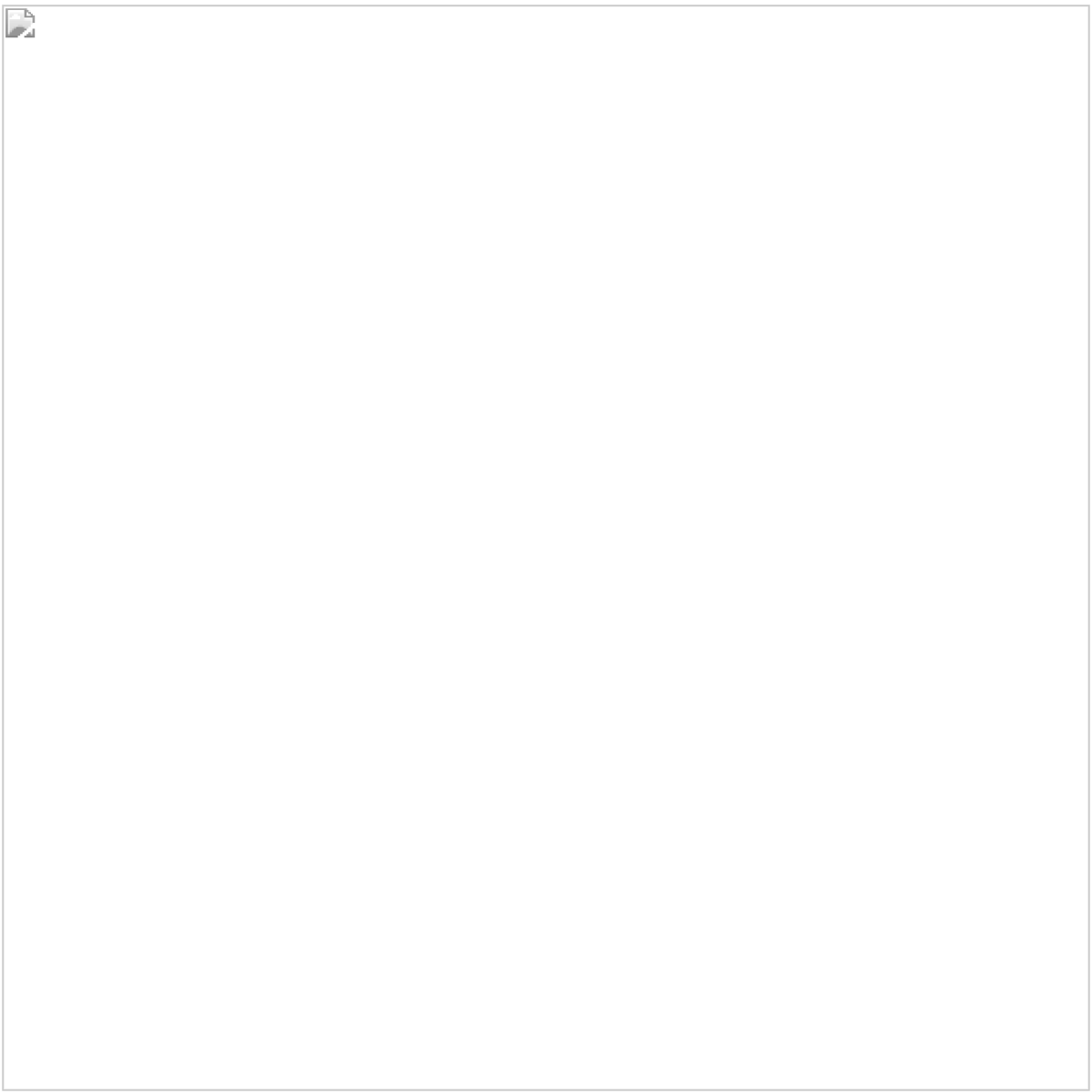
COLORING THE CLASSICS

The Three Bears

A Tale by Robert Southey



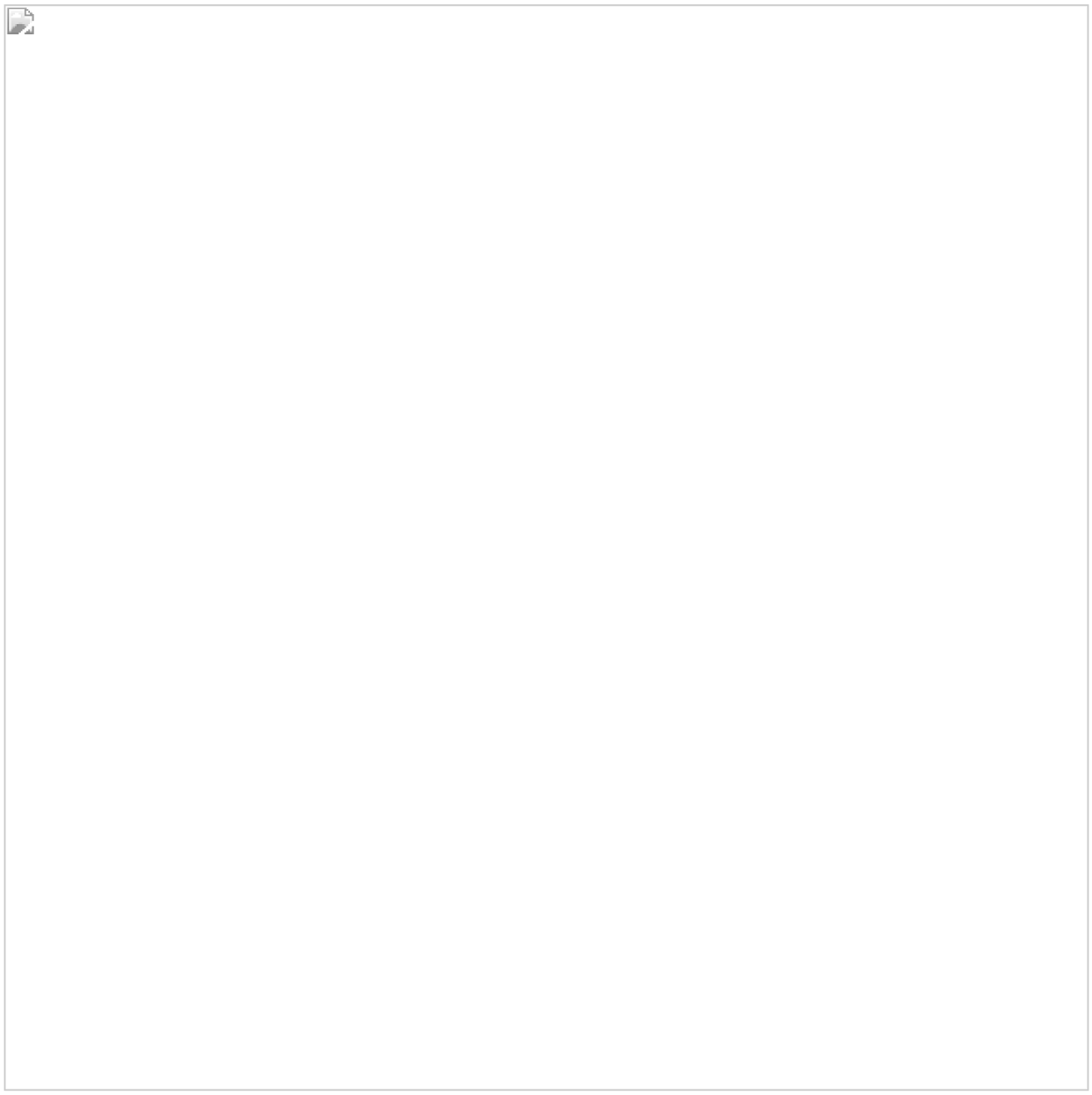
Once upon a time there were Three Bears, who lived together in a house of their own, in a wood. One was a Little, Small, Wee Bear; one was a Middle-sized Bear; and the other was a Great, Huge Bear.

