

贝贝熊系列丛书

The Berenstain Bears

and

难忘的生日

TOO MUCH BIRTHDAY

(美) 斯坦·博丹 简·博丹 绘著

Stan & Jan Berenstain

张德启等 译

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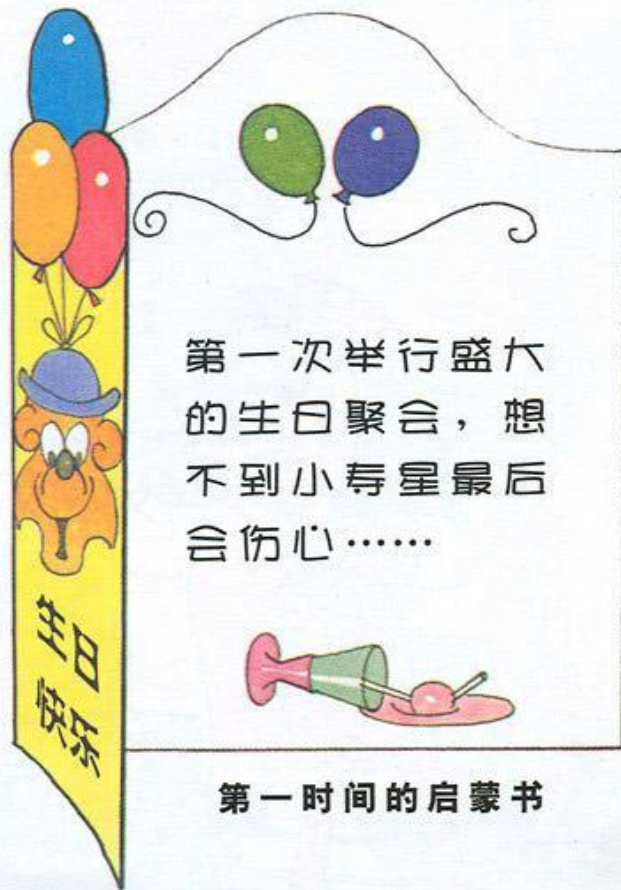
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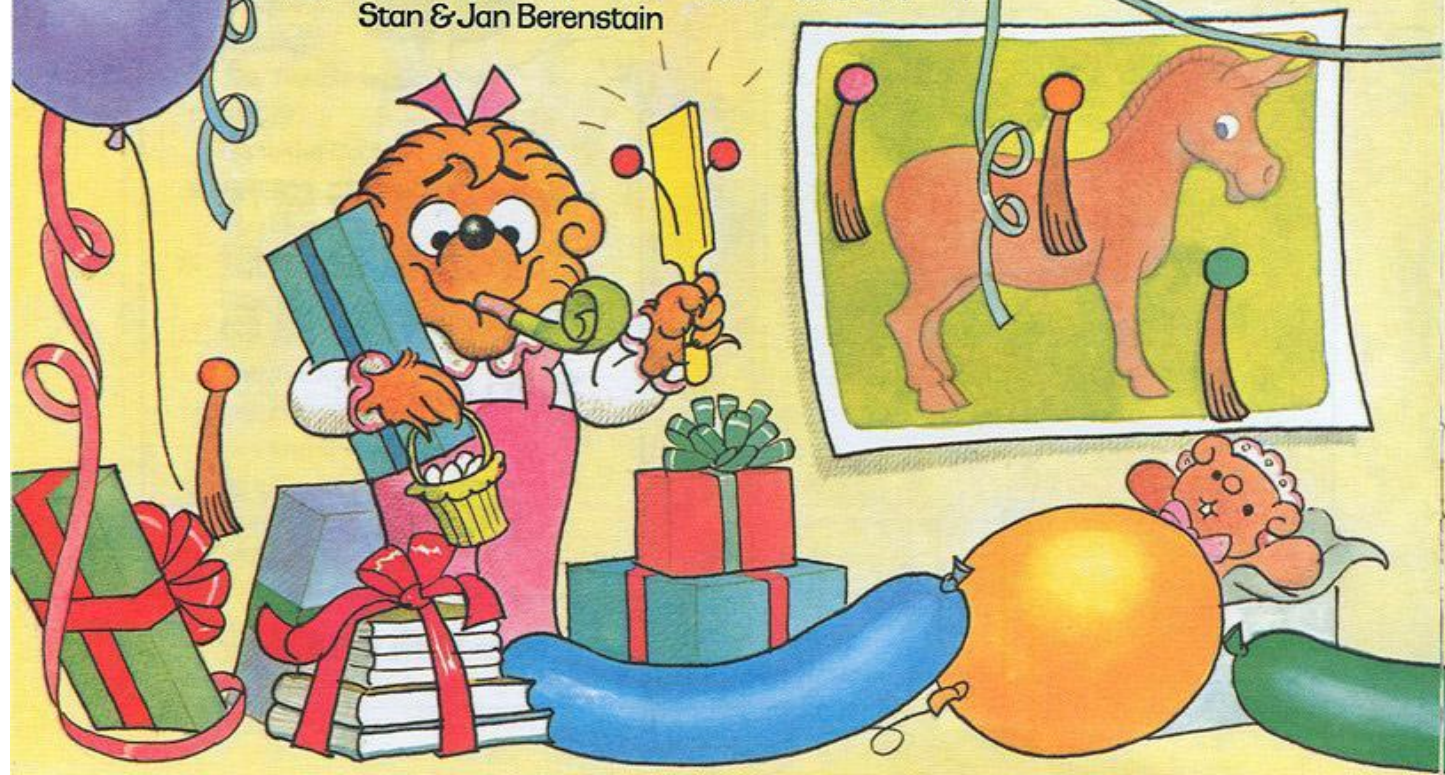
第一次举行盛大的生日聚会，想不到小寿星最后会伤心……

