

# TEDDY BEAR, TEDDY BEAR



Poems by Alice Schertle  
Pictures by Linda Hill Griffith

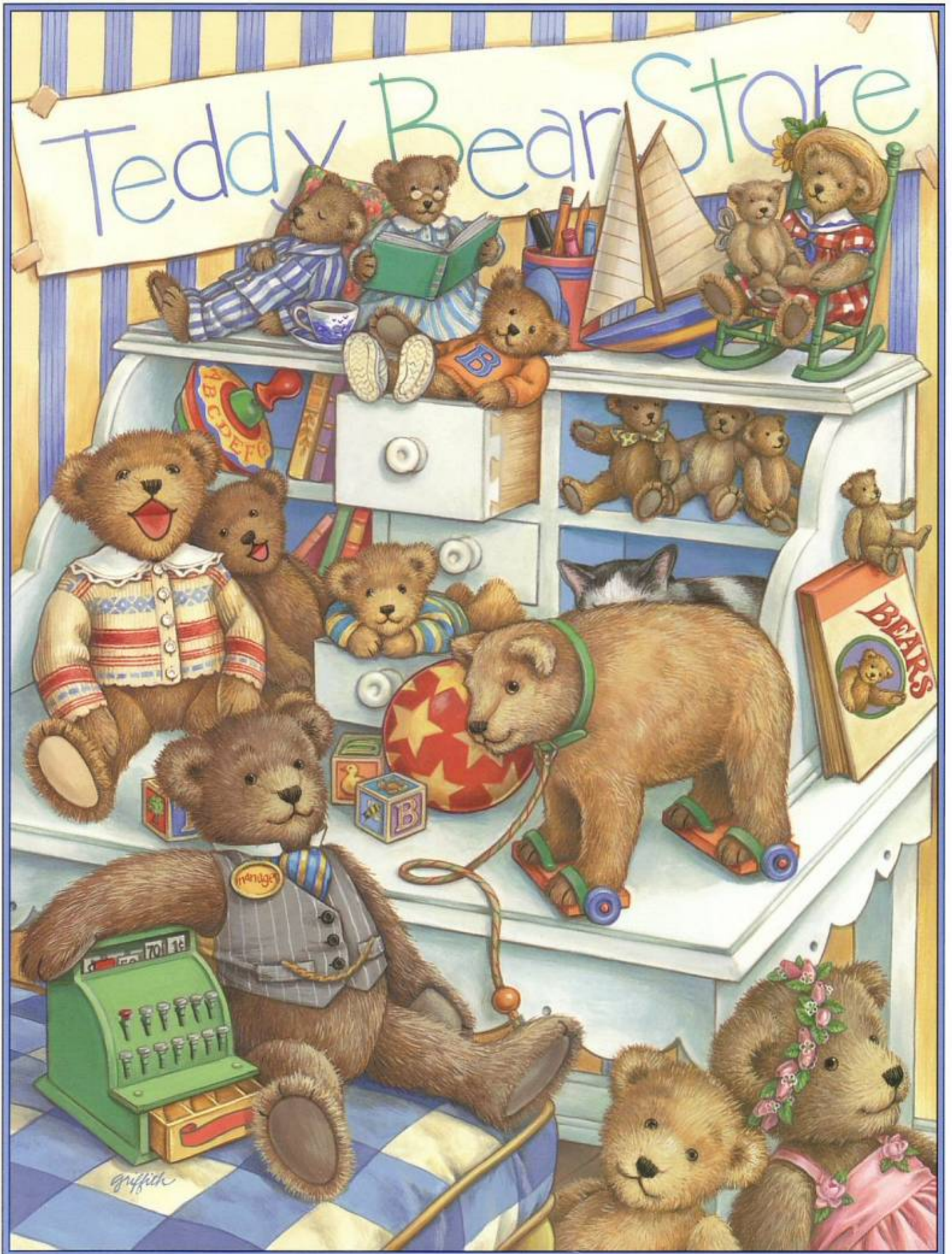
*griffith*

**Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear**



# Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear





## Teddy Bear Store

Bears in striped pajamas,  
Bears in running shoes.  
Miles of bears. Piles of bears.  
Care for a bear? Just choose.

