

## Teddybears Take the Train

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## teddybears take the train

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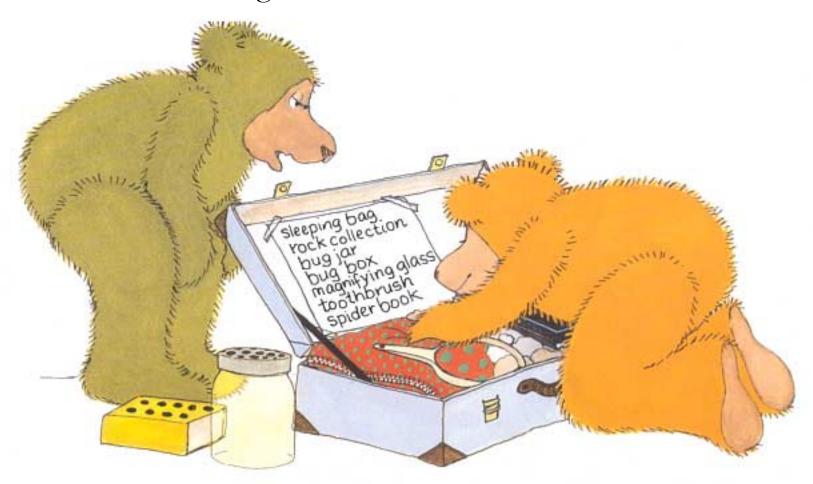


Sara was reading a letter. Louise, Robert and Charles were listening. So was Fred, the dog.

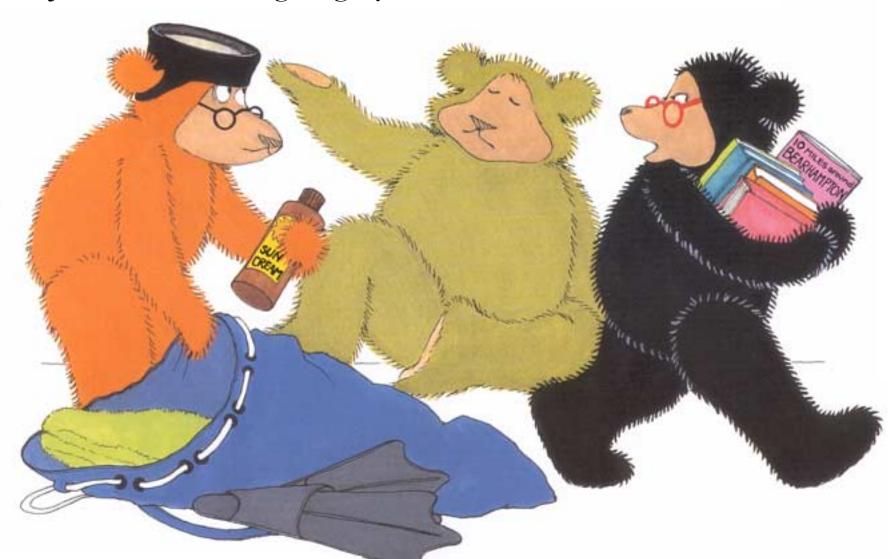


"We'd better start packing," said Charles.

"I don't like your Great-Uncle Jerome," said Louise. "Why not?" said Robert. "He's got a pond at the bottom of his garden and a telescope. I like him." "But he never hears anything you say," said Louise, "and there are frogs in the bath . . ."