TALK ABOUT IT

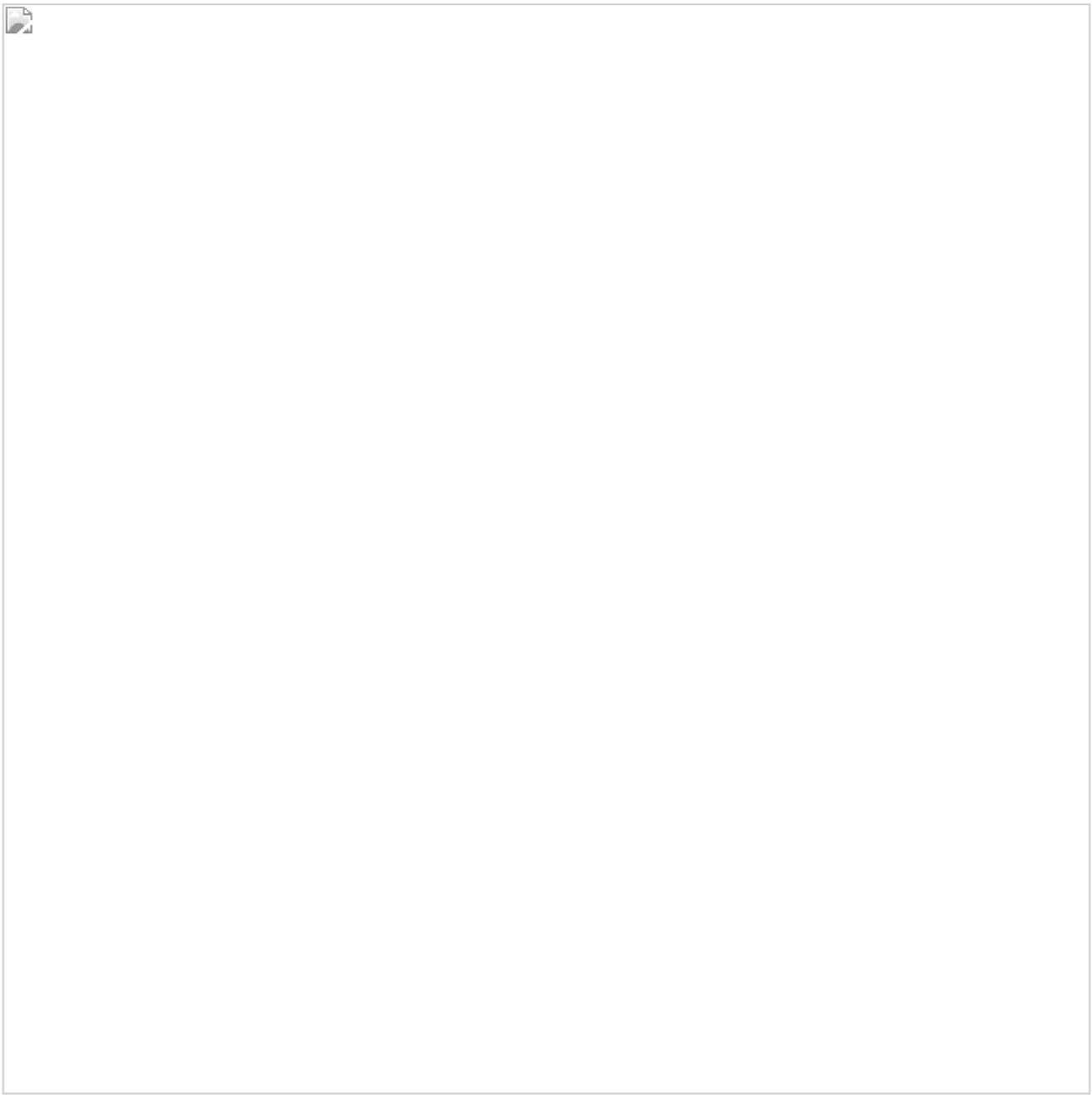
There are three bears in this house. Which one would you most like to meet, and why?