Teddy bears of every kind,  
Bears with pull strings,  
Bears you wind,  
Bears that roller-skate,  
Bears that sing,  
Bears that don't do anything.

Small bears on the top shelves,  
Big bears on the bottom.  
Piles of bears. Miles of bears.  
Care for a bear? We've got 'em.



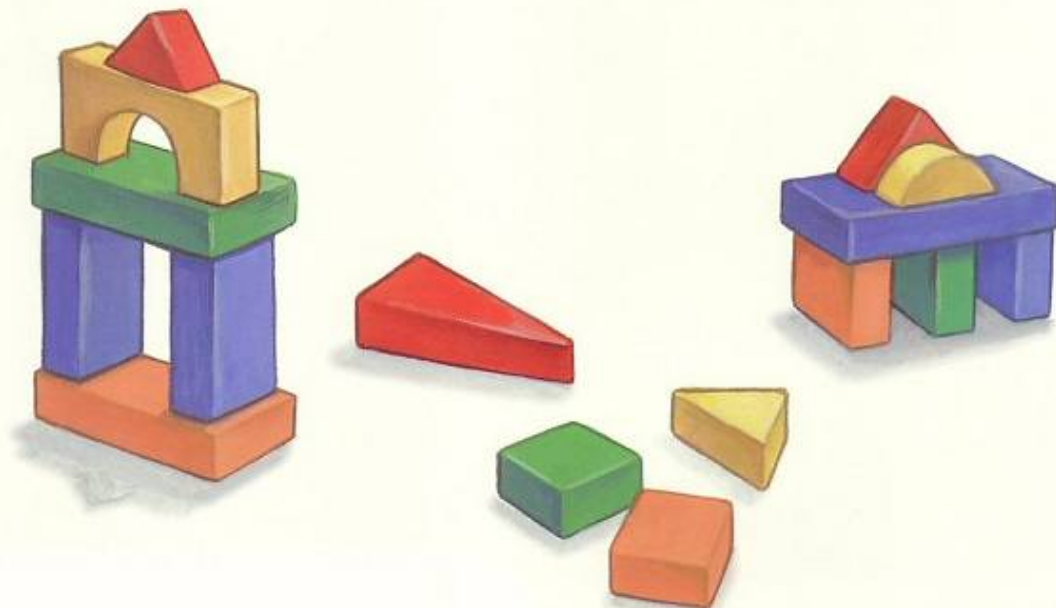


## Middle-Sized Bear

Here's a middle-sized bear, not big, not small,  
and not too short—but not too tall.

His ears are thin, but his tummy is fat,  
he's a little bit this way,  
a little bit that.

He's sort of quiet when he doesn't act wild—  
he'd be just the bear  
for a middle-sized child  
who's sometimes fast and sometimes slow  
and high sometimes when she's not down low,  
who comes inside when she doesn't stay out  
and talks in a whisper when she doesn't shout.  
If a child like that is a little like you,  
a bear like this is the bear  
for you.



## Banister Bears

Bears on the staircase  
all in a row,  
bears on the banister—  
LOOK OUT BELOW!

*WHOOSH! SWOOSH!*

Slippery steep!  
Banister bears—  
all

in

a

heap!







## Scrub-a-Dub

Dirty brown bear  
Mixing-bowl tub  
*Scrub-a-dub-dub*  
*Scrub-a-dub-dub*  
Towel wrap  
Powder nose  
Underwear  
Clean clothes  
Blow-dry  
Puff hair

Oh, my!