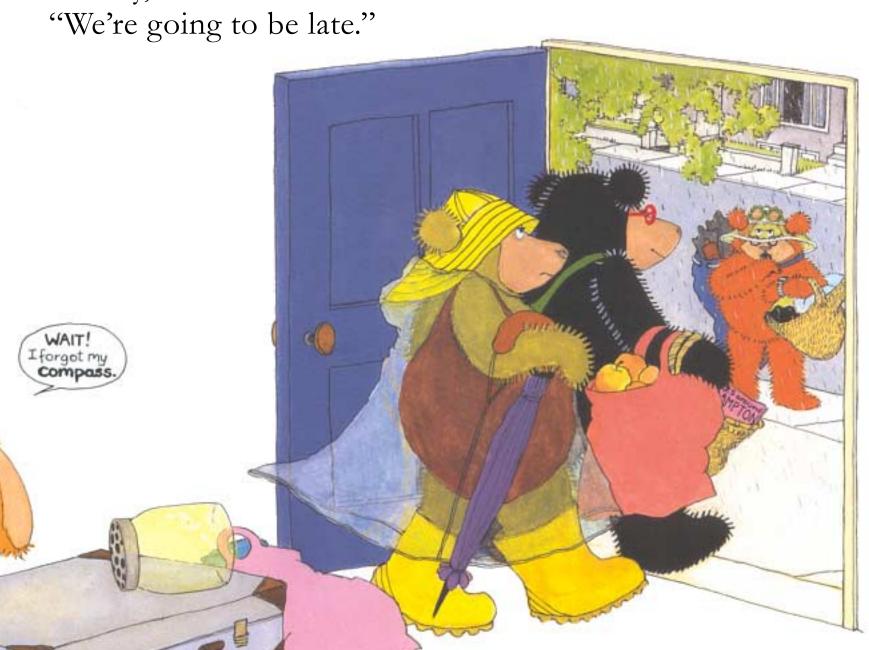


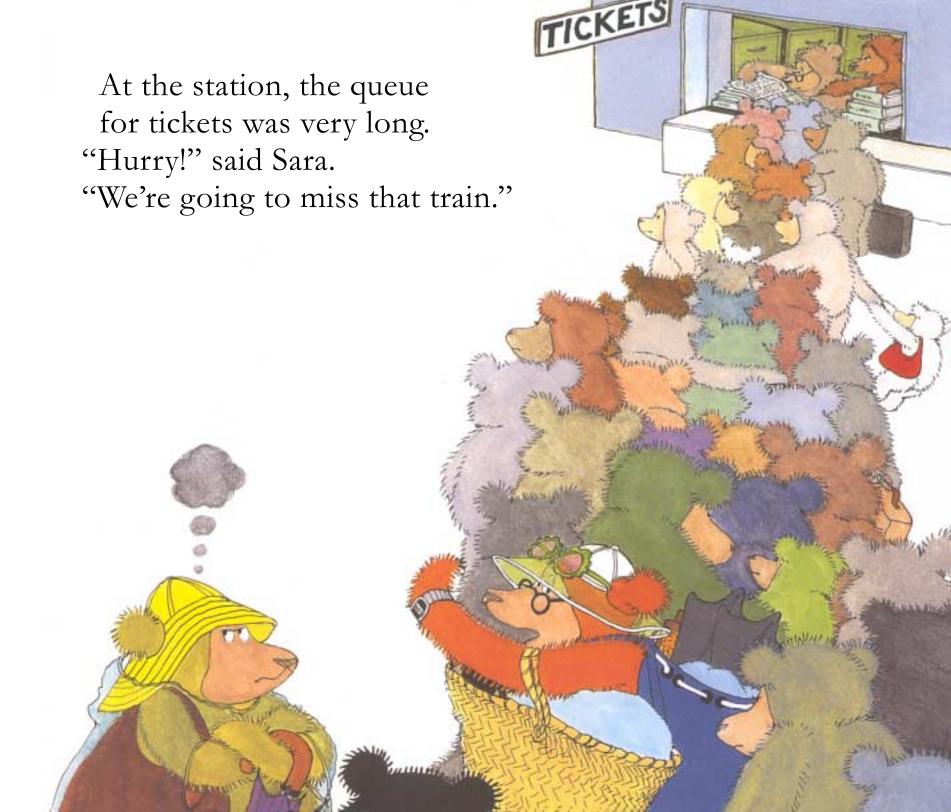
- "AND it always rains when we go to see him."
- "I was going to take my swimming things," said Sara.
- "Don't bother," said Louise.
- "Stop it, Louise!" said Charles.
- "Just think, we're going by TRAIN!"

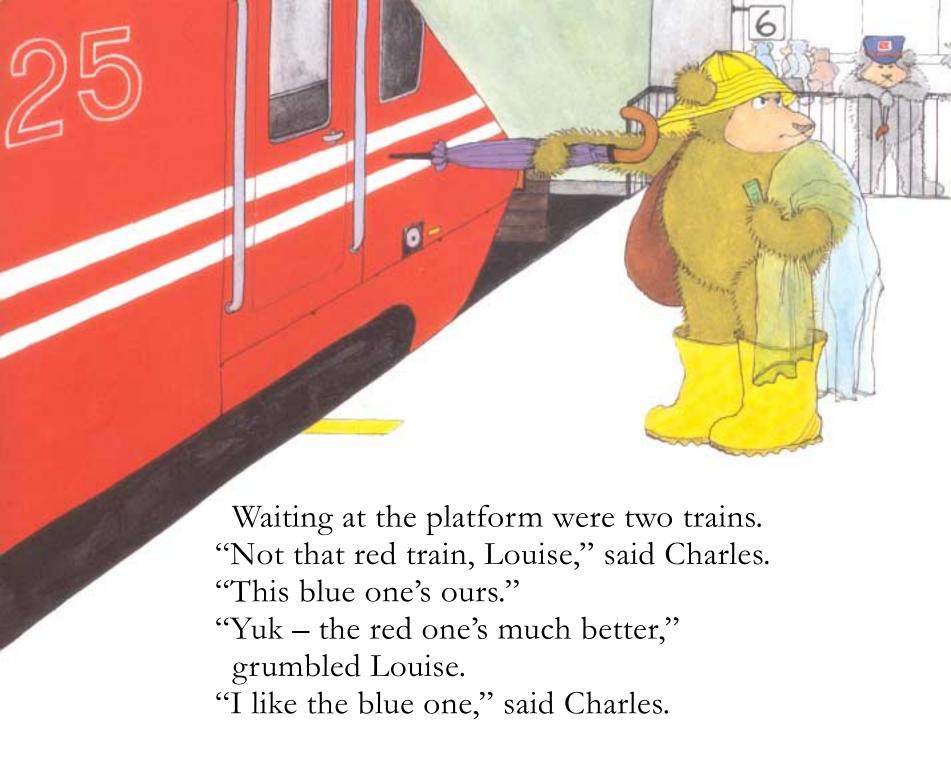


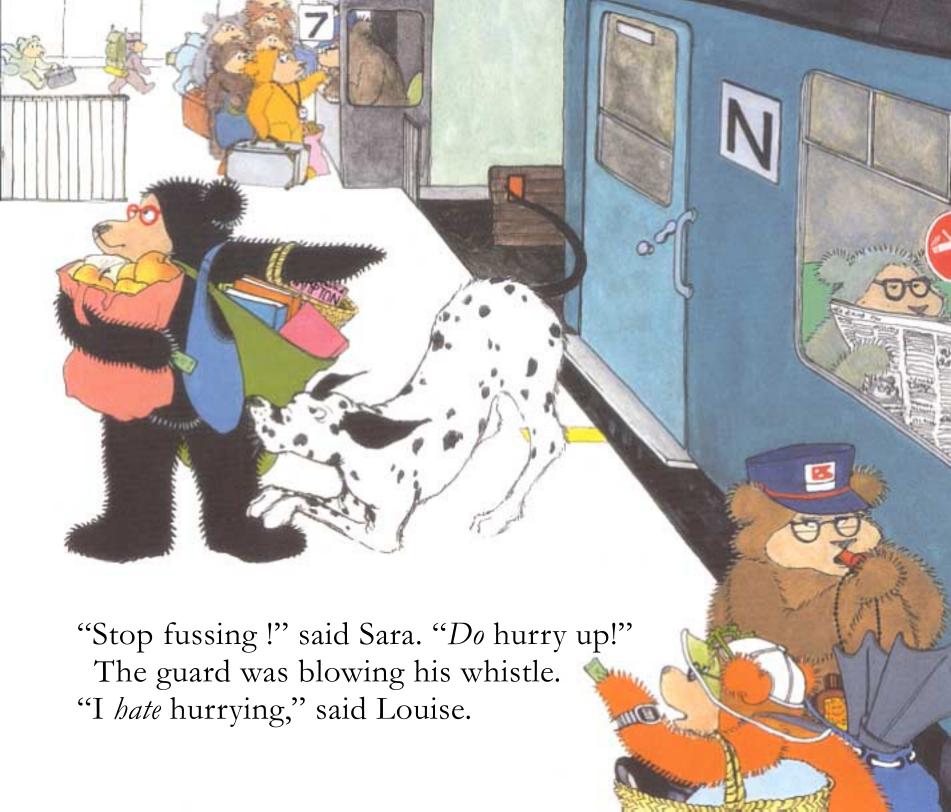
The four bears packed their things.