This book belongs to _____

The Three Bears · another picture



A Pot, a Chair, and a Bed for Each



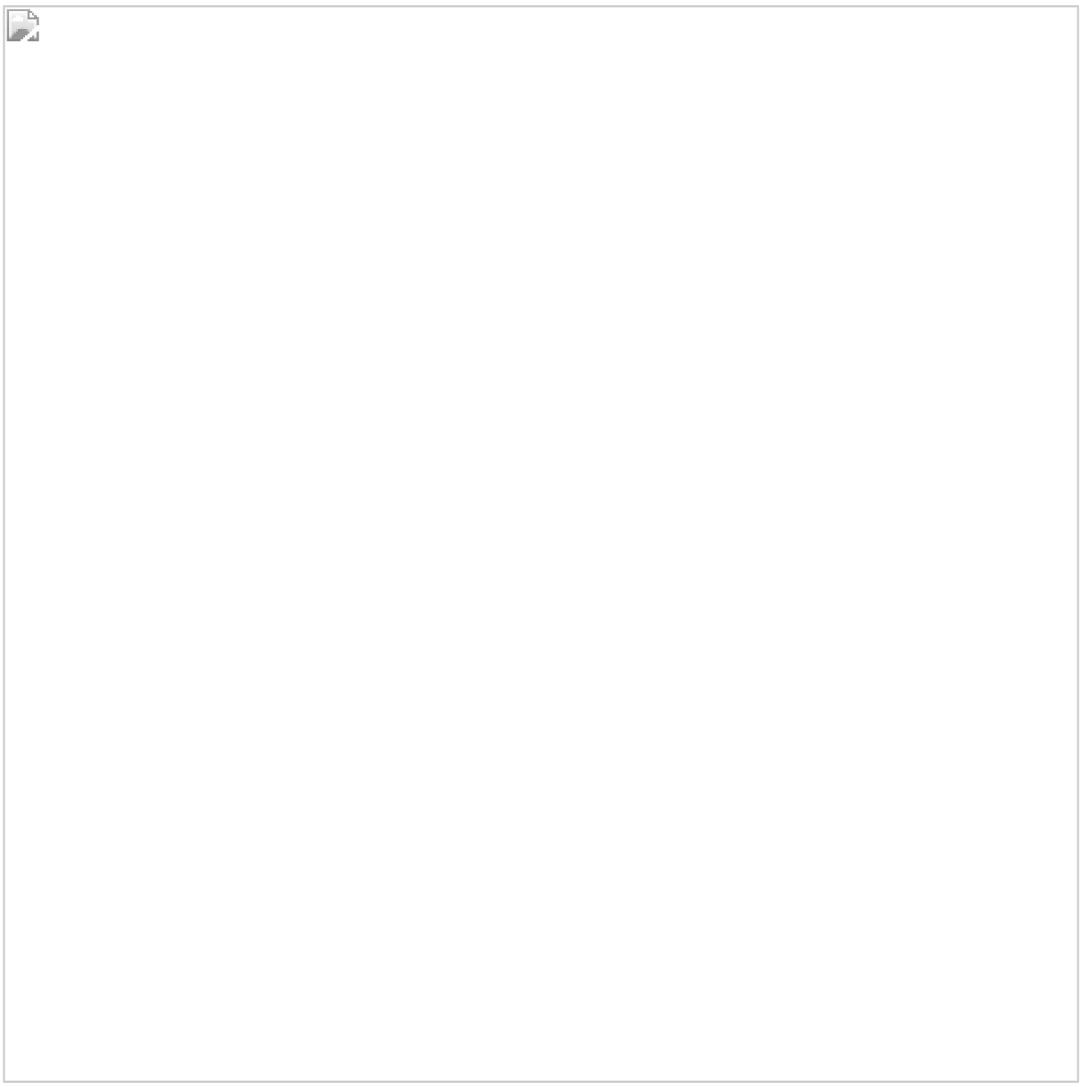
They had each a pot for their porridge: a little pot for the Little, Small, Wee Bear, a middle-sized pot for the Middle Bear, and a great pot for the Great, Huge Bear.

They had each a chair to sit in, and each a bed to sleep in. The chairs and the beds were little, middle-sized, and great, just like the pots.

TALK ABOUT IT

Each bear had their own size of everything. What do you have that is just your size?