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(美) 斯坦·博丹 简·博丹 绘著 张德启等 译
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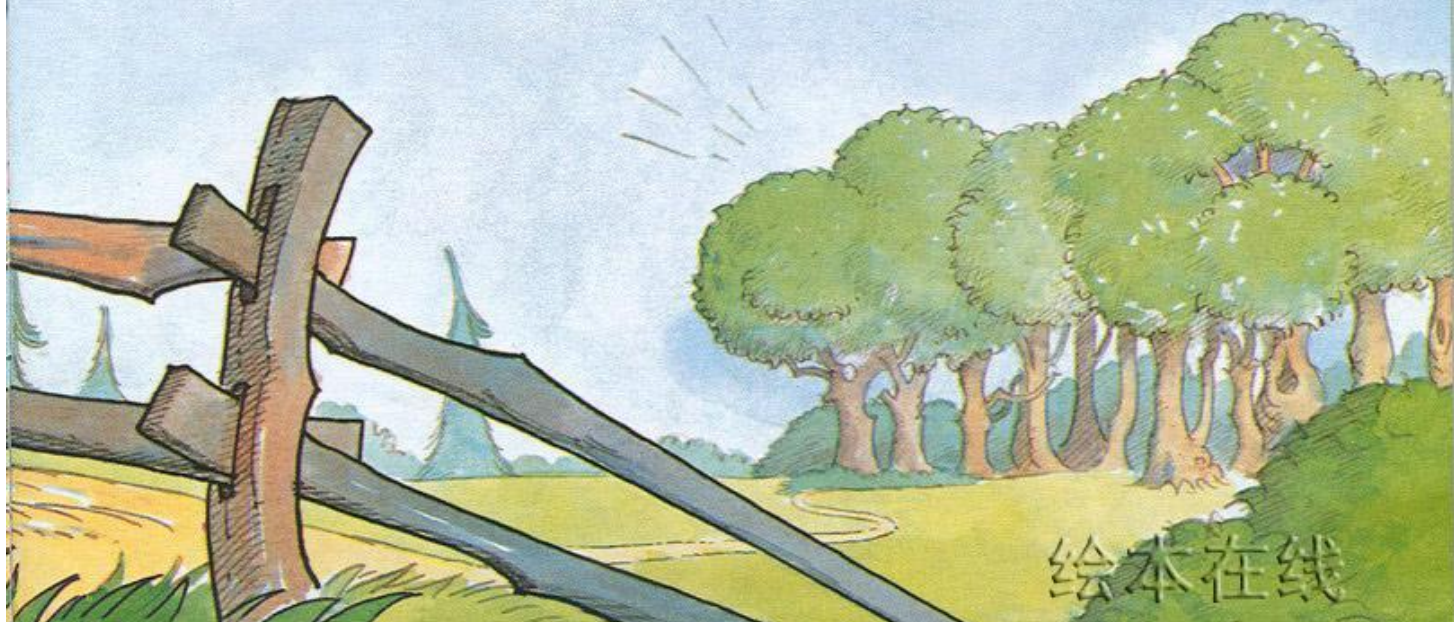
父母和孩子一起阅读
家长和子女共同成长