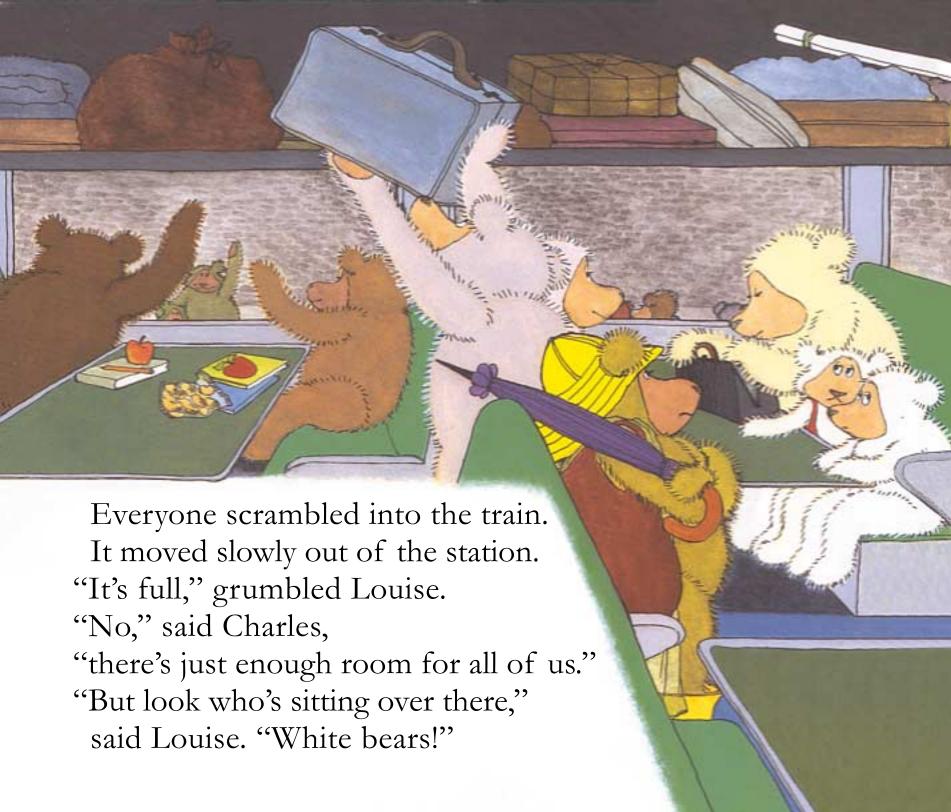
"Hurry," said Sara.