A Pot, a Chair, and a Bed for Each · another picture

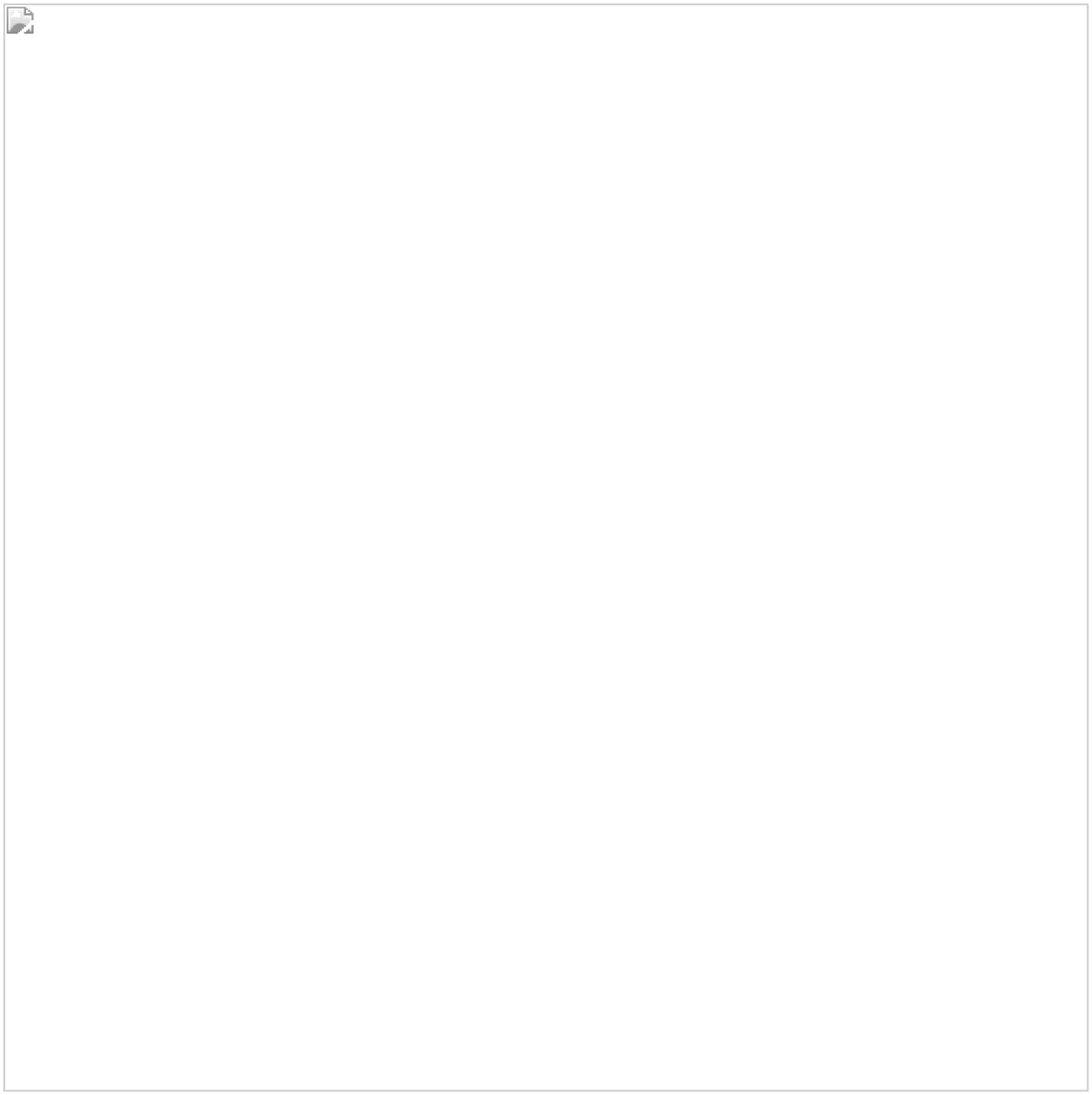


Think about it

1. How many bears lived in the house?

- ○ Two
- ○ Three
- ○ Four

A Walk in the Wood

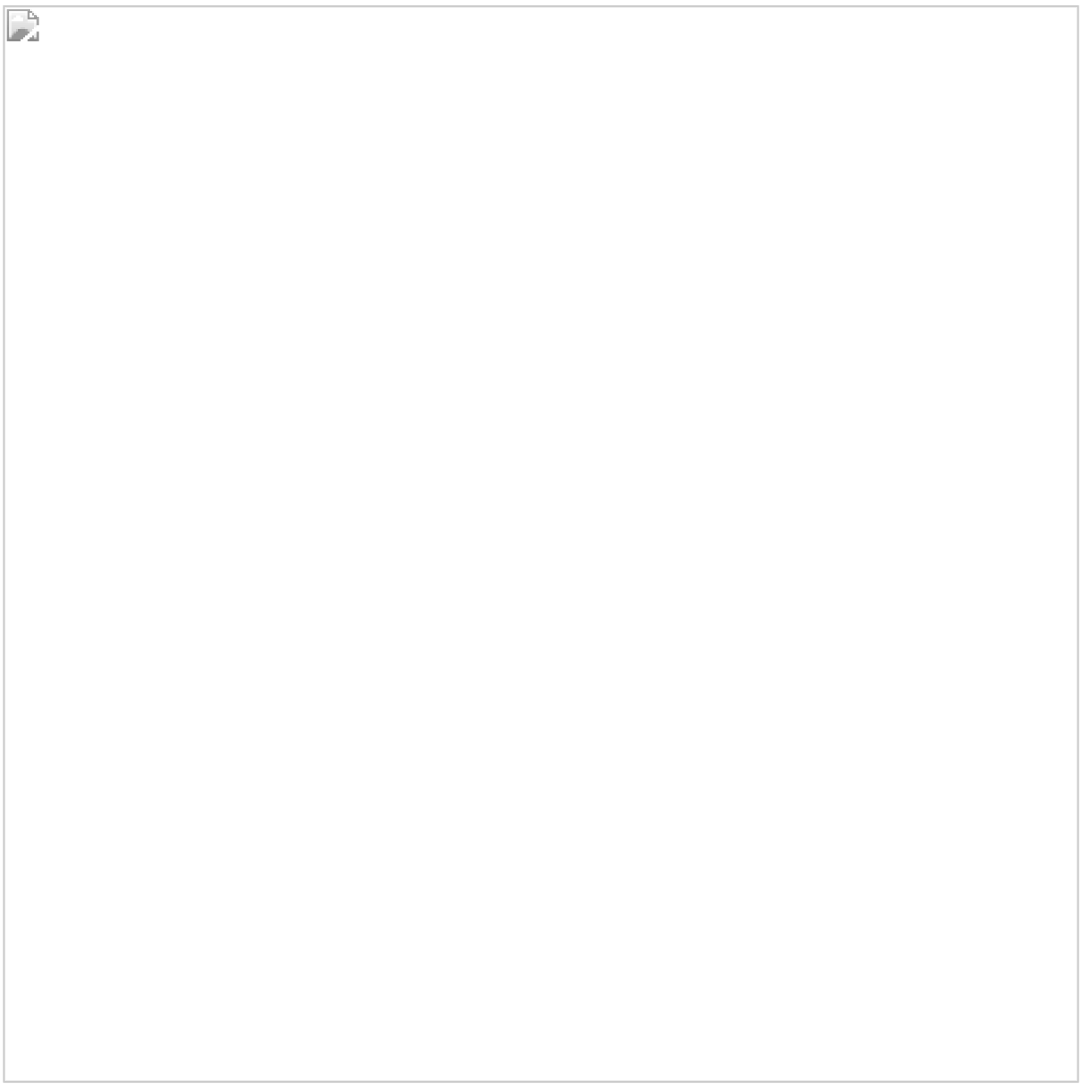


One day, after they had made the porridge for breakfast and poured it into their porridge-pots, they walked out into the wood while the porridge was cooling, so they would not burn their mouths by beginning too soon to eat it.

While they were walking, a little old Woman came to the house. First she looked in at the window, and then she peeped in at the keyhole.

TALK ABOUT IT

The bears went for a walk while their porridge cooled. What do you do while you wait for hot food?