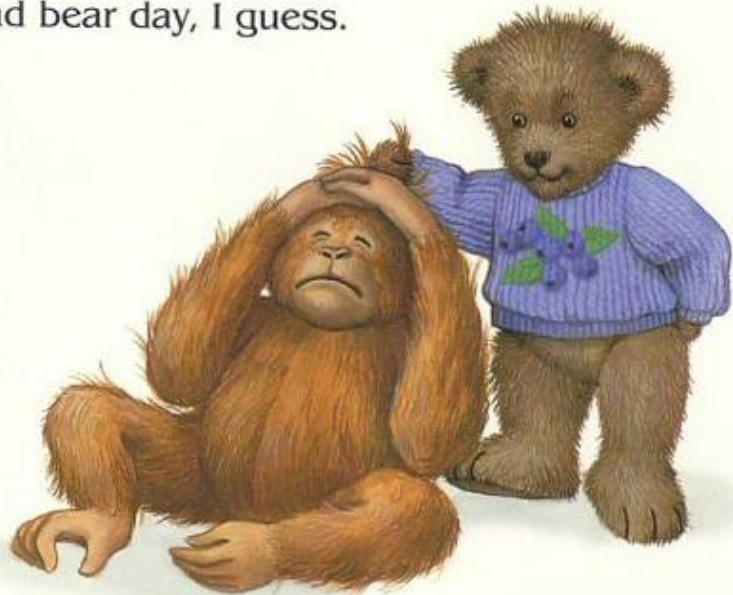
Beautiful bear!



## A Bad Bear Day

The teddy bear's pinching the zebra,  
Koala Bear's poking the cat,  
the panda said, "Shoo!" to the mouse and the gnu,  
and stamped on the elephant's hat.

The black bear is teasing the tiger,  
the brown bear called Piggy "a mess!"  
Blueberry Bear pulled Orangutan's hair—  
it's just a bad bear day, I guess.







## My Bear

Doesn't have elbows, doesn't have knees.  
No teeth. No fingers. No toes.  
Has arms, has legs, has ears and eyes,  
fuzzy fat tummy, sewed-on nose—  
and Me to dress him in some of my clothes:  
    earmuffs  
    underpants  
    dinosaur socks  
and take him wherever he goes.





## Please Do Not Stare

Please do not stare  
at the polar bear  
who is reading a book at the zoo.  
He does not care  
for people who look  
over his shoulder. Would you?

Please do not stare  
at the grizzly bear  
who is chewing your shoes and your socks.  
You should have known  
to leave him alone—  
*never* open a grizzly bear box!

Please do not stare  
at the teddy bear  
who is sound asleep in my lap.  
He has fallen asleep  
the way teddy bears do,  
he'll be here in my lap  
for an hour or two,  
and he'll pick up his toys  
as soon as he's through—  
but *now* he is taking a nap!