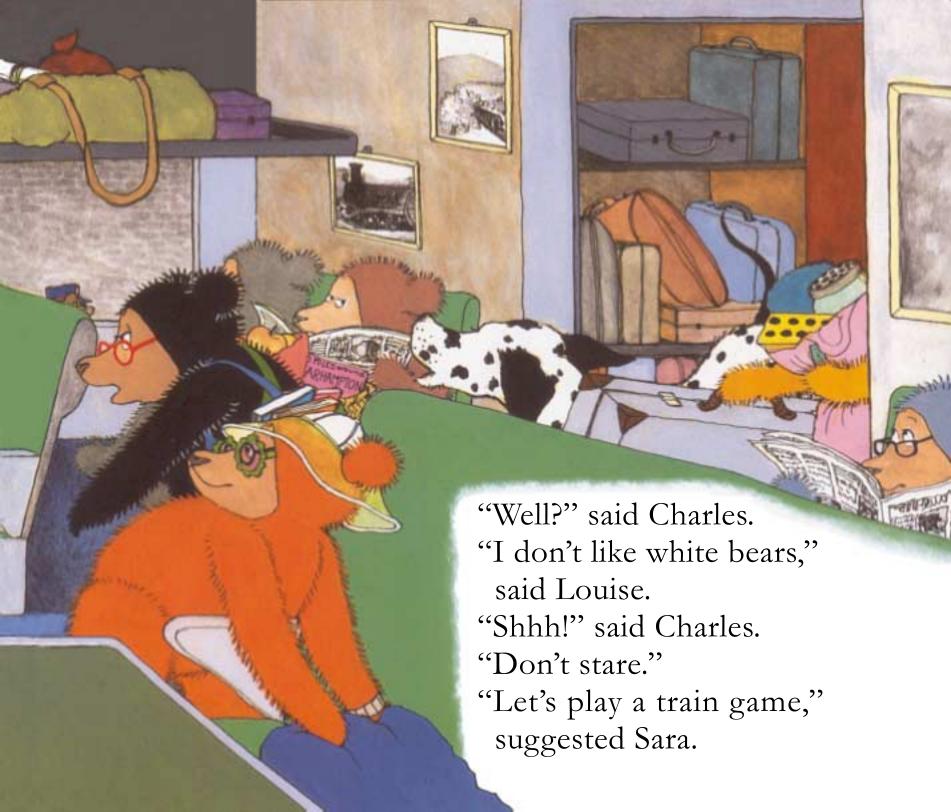




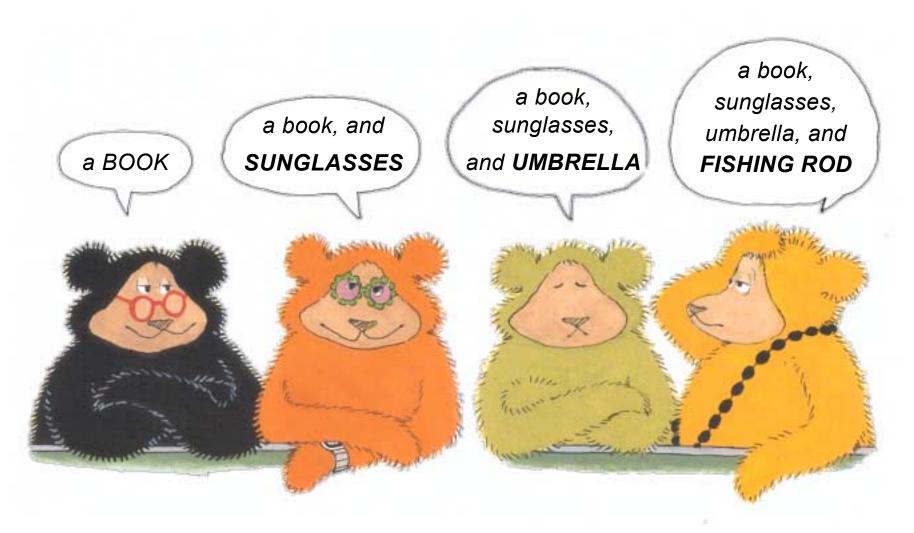




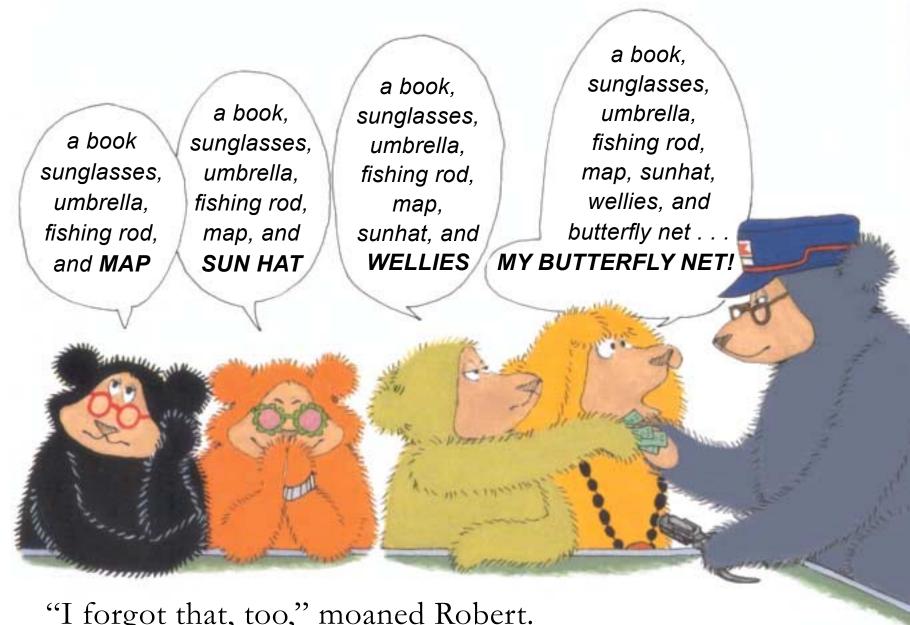




I packed my bag and in it I put . . .



"But, really, I forgot my fishing rod," said Robert.
"Never mind," said Charles. "Let's go on with the game."



"I forgot that, too," moaned Robert.

"Never mind," said the ticket collector, as he punched all their tickets.

Meanwhile, the white bears were unwrapping several large paper parcels.

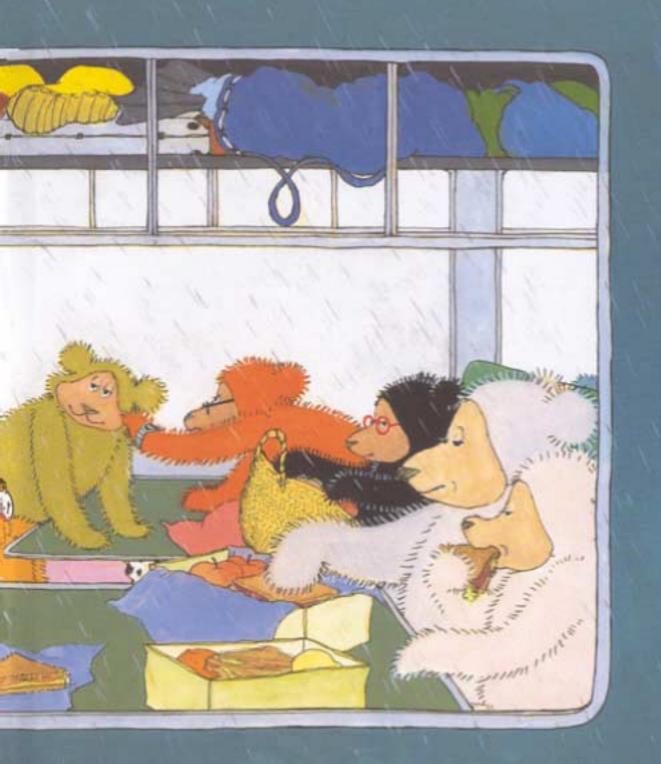
"What are they eating?" whispered Robert.

"Probably fried worms," said Louise. "Or spiders." The little white bears took out bottles of drink and stared at Louise.