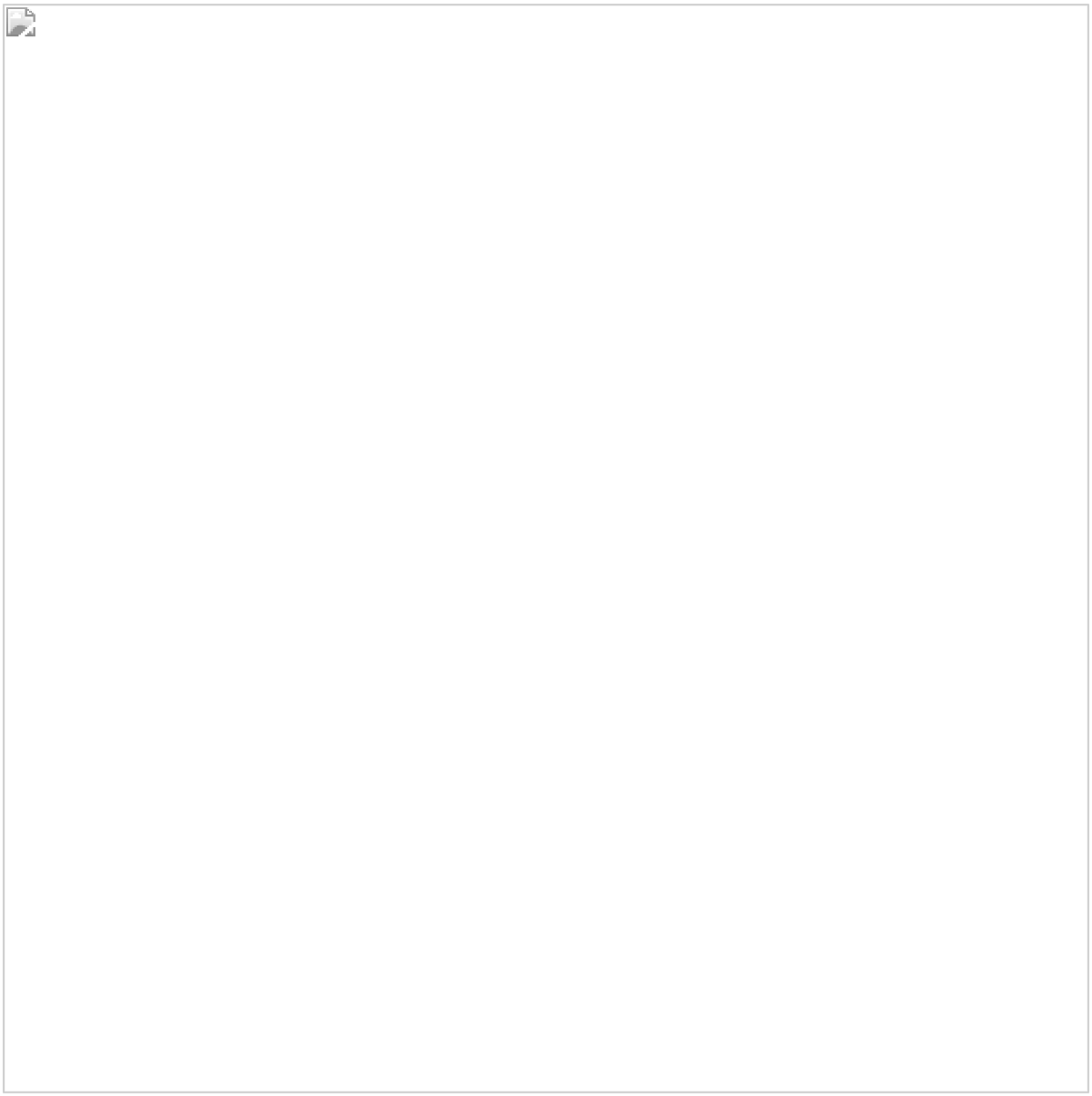


Think about it

1. Why did the bears go for a walk?

- ○ To let the porridge cool
- ○ To pick berries
- ○ To find the old Woman

The Door That Was Not Fastened



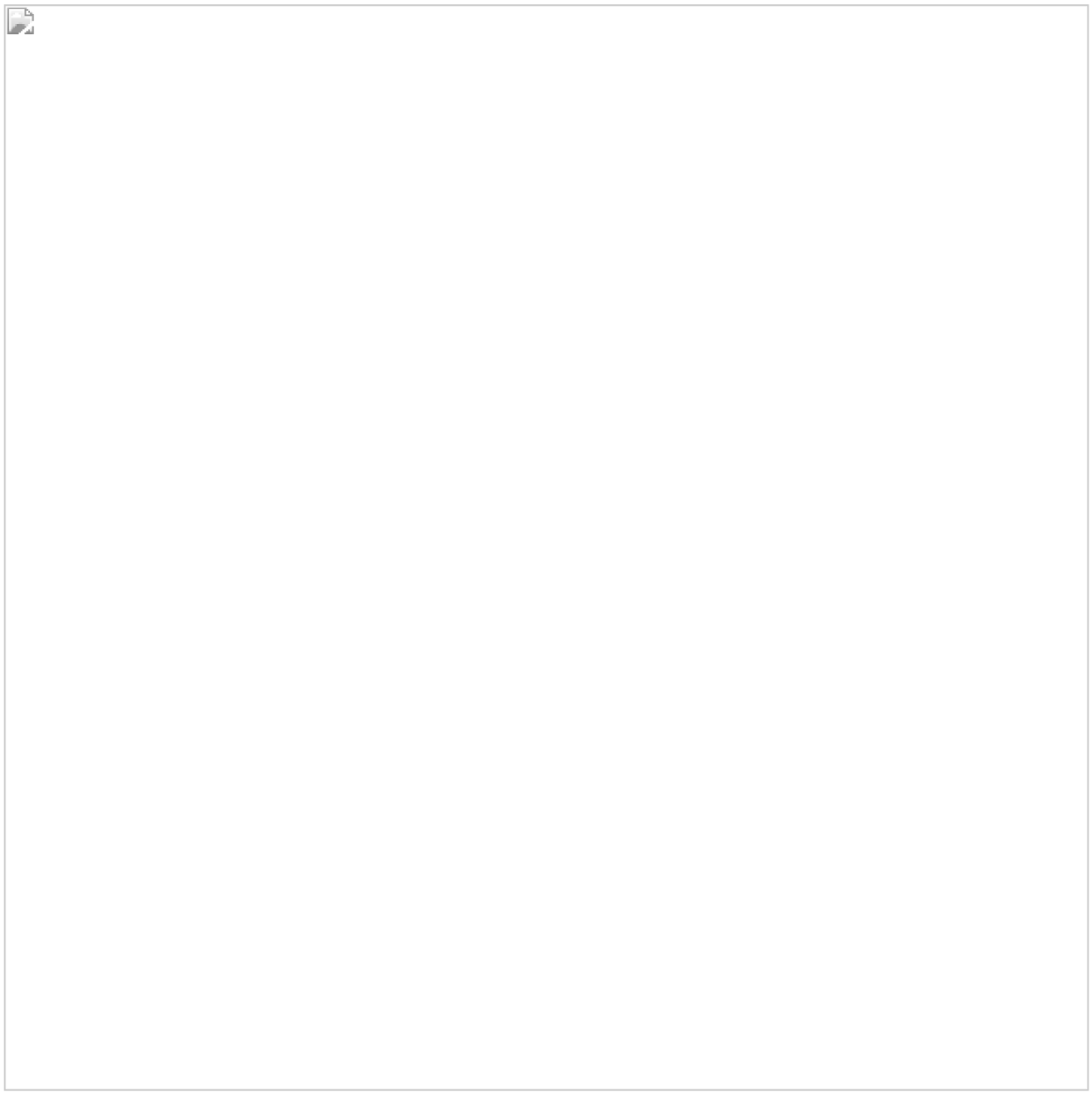
Seeing nobody in the house, the little old Woman lifted the latch. The door was not fastened, because the Bears were good Bears, who did nobody any harm and never thought that anybody would harm them.

She opened the door and went in, and she was well pleased when she saw the porridge on the table. If she had waited till the Bears came home, perhaps they would have asked her to breakfast, for they were very good-natured. But she set about helping herself.