新疆青少年出版社

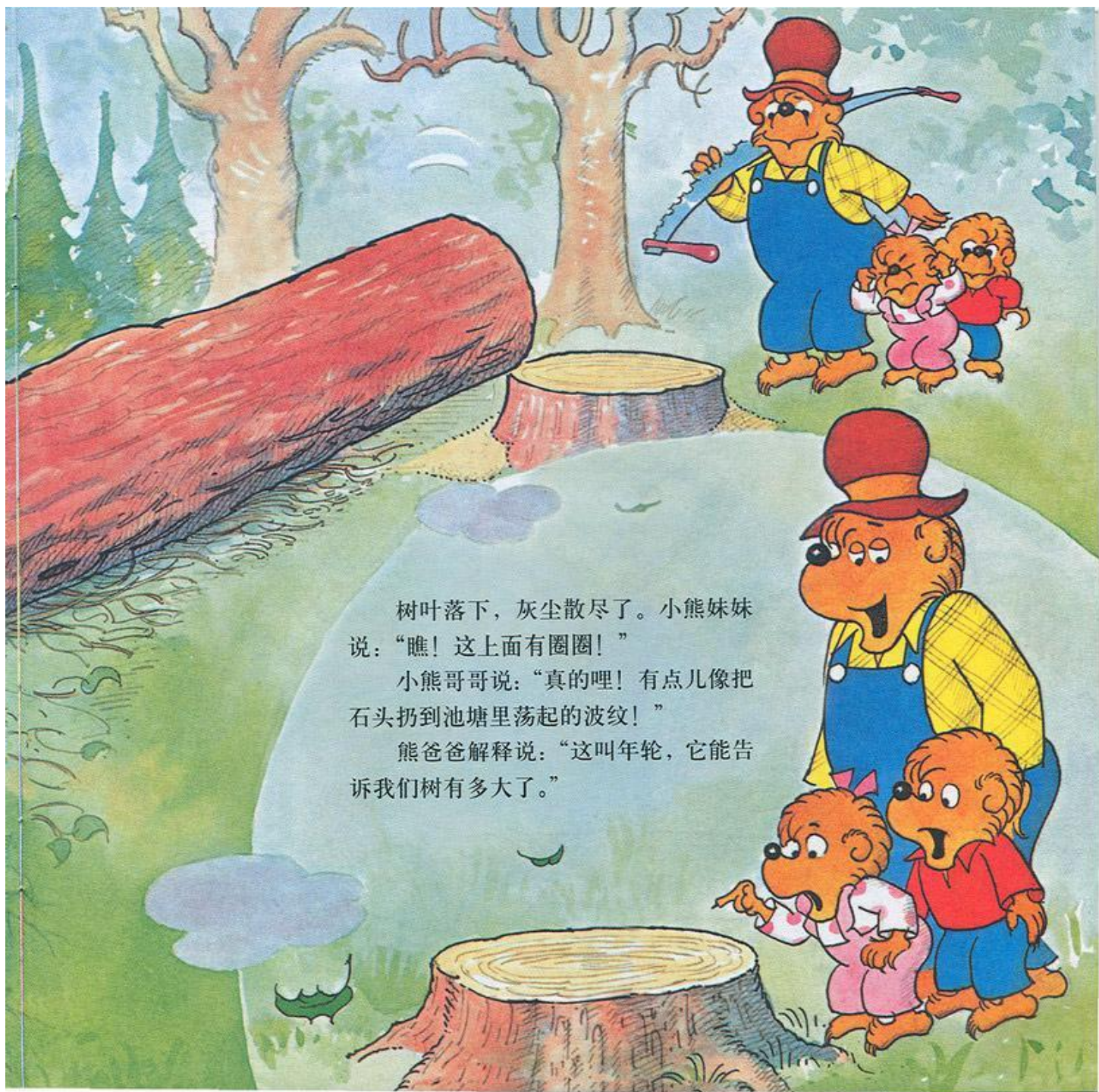


熊王国九月初的一天，秋高气爽，阳光灿烂。熊妈妈收获了本季最后一茬南瓜，正在把它们高高地码到独轮手推车上。这时，远处传来熊爸爸嘹亮的喊声：“顺——山——倒！”熊妈妈知道，他又伐倒了一棵树。

她自言自语地说：“但愿熊爸爸和孩子们小心点儿。”



“轰隆！”随着一声巨响，树倒在了地上。熊爸爸干活一贯小心谨慎，他用大锯子熟练地锯断了这棵树，和孩子们往后退了几步，看着树倒在小熊哥哥和小熊妹妹用树枝、树叶铺好的一片空地上。



树叶落下，灰尘散尽了。小熊妹妹说：“瞧！这上面有圈圈！”

小熊哥哥说：“真的哩！有点儿像把石头扔到池塘里荡起的波纹！”

熊爸爸解释说：“这叫年轮，它能告诉我们树有多大了。”

小熊妹妹开始数这些圈圈,但数到十二就数不下去了。小熊哥哥接着数:“……二十五,二十六,二十七!哇!这棵树二十七岁了!”

小熊妹妹说:“比我大多了!”

小熊哥哥笑着说:“那当然了!你才五岁。”

小熊妹妹不服气地说:“快六岁了!”小熊哥哥已经八岁了,这使小熊妹妹感到很懊恼。不管她怎么长,都永远赶不上哥哥,这似乎很不公平。



小熊妹妹问：“爸爸，我们也有年轮吗？”

熊爸爸把她抱在腿上，说：“没有。但我们有更好的记法——生日！还有生日聚会！噢，想起来了，你的生日快到了！”



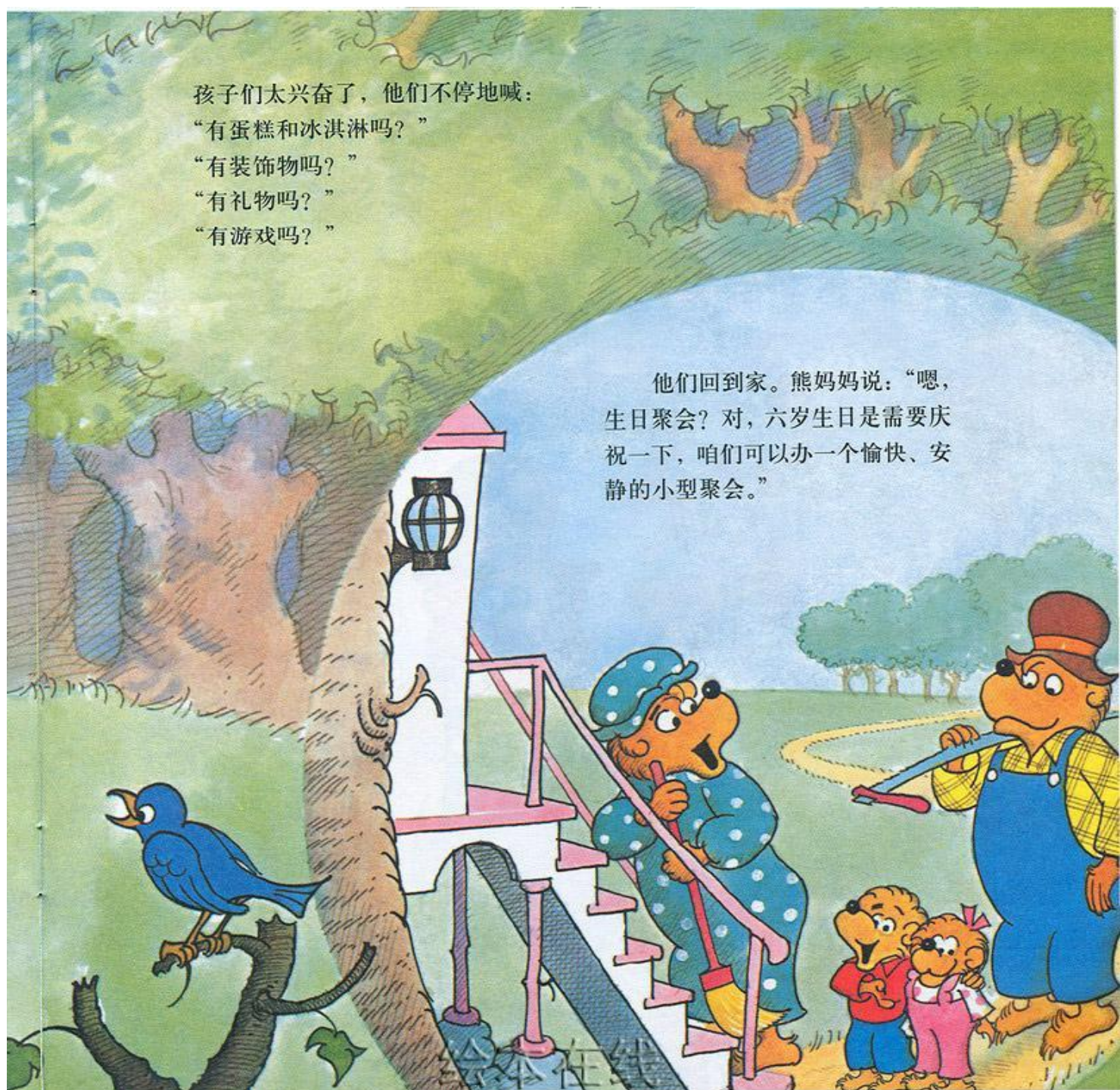
“会给我办一个生日聚会吗？”小熊妹妹边喊边兴奋地蹦着。小熊哥哥也激动起来：“咱们办一个非常漂亮的生日聚会好吗？”