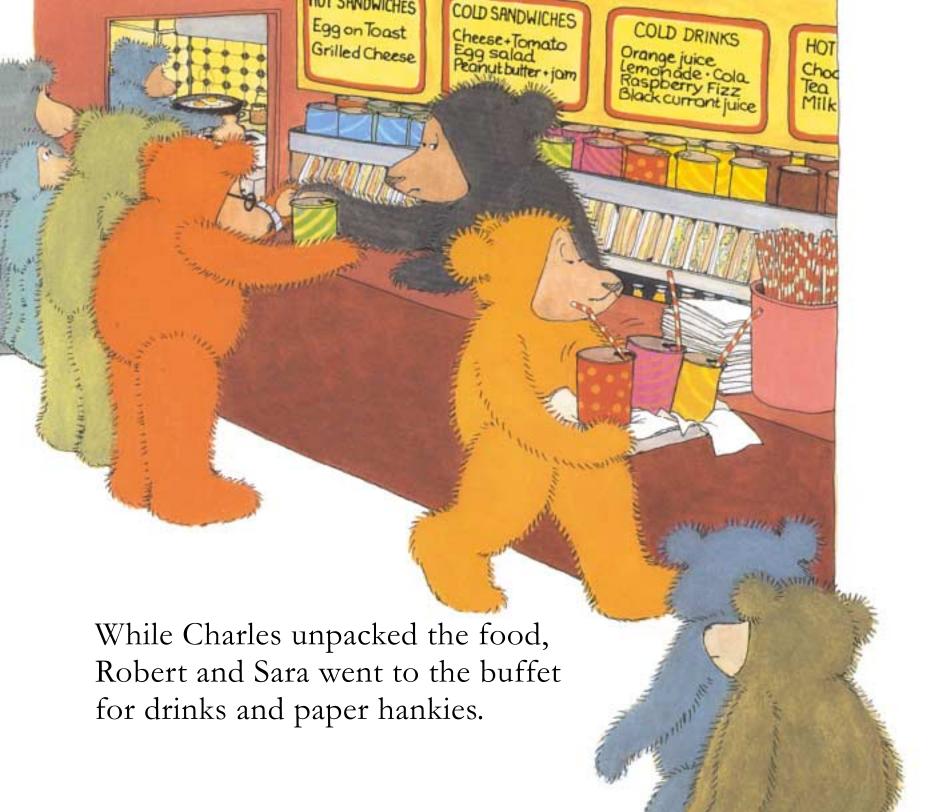
"Shhh!" said Sara.

"Let's have *our* picnic," said Charles.











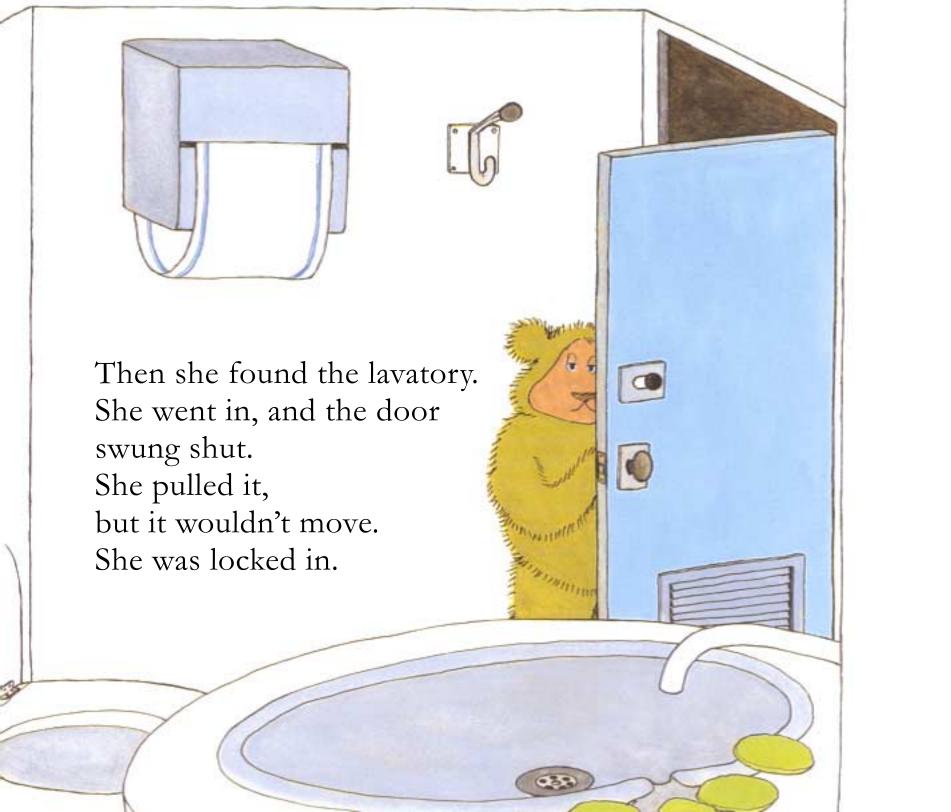
When they had finished eating, Louise went off to explore the train.

"Don't be long," said Sara. "We have to get off soon."