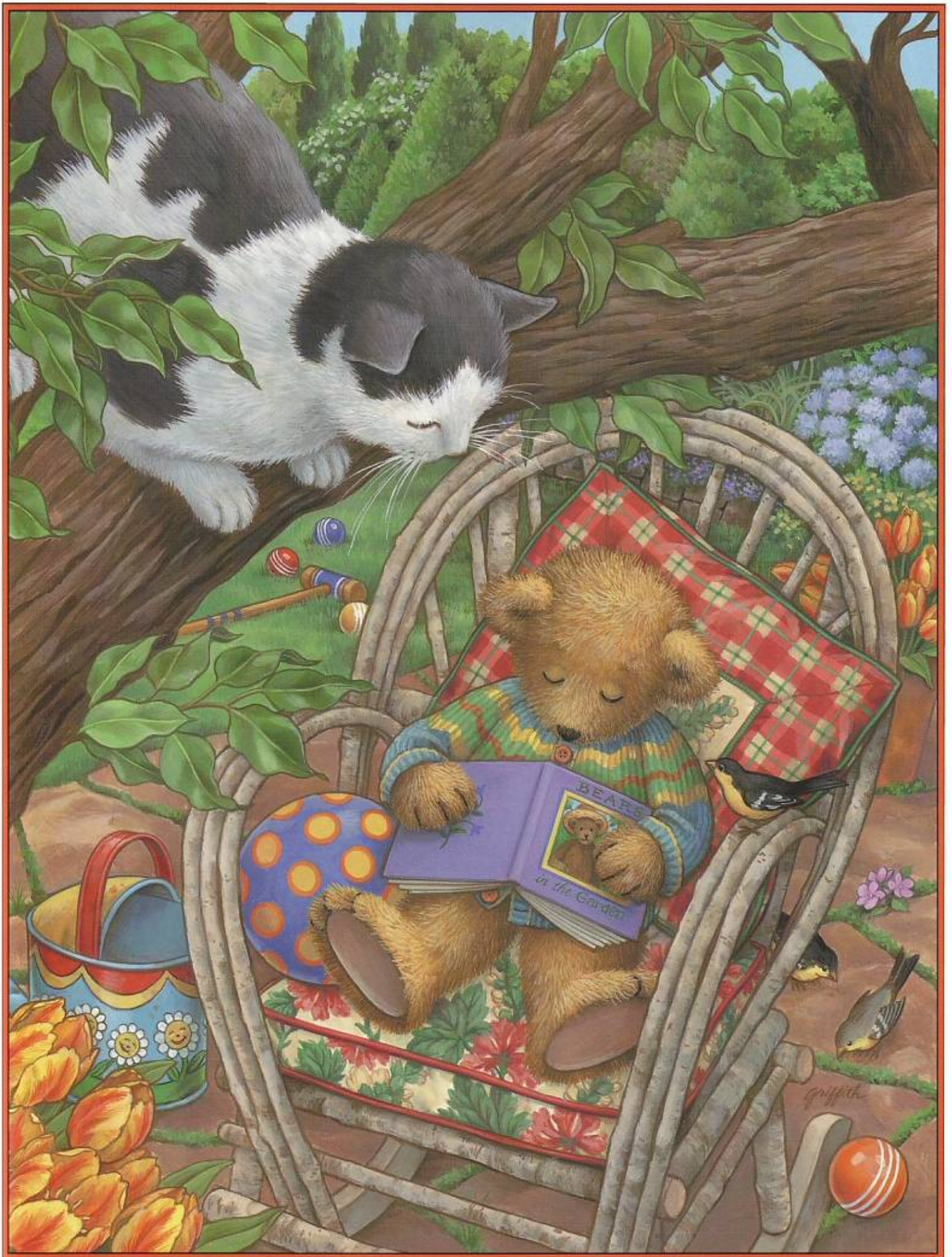


## Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear

Teddy bear, teddy bear, almost asleep.  
Kitty cat, kitty cat, coming a-creep  
closer . . . closer . . . closer . . . LEAP!

Drat!  
Just like a cat!







*Griffith*

# Mostly

Teddy bears  
are mostly brown  
or white, or blue  
or green (a few)  
but mostly brown.

Teddy bears  
are mostly small  
(for prizes  
there are larger sizes)  
but mostly small.

Teddy bears  
are mostly quiet  
seldom shout  
or bang about.  
Just mostly quiet.

Teddy bears  
are mostly stout  
unless their stuffing's  
leaking out  
which makes them thin.

If you should find  
a teddy bear  
please take him in.



## Pumpernickel Bear

Pumpernickel Bear  
with ketchup in his hair  
and a smudge of mashed potato on his nose,  
eats his dinner up completely  
but he doesn't do it neatly  
and he wipes his sticky paws off  
on his clothes.

And I know (because I've seen it)  
that he licks the plate to clean it—  
and then puts it in the cupboard, I suppose.



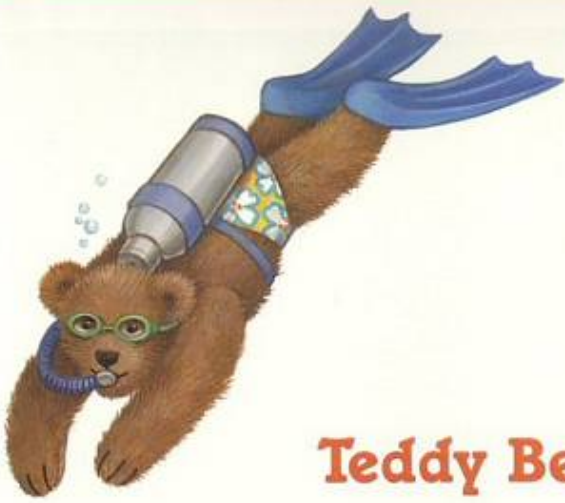


Jack and Jill

I went up the hill to catch a pail of water...

griffith





## Teddy Bear Wear



A fireman bear wears waterproof boots  
and a big red fireman's hat.