熊爸爸说：“当然了，六岁生日可重要了！”

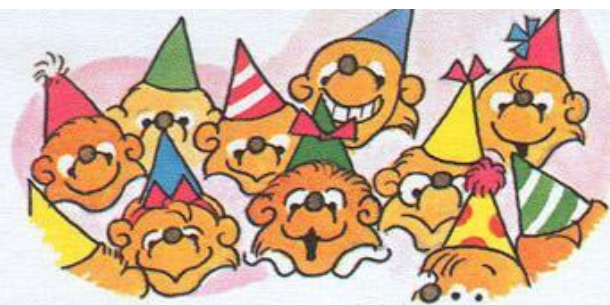


孩子们太兴奋了，他们不停地喊：
“有蛋糕和冰淇淋吗？”
“有装饰物吗？”
“有礼物吗？”
“有游戏吗？”

他们回到家。熊妈妈说：“嗯，生日聚会？对，六岁生日是需要庆祝一下，咱们可以办一个愉快、安静的小型聚会。”



但是，小熊妹妹、小熊哥哥和熊爸爸可不想办一个愉快、安静的小型聚会。他们满脑子想的都是办一个热闹、刺激的大型聚会——

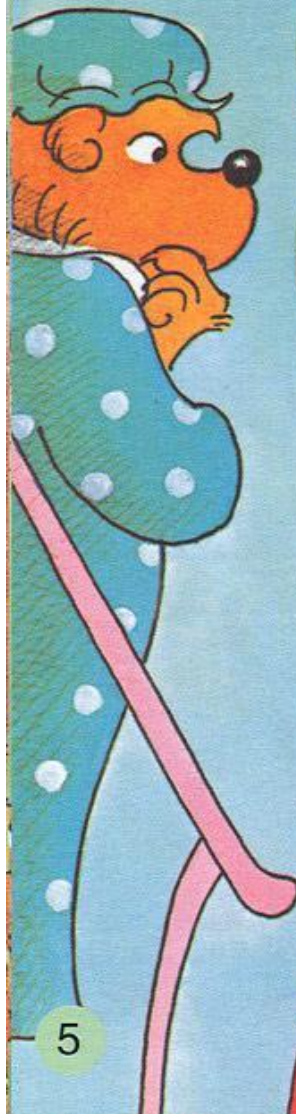


邀请许许多多的客人，

有好多好吃的东西，



游戏，游戏，玩不完的游戏，





墙上到处挂满装饰物，



收到成堆奇妙的礼物，

还有一个精美诱人的生日蛋糕！



熊妈妈说：“可别兴奋得昏了头。你们难道没有听说过‘忙碌过度的生日’吗？”

熊爸爸和孩子们满不在乎地说：“忙碌过度的生日？怎么会有那样的生日呢？”





熊妈妈叹了一口气，她希望自己
自己能控制事态的发展。

但是没多久，她也把忧虑忘
在了脑后，开始置身于兴奋与忙
碌中……

客人名单越列越长。



生日蛋糕越做越大，
也越做越精致。



生日用品和食品越堆越高。



熊爸爸和孩子们忙着装饰树屋的里里外外。



盼望已久的日子终于到了。熊妈妈早早就把生日礼物——一件漂亮的褶边衬衫送给了小熊妹妹。这样，她就可以穿着新衣服参加生日聚会了。

熊爸爸说：“哦，太好了！小马和旋转木马到了。”