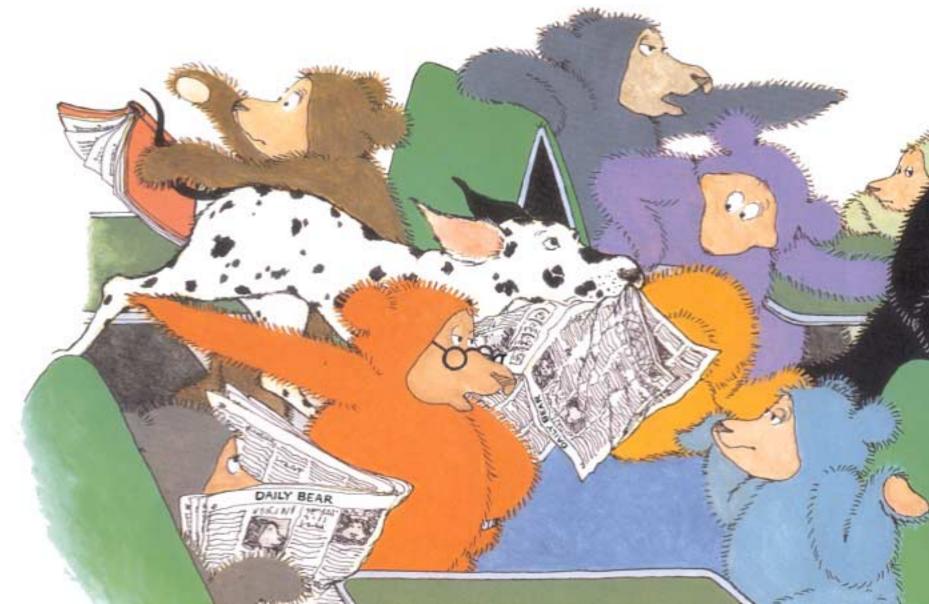


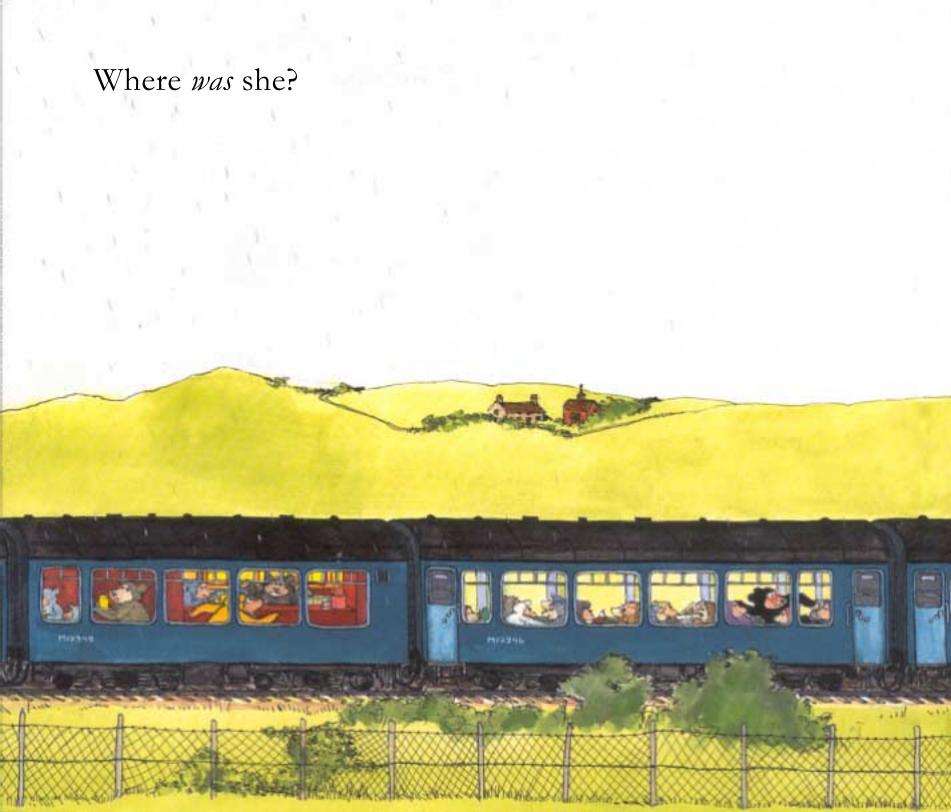
She looked out at the woods and fields and houses.

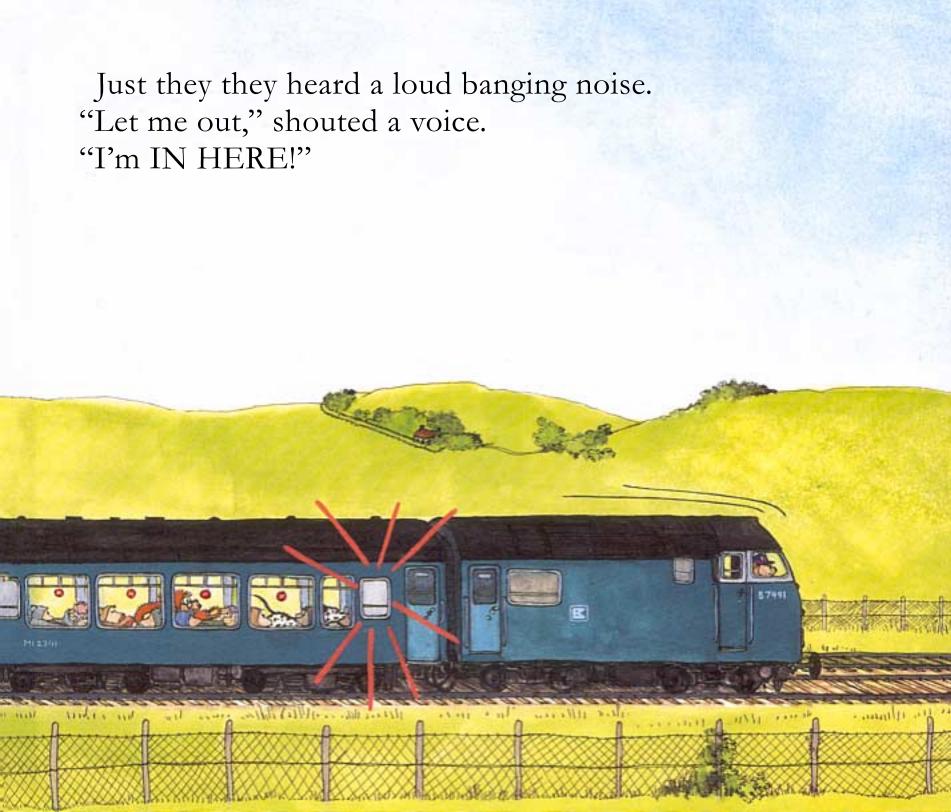


"I wonder where Louise is?" said Robert. They hunted up and down the train. Fred hunted too.

"Where is she?" said Sara.







First they pulled the door handle. That didn't work.



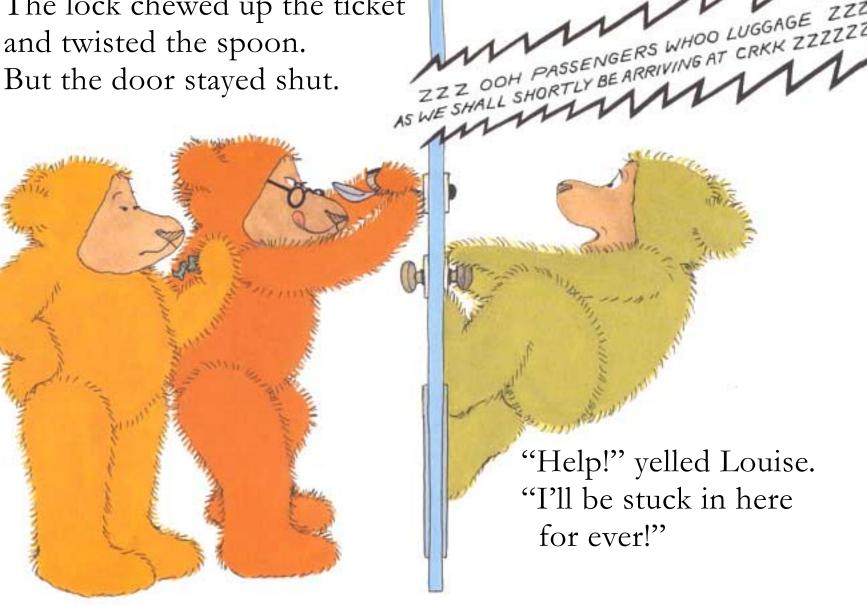
Then Charles wiggled the door sideways on its hinges.
That didn't work either.