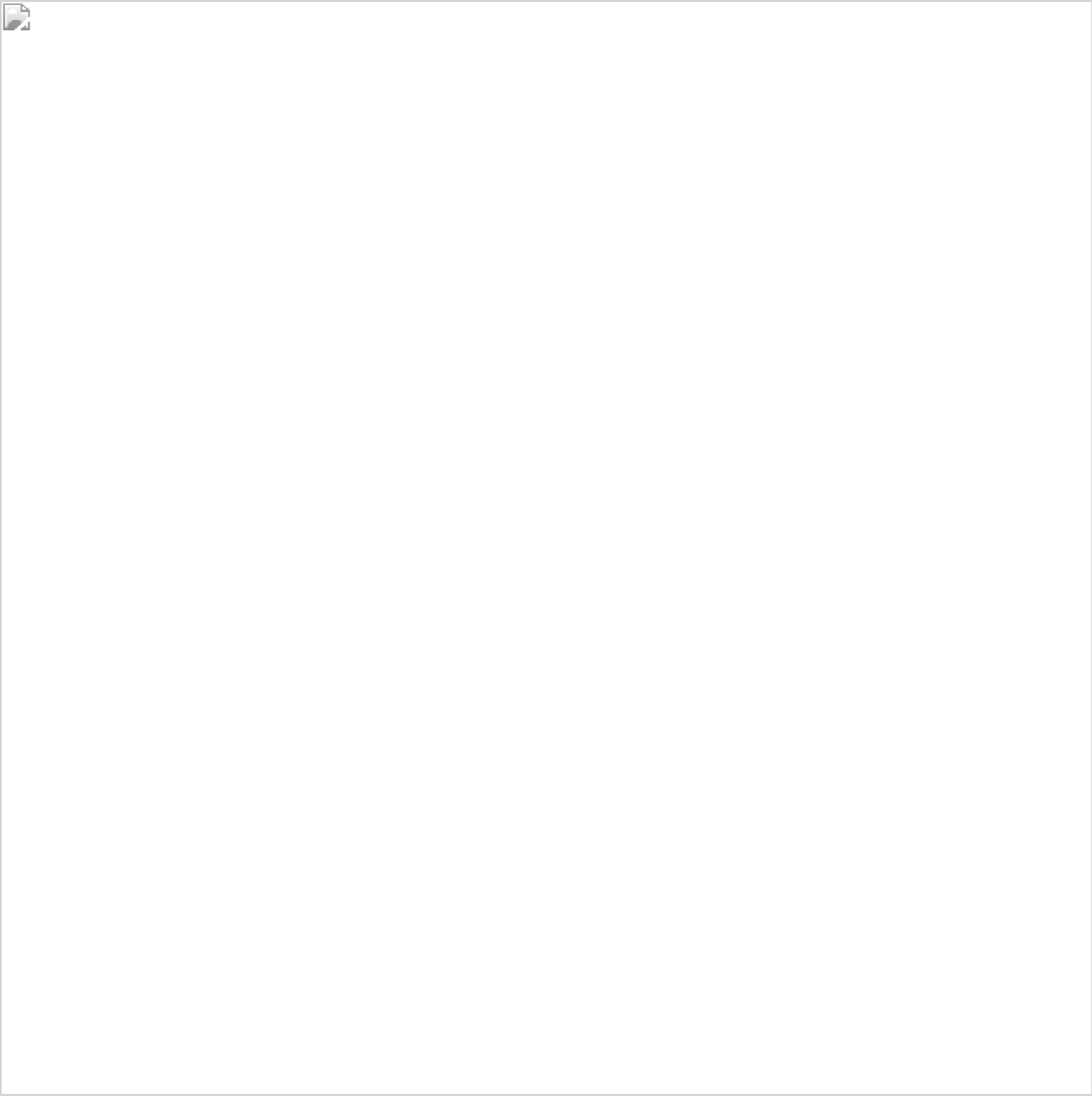
TALK ABOUT IT

The old Woman could have waited for the bears. What do you think she could have done instead?

The Door That Was Not Fastened · another picture



Too Hot, Too Cold, Just Right

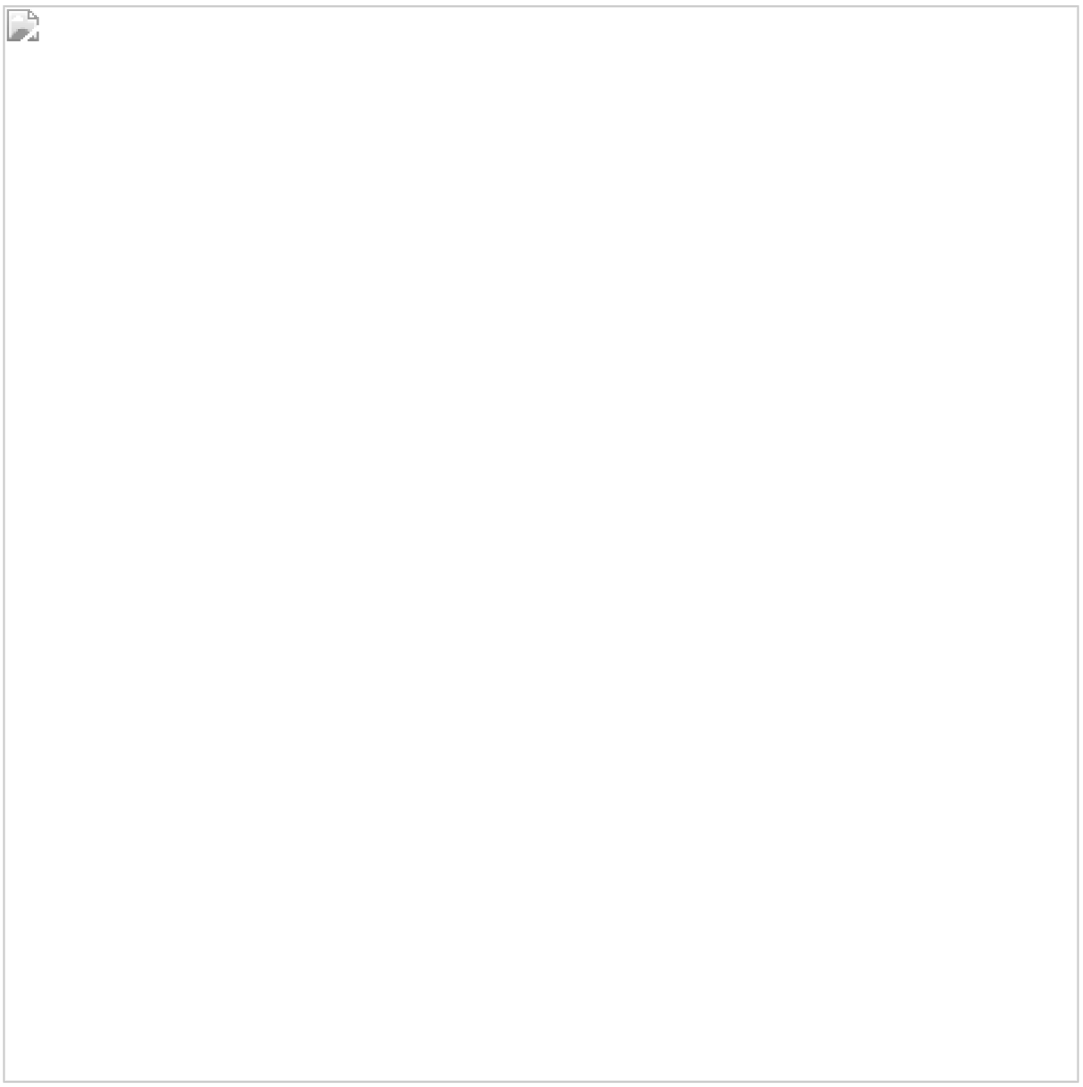


First she tasted the porridge of the Great, Huge Bear, and that was too hot for her. Then she tasted the porridge of the Middle Bear, and that was too cold.