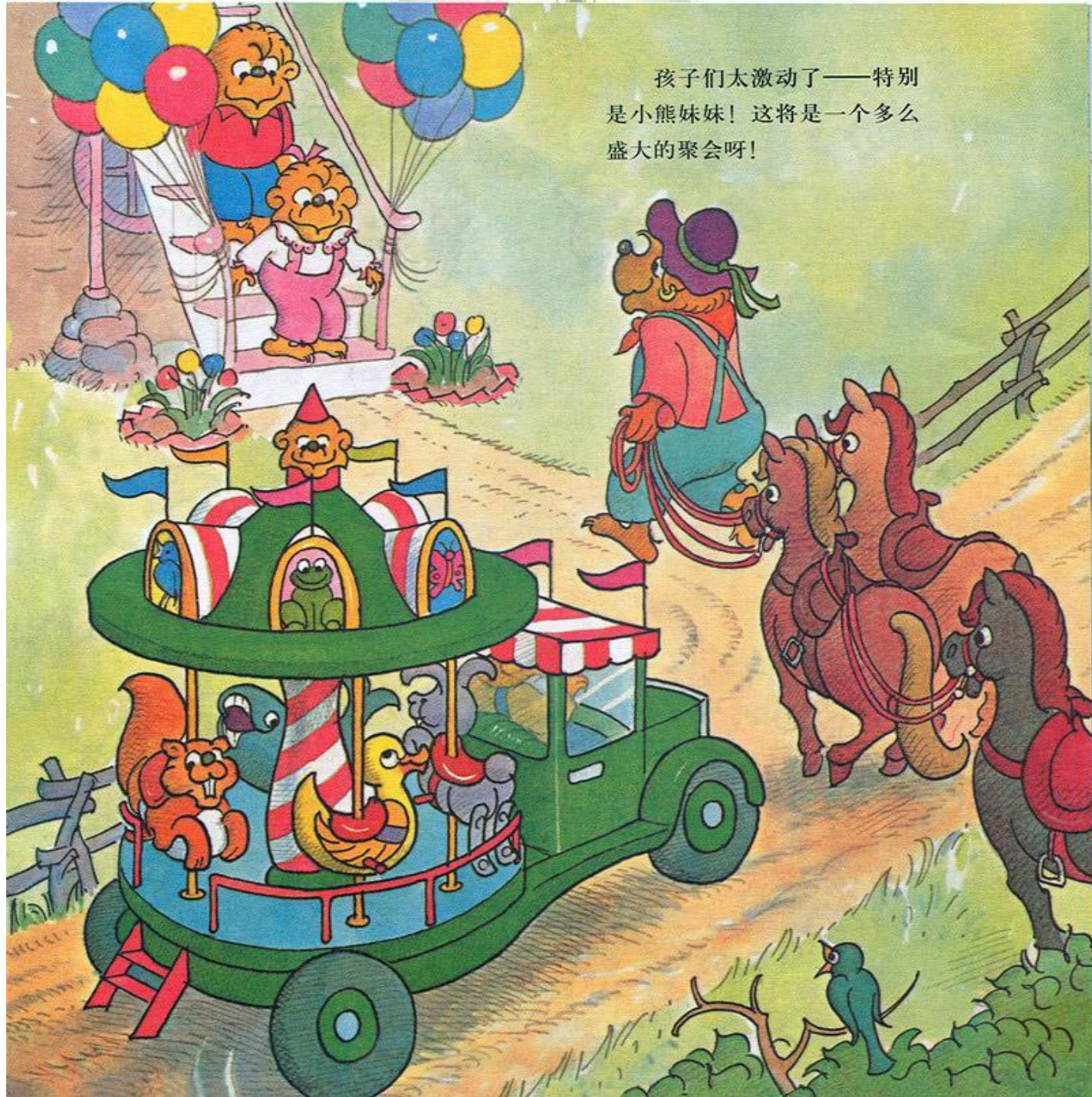


熊妈妈有点儿不相信自己的耳朵：“什么东西到了？”

熊爸爸说：“哦，我没给你说过吗？我租了小马和旋转木马！”



孩子们太激动了——特别是小熊妹妹！这将是一个多么盛大的聚会呀！



三点整，客人们开始陆陆续续地来了。他们祝小熊妹妹生日快乐，送来的礼物堆成了小山。然后，大家一起做起了游戏。



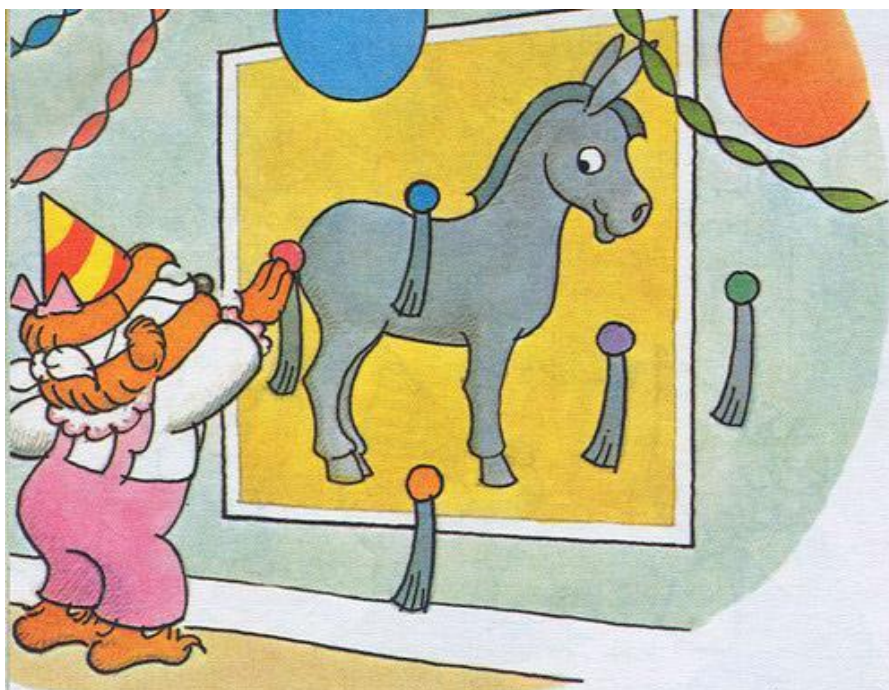
第一个游戏叫“去耶路撒冷”。游戏规则是：大家围成圈，一圈一圈地转着，音乐声一停，站在小毯子上的人就被淘汰出局。这个游戏太有意思了——只可惜小熊妹妹是第一个被罚出去的。