Then they poked a train ticket and a spoon in the lock.

The lock chewed up the ticket and twisted the spoon.

Suddenly, there was a loud crackling noise:



"Excuse me," said a quiet voice.

"Can I help?"

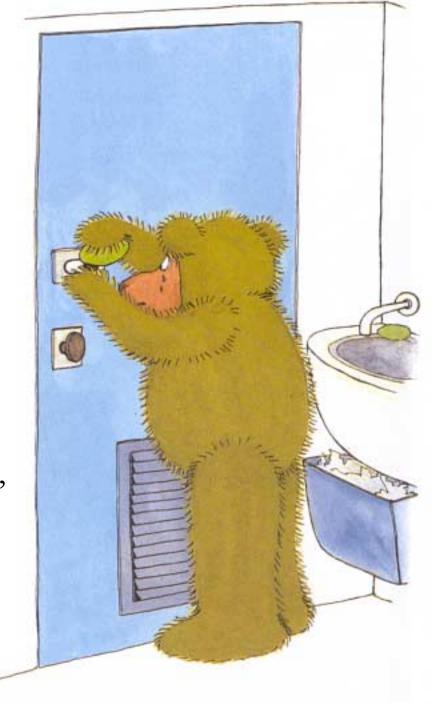
It was one of the white bears.

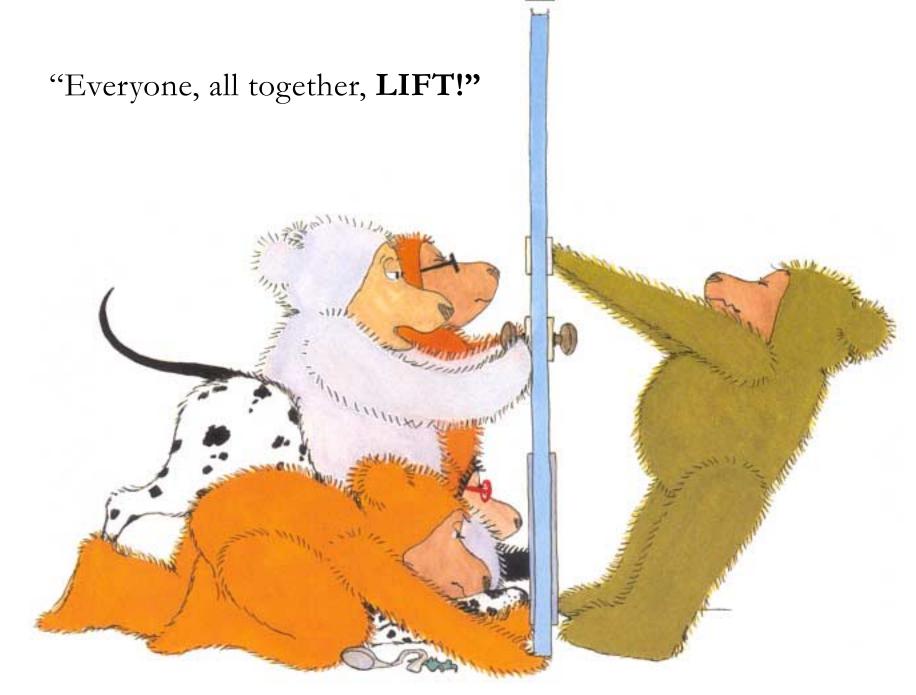
"Listen," said the white bear to Louise.

"Take some soap from the basin and rub it on the bolt.

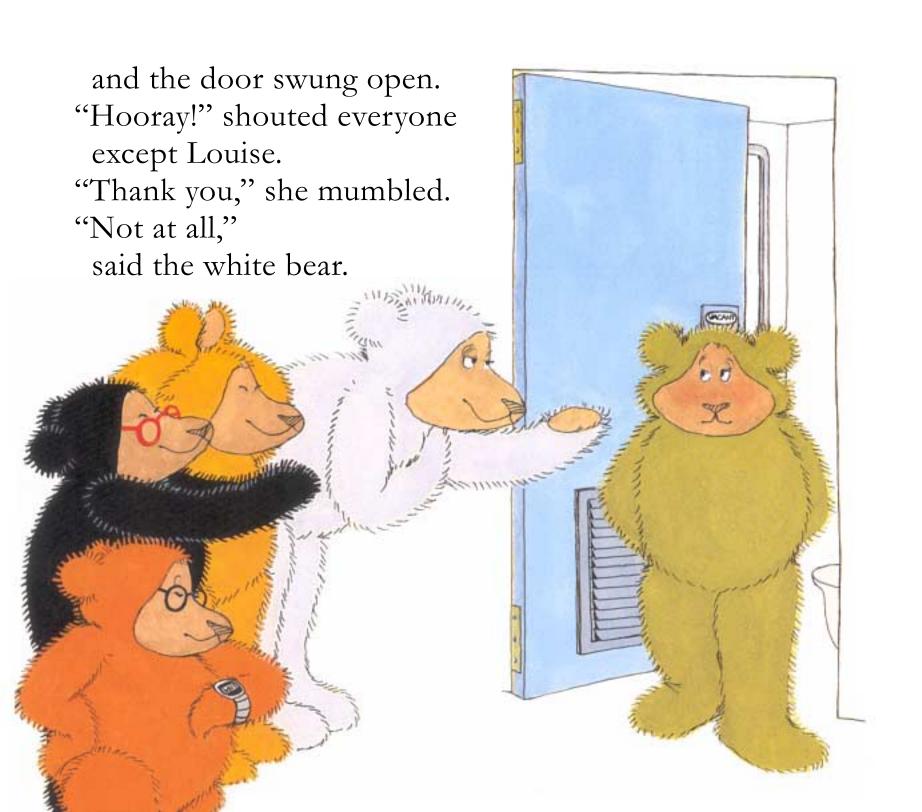
It must be jammed.