Then she tasted the porridge of the Little, Small, Wee Bear, and it was neither too hot nor too cold, but just right. She liked it so well that she ate it all up. She grumbled about the little porridge-pot, because it did not hold enough for her.

TALK ABOUT IT

The old Woman ate up the little bear's breakfast. What do you think she should have done?

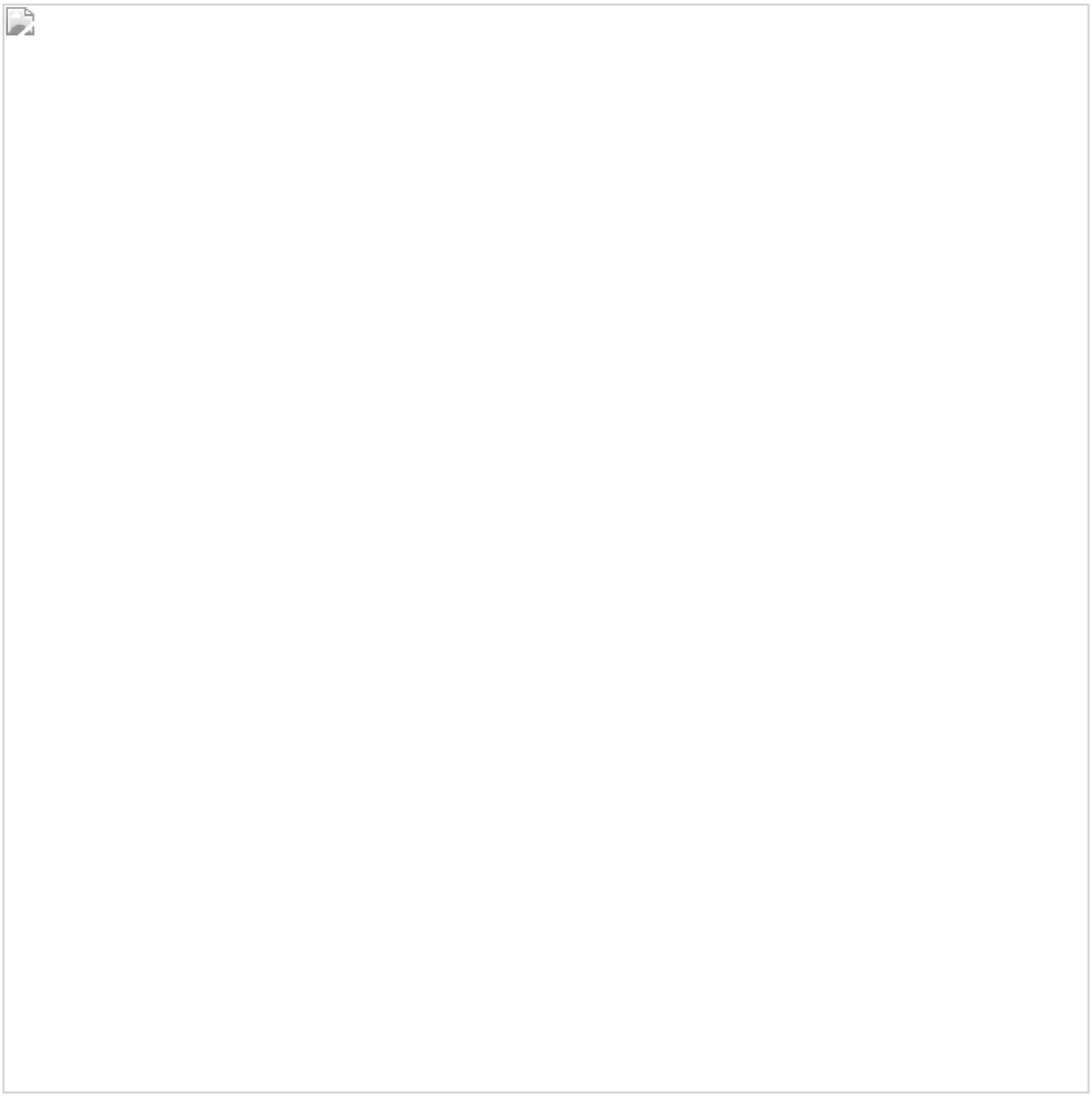


Think about it

1. Which porridge was just right?

- ○ The Great, Huge Bear's
- ○ The Middle Bear's
- ○ The Little, Small, Wee Bear's

