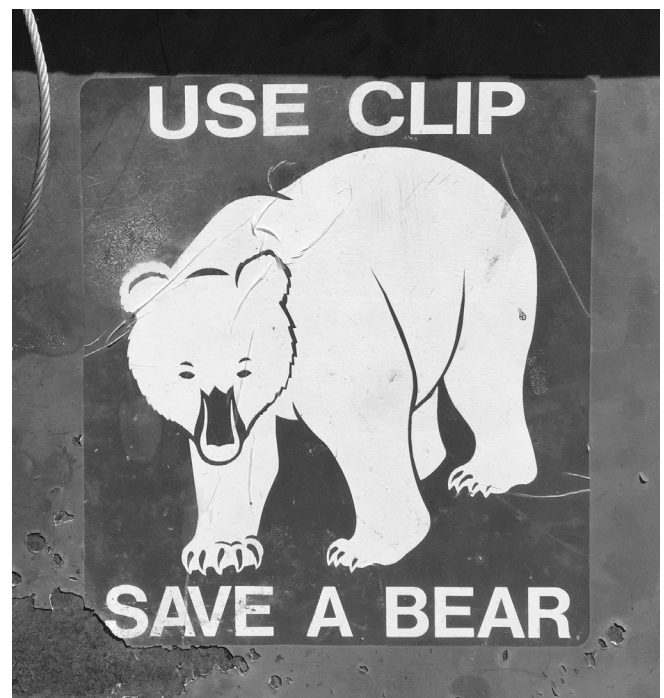
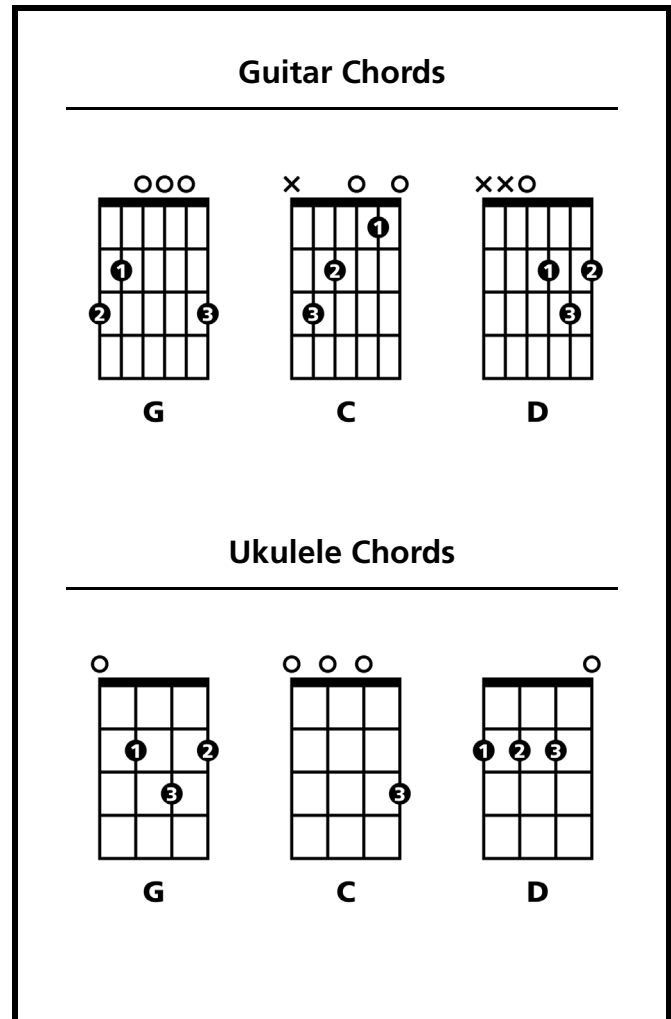
**G**

Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok-A-Nu'-La

**D**

Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok, Tu-Tok-A-Nu'-La

**G**







## NPT009: "Tutokanula"

Inspired by Yosemite National Park

El Capitan, known as Tutokanula in the Miwok language, stands 3,000 feet tall. This song recounts the Native American legend of its formation.

**Photos by Kendall Bruns**

**Front:** El Capitan in Yosemite National Park on December 30, 2016.

**Inside:** "Save a Bear" sign in Yosemite National Park on August 18, 2015.

**Back:** El Capitan in Yosemite National Park on August 16, 2015.

*Trailsongs: Inspired by Our National Parks* is a collection of songs by Kendall Bruns. All of the songs started as field recordings made while visiting one of the 59 National Parks managed by the National Park Service.

Listen at [nptrailsongs.com](http://nptrailsongs.com)