接着，他们玩“转瓶子”游戏，这也很有意思——可是小熊妹妹太害羞了，她只敢亲小熊哥哥一个人，引得所有的孩子都哈哈大笑，开她的玩笑。





玩“钉驴尾巴”游戏时，
情况可就不同了，小熊妹妹
一下就钉对了地方。



但她却不能得奖——这
是她的生日聚会，拿奖品是
不礼貌的。



然后，他们分发小礼物。小熊妹妹得到了一个可伸缩吹管，她吹到了弗雷德的鼻子上，弄得他鼻子直发痒。弗雷德得到的是一个魔法塑料花，他把小熊妹妹的生日衬衣喷得湿淋淋的。



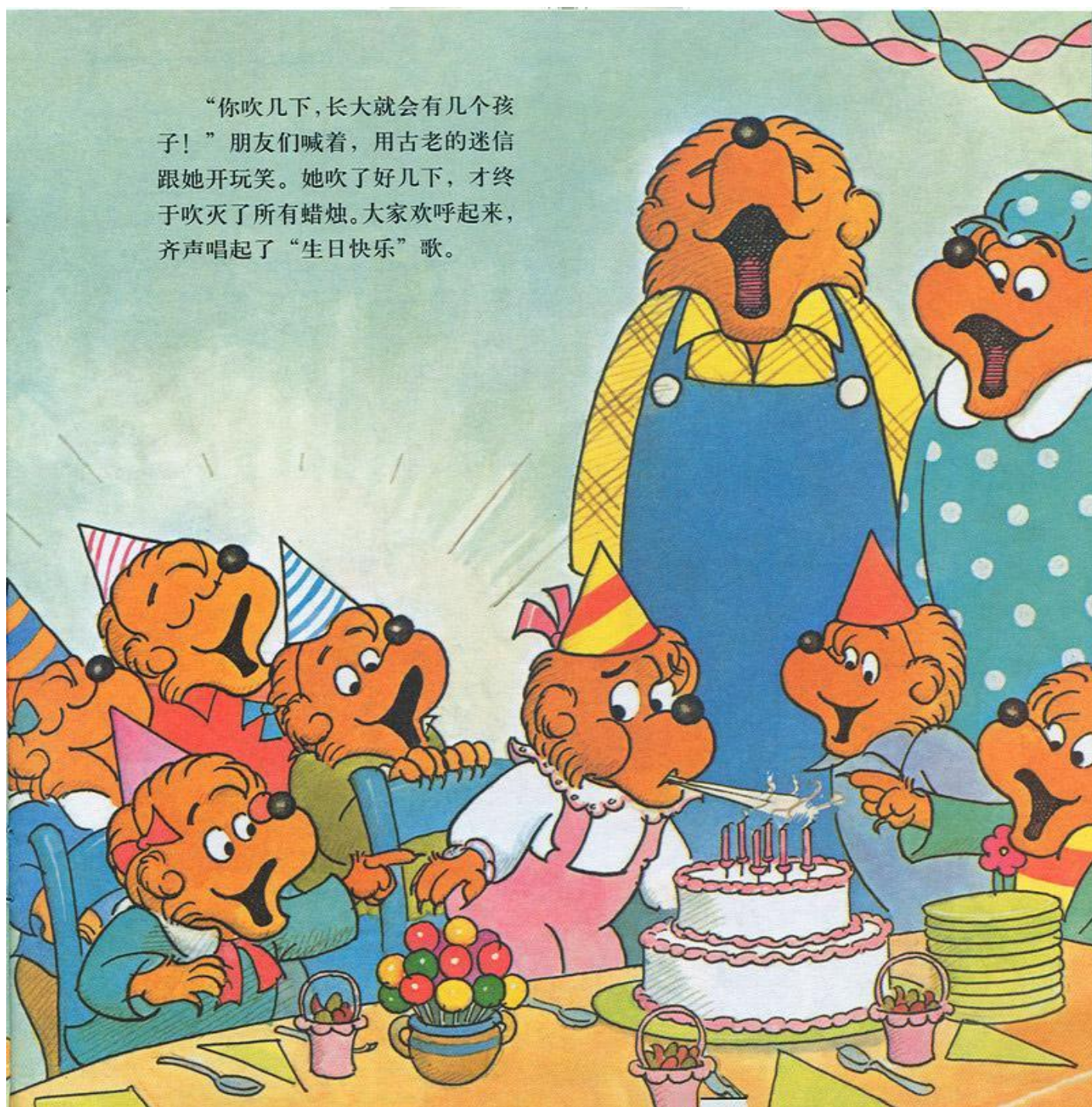
小马和旋转木马是最受孩子们欢迎的。但小熊妹妹吃得太饱了，她骑在上面，上上下下地颠着，一圈一圈地转着，觉得有点儿恶心。



最后，生日蛋糕上来了，该吹灭六根蜡烛了。小熊妹妹深深地吸了一口气，用尽全身力气吹了出去……
结果，一根也没吹灭。



“你吹几下，长大就会有几个孩子！”朋友们喊着，用古老的迷信跟她开玩笑。她吹了好几下，才终于吹灭了所有蜡烛。大家欢呼起来，齐声唱起了“生日快乐”歌。



这时，熊妈妈注意到：两颗豆大的泪珠顺着小熊妹妹的面颊滚下来。歌快唱完了，她放声大哭起来，哭声淹没了大家的歌声。

熊妈妈问：“宝贝！怎么了？”

小熊妹妹抽抽搭搭地说：“太不公平了！玩‘去耶路撒冷’，我是第一个出局的！我不喜欢亲吻游戏！我没有拿到‘钉驴尾巴’的奖品！弗雷德弄湿了我的新衬衣！还有，我不想要六个孩子——我只想要三个！”接着，又大哭起来。





哇哇哇哇哇！



朋友们把她围了起来，“你不想打开礼物看看吗？”的确，再没有比拆开一大堆可爱的礼物更让人开心了。过了一会儿，她又高兴起来。





吃完蛋糕和冰淇淋，朋友们再次祝她生日快乐，然后就离开了。

小熊妹妹长舒了一口气，爬到爸爸腿上。



她说：“谢谢你们
给我开了一个难忘的生
日聚会！”



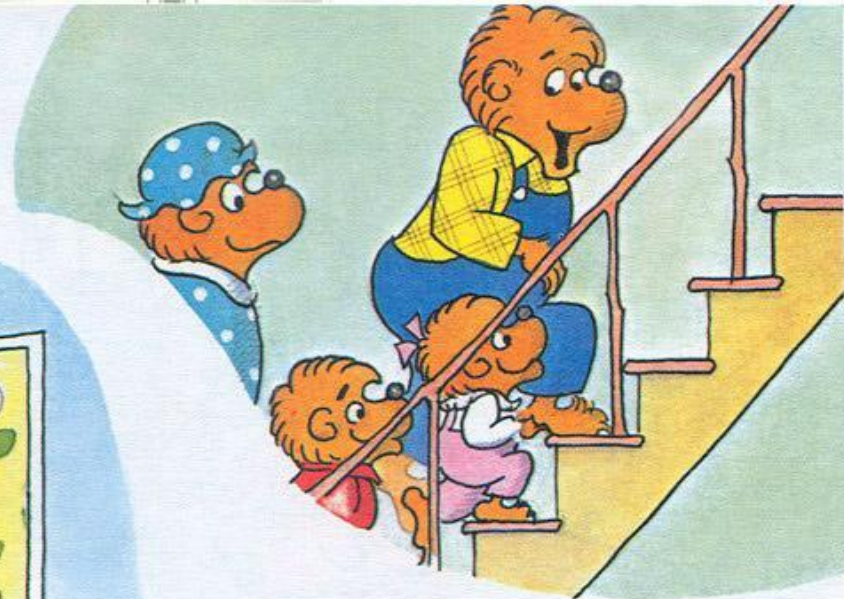
熊爸爸微笑着说：“过生日很高兴，收礼物也很开心，但还是你妈妈说得对——你就要度过六岁这一年了，重要的是看你能不能好好珍惜每一天——学习、娱乐、各方面都有长进。”