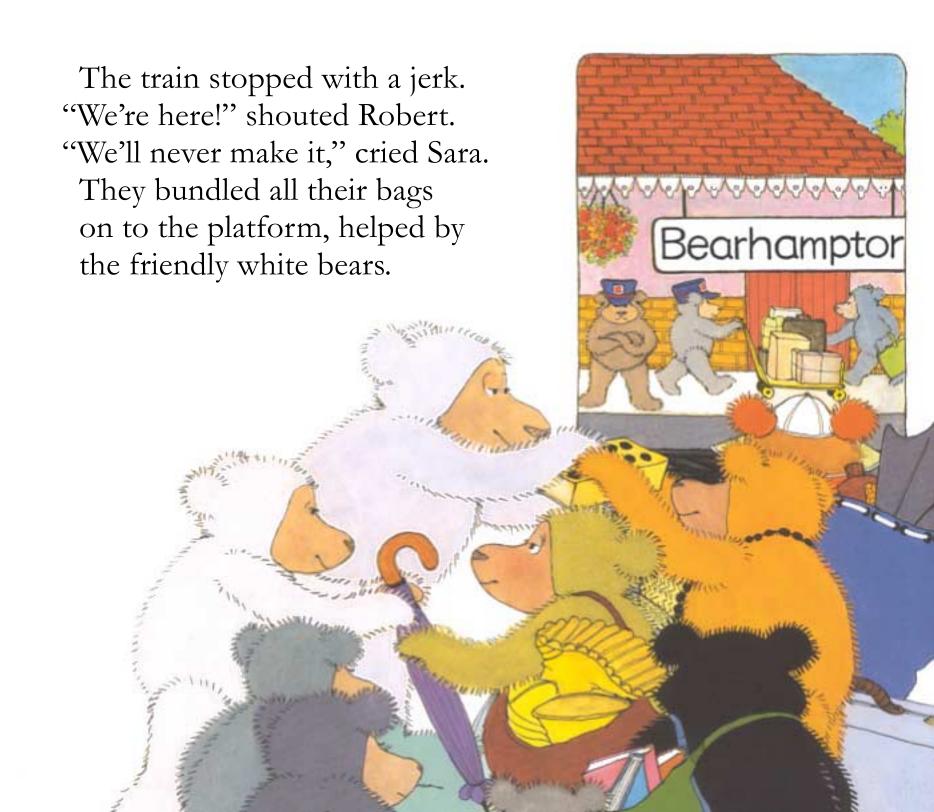
Now, while you pull the bolt we'll try to lift the door a little."

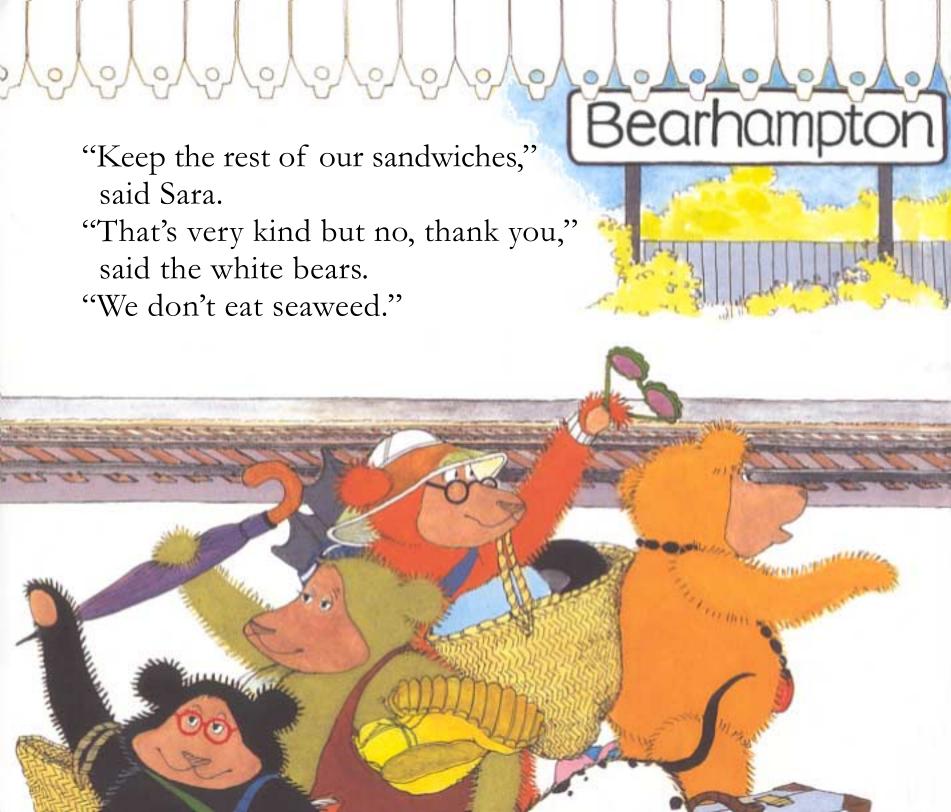




There was a scrunching sound as the bolt slid back . . .









The train was pulling out of the station.

"Seaweed?" shouted Robert.

"That's not seaweed – it's lettuce!"

But the smiling white bears didn't hear him.

Louise gave Great-Uncle Jerome a hug.

"You won't believe how glad I am to be here," she said.

"Bees? Did you say bees here?" said Great-Uncle Jerome.

"I don't have any bees, only a frog."

"It's true," said John.

"Great-Uncle has got a frog in the bath.

He really has."