A teddy policeman pins on a badge  
(he looks more official like that).

Teddy bear ballerinas  
wear tutus and pink satin slippers.

Teddy bear divers wear Speedos and goggles  
and earplugs and air tanks and flippers.

But sometimes a teddy bear just wants to be  
a regular warm sort of bear  
that somebody might want to cuddle and  
squeeze—

a hug is the best thing to wear.



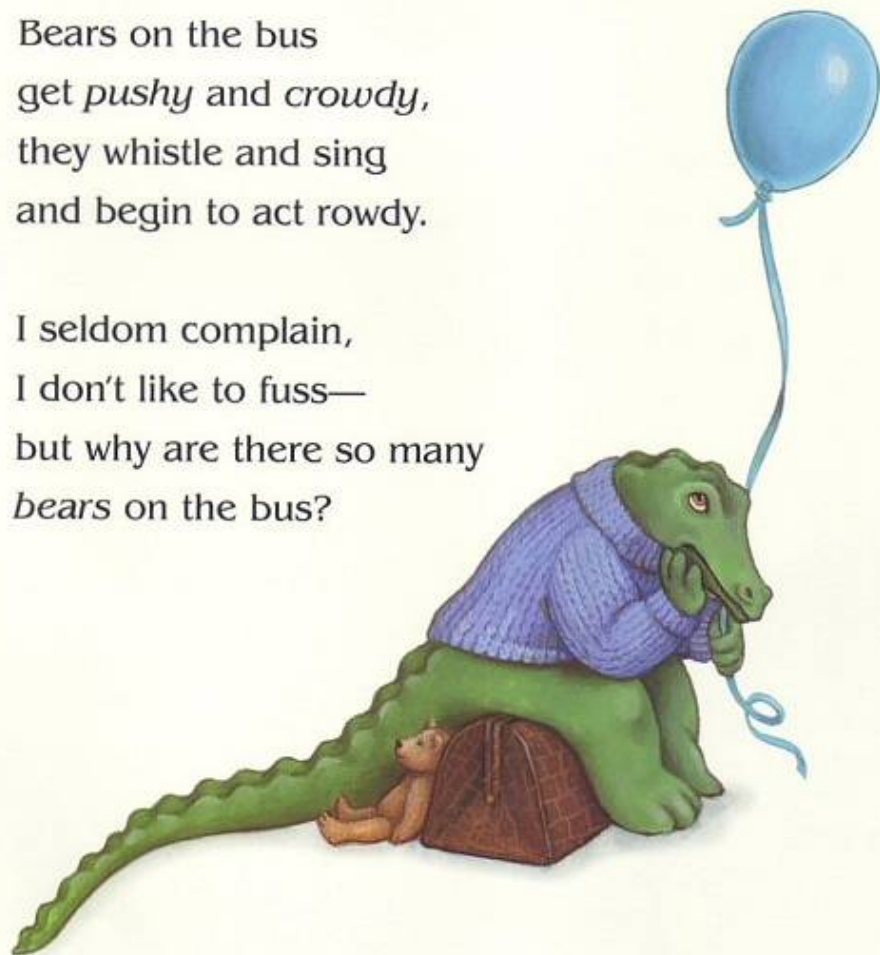
## Bears on the Bus

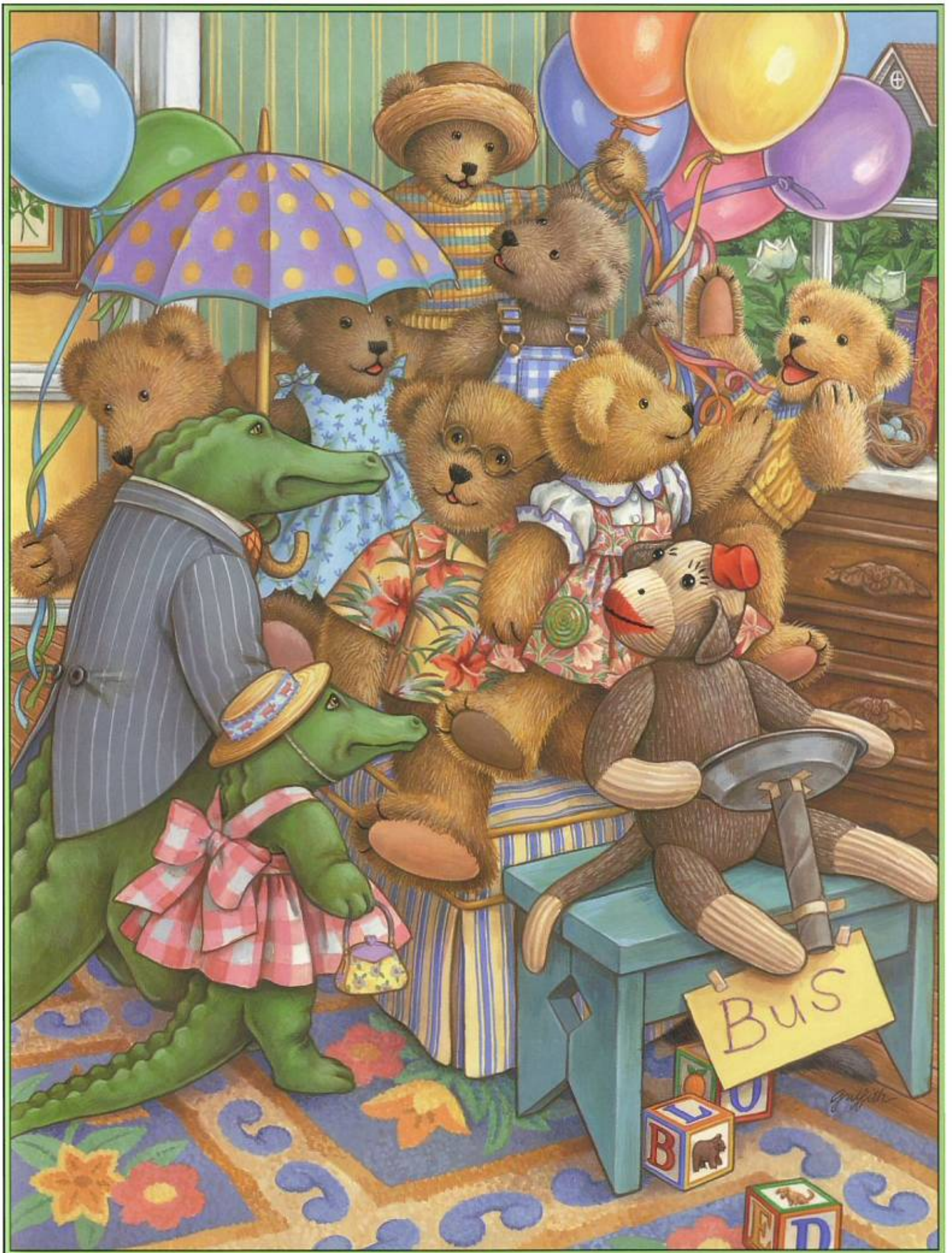
(A Crocodile's Complaint)

*Bears* on the bus,  
hanging on to the straps,  
sitting three to a seat,  
piled on other bears' laps—  
there isn't a smidgen of room left for *us*  
because there are so many  
*bears* on the bus!

Bears on the bus  
get *pushy* and *crowdy*,  
they whistle and sing  
and begin to act rowdy.

I seldom complain,  
I don't like to fuss—  
but why are there so many  
*bears* on the bus?









## Barely Bear

Barely Bear  
barely there,  
lost his hat,  
lost his hair.



Windup key  
wound up broken.  
Lost his voice.  
Hasn't spoken

since July.  
Clothes are missing.  
Lost his nose  
(too much kissing).

Wrinkles, lumps,  
patches, creases—  
Barely Bear's  
been loved to pieces.





## Little Bear Sleeping

Moon peeks over a distant hill.  
Wind comes rattling as the old wind will.  
“Hush,” says the moon, “be still, be still—  
there’s a little bear sleeping on the windowsill.”





If you have ever  
loved a teddy bear,  
this is the book for you!