她说：“那……我想知道从上次生日到现在我又长高了多少？”

熊爸爸说：“咱们量量吧。”



小熊哥哥说：“哇！整整一英寸半！”





熊妈妈说：“说到长进，这儿有一张你在幼儿园做的练习，而这张是你在一年级做的。”两张练习大不相同。

小熊哥哥说：“这儿有你画的两幅画，一张是去年画的，一张是今年画的。”

的确，小熊妹妹从五岁到六岁有了不少长进。





既然小熊妹妹已经六岁了，熊爸爸宣布，允许她晚睡一会儿——半个小时。

小熊妹妹骄傲地说：“哇！整整半个小时！”

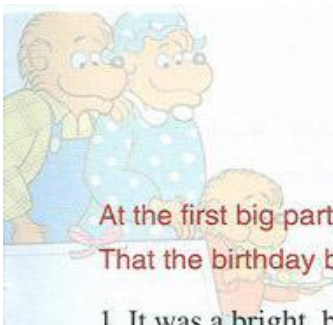
可结果呢？今天这个“过度忙碌的生日”把她累坏了，还没等到原来的上床时间，她就睡着了。熊爸爸把她抱到床上时，她已经睡得很沉了。





第二天早晨，小熊妹妹刚睁开眼睛，熊爸爸就问她：“今天几岁了？”

“六岁，”接着，她又笑嘻嘻地说，“快七岁了！”



The Berenstain Bears and TOO MUCH BIRTHDAY

At the first big party we sometimes forget
That the birthday bear may end up upset.

1. It was a bright, beautiful, early September day in Bear Country. Mama Bear had harvested the last of the season's pumpkins and was piling them high in her wheelbarrow when she heard Papa's distant warning call: "*Timber-r-r!*" The call meant that he had felled another tree.

"I do hope Papa and the cubs are being careful," she said.

2. CR-R-RASH! went the tree as it fell to the forest floor. Woodsbear Papa was always careful about his work. He had cut the tree just-so with his great saw. Then he and the cubs stood back and watched it fall into a bed of brush that Brother and Sister had prepared.

"Look!" said Sister when the dust and leaves had settled. "It has rings!"

"Yes," said Brother. "Sort of like the ripples in a pond when you throw in a stone!"

"Those are annual rings," explained Papa. "They tell us how old the tree is."

3. Sister started to count, but she got stuck at twelve. Brother took over and finished the count: "...twenty-five, twenty-six, twenty-seven! Wow! This tree is twenty-seven years old!"

"That's a lot older than I am," said Sister.

"It sure is!" said Brother, laughing. "You're only five."

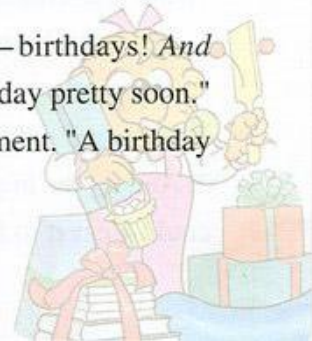
"Five going on six!" said Sister. Brother was eight and it annoyed her that however old she got, she never caught up with him. It didn't seem quite fair.

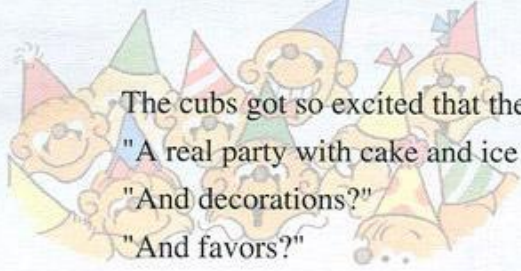
"Do we have annual rings, Papa?" Sister asked.

"No," said Papa, giving her a little hug. "We have something even better—birthdays! *And birthday parties!* And it seems to me," he continued, "that you're having a birthday pretty soon."

4. "Am I going to have a party?" cried Sister, jumping up and down with excitement. "A birthday party with all the trimmings?" Brother was excited too.

"I don't see why not," said Papa. "Six is a pretty important birthday."





The cubs got so excited that they took turns shouting:

"A real party with cake and ice cream?"

"And decorations?"

"And favors?"

"And games?"

"Hmm," said Mama when they got back home. "A birthday party? Yes, six years old calls for a little celebration. I suppose we could manage a nice, quiet little party."

5. But a nice, quiet little party wasn't what Sister, Brother, and Papa had in mind. What they had in mind was a *big, noisy, exciting* party with—

lots and lots of guests,

oodles of goodies,

games, games, games,

wall-to-wall decorations,

piles of fancy presents,

and a fabulous birthday cake.

"But let's not get carried away," said Mama. "You know, there's such a thing as 'too much birthday.'"

"Too much birthday!" scoffed Papa and the cubs. "How could you ever have too much birthday?"

6. Mama just sighed and hoped she would be able to keep things under control.

But it wasn't long before she forgot her worries and began to go along with the excitement....

