



# The Berenstain Bears and the Mama's Day Surprise

*Stan Berenstain , Jan Berenstain*

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**Come for a visit with the Berenstain Bears in this beloved story that's perfect to teach children about the importance of thoughtfulness and family!**

Come for a visit in Bear Country with this classic First Time Book(R) from Stan and Jan Berenstain. It's Mother's Day, and Papa and the cubs want to do something very special for Mama, but will they be able to keep it a secret? Includes over 50 bonus stickers!

## The Berenstain Bears and the Mama's Day Surprise Details

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Author : Stan Berenstain , Jan Berenstain

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## From Reader Review The Berenstain Bears and the Mama's Day Surprise for online ebook

### Stef says

UGH. A bland story that follows a bland, pre-feminist-era matriarch with no interests outside of housework, acting 89 years old, and being smug, so it's little wonder her well-intentioned but mostly inept family lacks imagination in delivering an equally bland Mother's Day "surprise," one that she herself helps them achieve with bored, tired arrogance.

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### Lauren says

Refreshingly sexist... Why is Mama Bear expected to clean up Papa and the cubs' mess? Spoiler alert, they clean up after themselves, but her expectation that she'll have to clean up BECAUSE she's a mama bear is sexist. This was copyrighted in 2004 (if I remember correctly) and it's perpetuating gender stereotypes. Shame!

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### Leslie says

Would have been 3 stars if published in the 50's. But for 2004, the sexism is unforgivable.

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### Lisa says

I give this story two stars because the book makes it out like a husband and children do a bad job trying to surprise Mama - like they aren't capable of coming up with a nice surprise without screwing something up. Sure they surprised her with the clean kitchen in the end, but it doesn't make up for Mama thinking the whole time that they couldn't get the job done secretly on their own.

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### chucklethescot says

Mama Bear starts thinking about the upcoming Mother's Day and decides to give her cubs a subtle helping hand with the preparations so she can be 'surprised'.

OK you can argue that Mama seems to expect to have a huge mess to clear up just because she is the mother and it's a bit sexist but I liked the subtle way she tries to make it easier for her family to give her a big treat. And the bears as always are so cute!

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### Rosa Cline says

This wasn't the greatest Berenstain Bear's book but it wasn't one of the worse ones either was a middle of the way book. I love Berenstain Bears; and can't believe there is such a wide range of various writing feelings almost like more than just the one couple wrote them? But anyhow... this is a Mother's Day book and Mama knows what the family is up to and although appreciates the efforts don't really look forward to it because she knows that the clean up will be left for her. She goes and buys all the items they need 'cause she sees the receipe marked and knows what her gift will be etc. But in the end she is pleasantly surprised because all of what she anticipated did come true but with a little extra niceness... like I said not a horrible book but not one of the best ones either.

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### **Derek Mahar says**

Sophia is looking forward to Mother's Day.

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### **Kelly says**

One of Andy's favorite books. I caan probably recite it in my sleep.

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### **Christy says**

Mother's Day is coming, and Mama Bear knows that Papa and the cubs are going to surprise her. Includes a free Mother's Day card. Full color. Consumable.

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### **The Brothers says**

Mother's Day is approaching and Mama Bear already knows what her surprises her family are planning for her. Surreptitiously, she makes sure they have everything they need so they can "surprise" her. Deep down, she's dreading the day for the mess they will make that she will have to clean up. The biggest surprise of all comes when Papa and cubs actually clean up their own messes. So, obviously a fairy tale...

Typical Berenstain Bears illustrations.

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### **Emily Garrison says**

This book was published in 2004 by Random House Publishers and is a book in the First Time Books series. This story begins by telling the reader that Mother's Day is coming and Mama just knows that Papa and the cubs are going to surprise her with a special celebration. Her hunch was that the cubs would serve her breakfast in bed and then, the rest of the day, she'd spend cleaning up the mess they had made during it's preparation. She isn't bitter though, she knows it's the thought that counts. The day before Mother's Day, Mama dug out and cleaned up a tray for the cubs to serve her and put it in a place they'd be able to find it. She also bought all the ingredients the cubs would need for her "surprise" breakfast and also bought some extra cleaning supplies for the aftermath. The morning of Mother's Day, Papa and the cubs sneek down to the

kitchen before sunrise (but Mama watched out of the corner of her eye). Mama lays awake waiting to be surprised and has horrible thoughts about the mess that is being made in the kitchen. Mama's concerns came true when she entered the kitchen that morning. A bowl has broken, the toast has burned and honey is everywhere, but as she steals another peek, she can see a beautiful breakfast creation with flowers which are to be delivered to her in bed. Mama scurries back to bed just in time for Papa and the cubs to "surprise" her with breakfast in bed and a new bathrobe. Mama acts surprised and enjoys her French toast and tea. When Honey woke, Papa takes care of her to give Mama some time off and when Mama returns to the kitchen, she finds that Papa and the cubs have left it spotless! Mama exclaims that this has been the best surprise she has ever had.

The life lesson of this story is two-fold. First, sometimes it pays off for parents to let on that they're clueless about an upcoming surprise so their children can experience the excitement of preparing something nice for them. When Mama lets them surprise her, she winds up even more surprised when she finds that the cubs have cleaned up after themselves. Second, the cubs learn that they are appreciated and learn that a major part of making Mama happy is by just cleaning up after themselves.

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### **Tiny Mendoza says**

I really liked the story! If the story is the only thing I'm going to give a rating to, I'll give it a rating of 5. But since I'm rating the artiness of the book too, I'm sad to say that I'll give the entire book a rating of 4 since I didn't liked the illustrations that much.

Still, loved this book so much! :)

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### **Miri says**

It's hard to surprise mama bears who always know when their cubs are planning something. Mama bear knows with mother's day coming that the cubs and papa will be planning a special something for her, so she works behind the scenes making sure they'll have everything they need to surprise her.

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### **PWRL says**

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### **Krys (Krys Reads) says**

Sorry, I wasn't planning on having two Berenstain Bears stories but here's another one: Mama Bear anxiously waits for her special to come around. But the more she thinks about it the more anxious she gets as she thinks about how much cleaning she will have to do. "It's the thought that counts", she would say. In the end Mama Bear gets a really big surprise. Read this lovely tale to find out when Mama Bear gets more than what she expected.

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