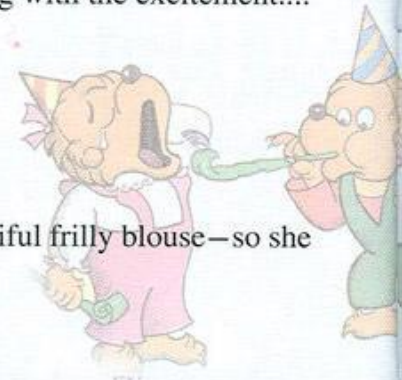
The guest list got longer and longer.

The birthday cake got bigger and fancier.

The party goods and goodies piled up higher and higher.

Papa and the cubs decorated the tree house inside *and* out.

7. And on the big day Mama even gave Sister her present early—a beautiful frilly blouse—so she could wear it to the party.



"Oh, good!" said Papa. "The ponies and the merry-go-round are here."

"The *what* are here?" cried Mama.

"Didn't I mention it?" Papa said. "I rented ponies and a merry-go-round for the party!"

The cubs were very excited—especially Sister! What a party this was going to be!

8. At three o'clock sharp the guests began to arrive. They greeted Sister, piled up their presents, and joined the fun.

The first game was Going to Jerusalem. You play it by going around and around, and the one that's caught on the rug when the music stops is out. It was lots of fun—except that Sister was the first one out.

Then they played Spin the Bottle, which was lots of fun too—except that Sister was so shy she wouldn't kiss anybody but Brother, and all the cubs laughed and teased.

9. Pin the Tail on the Donkey was different. Sister stuck a tail on just the right spot.

But of course she couldn't win the prize—it was her party... and it wouldn't be polite.

Then they gave out the favors. Sister got a party pipe and tickled her friend Freddy's nose. Freddy got a trick plastic flower that squirted water all over Sister's birthday blouse.

10. The ponies and the merry-go-round were a big success—except that Sister had sampled so many party goodies that she got a little sick from all the up-and-down and round-and-round.

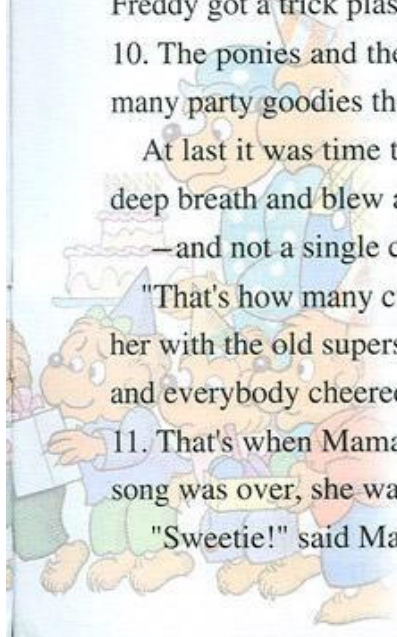
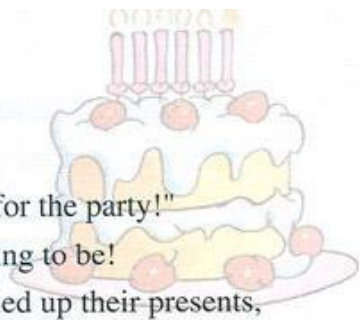
At last it was time to bring out the birthday cake and blow out the six candles. Sister took a deep breath and blew as hard as she could...

—and not a single candle went out!

"That's how many cubs you're going to have when you grow up!" shouted her friends, teasing her with the old superstition. After a lot of blowing, though, she finally blew out all the candles and everybody cheered and sang "Happy Birthday."

11. That's when Mama noticed a big tear beginning to roll down Sister's cheek. By the time the song was over, she was crying so loud you could hardly hear the singing.

"Sweetie!" said Mama. "What's the matter?"



"It isn't fair!" Sister said between sobs. "I was the first one out in Going to Jerusalem! I don't like kissing games! I didn't get the donkey game prize! Freddy squirted my new blouse! And I don't *want* to have six cubs—I only want to have three!" And then she began to cry again.

12. "Don't you want to open your presents?" asked her friends, crowding around. Well, there's nothing like opening up a pile of lovely presents to cheer you up, and after a while she was herself again.

Then, after cake and ice cream, her friends wished her Happy Birthday and left.

Sister sighed a big sigh, then climbed up onto Papa's lap.

13. "Thank you for my birthday party," she said.

Papa smiled and said, "Parties *are* exciting and presents *are* lovely, but Mama was right—the important thing is that you're going to be six for a whole year and it's up to you to make the most of it—to learn, to have fun, to grow in every way."

"Say," she said, "I wonder how much I've grown since my last birthday!"

"Let's find out," suggested Papa.

"Wow!" said Brother. "A whole inch and a half!"

14. "And speaking of growth," said Mama, "here's a school paper you did in kindergarten—and here's one you just did in first grade." There was quite a difference.

"And here are two of your paintings," said Brother. "One from last year and one from this year."

It was true. Sister had come a long way since she was five.

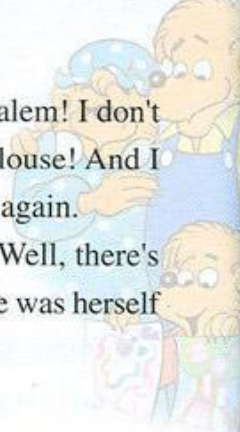
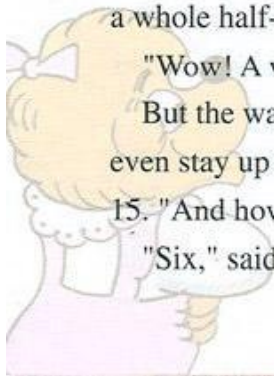
And now that she was six, Papa announced that she was going to be allowed to stay up later—a whole half-hour later.

"Wow! A whole half-hour!" said Sister proudly.

But the way it turned out, Sister Bear was so tired from "too much birthday" that she couldn't even stay up until her old bedtime. She was sound asleep when Papa carried her up to bed.

15. "And how old are you today?" asked Papa when she woke up the next morning.

"Six," said Sister. And then, grinning from ear to ear, "Six going on seven!"



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