The Little Chair

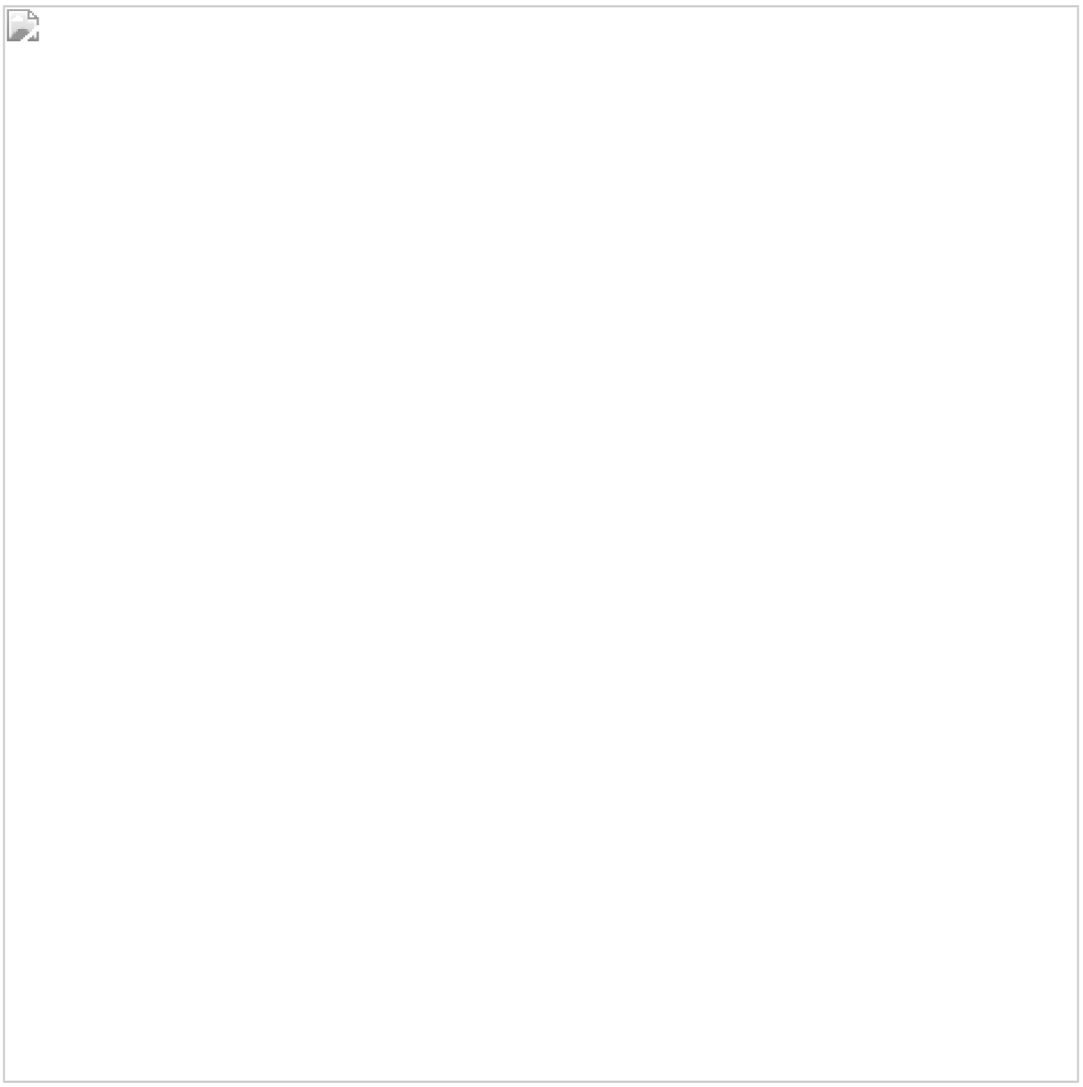


Then the little old Woman sat down in the chair of the Great, Huge Bear, and that was too hard for her. She sat down in the chair of the Middle Bear, and that was too soft.

Then she sat down in the chair of the Little, Small, Wee Bear, and that was neither too hard nor too soft, but just right. So she settled in it, and there she sat till the bottom of the chair came out, and down she came, plump upon the ground.

TALK ABOUT IT

The little chair broke. What do you think the bears will want to do about it?

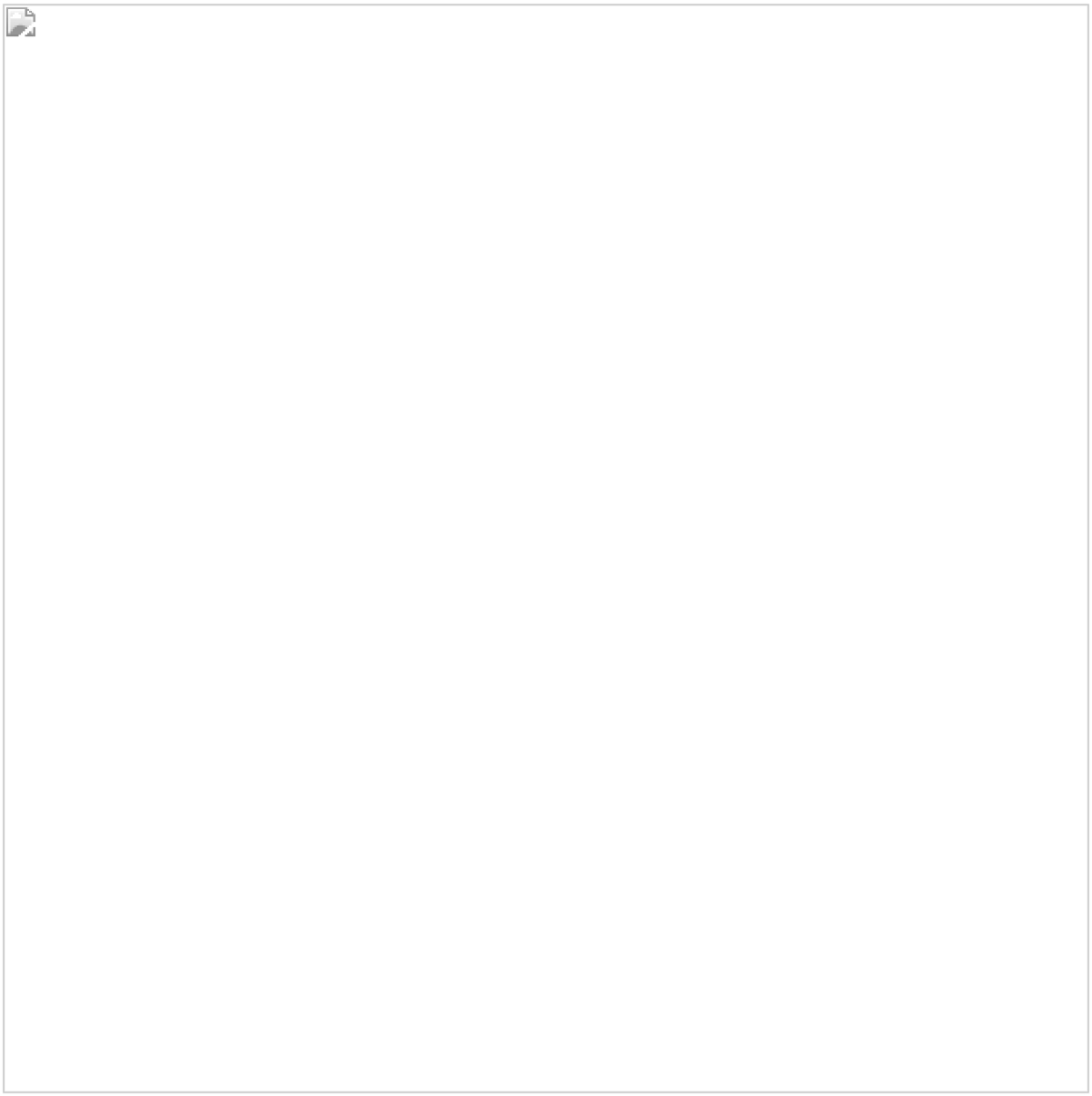


Think about it

1. What happened to the Little, Small, Wee Bear's chair?

- ○ The bottom came out
- ○ It grew bigger
- ○ It floated away

Upstairs to the Beds



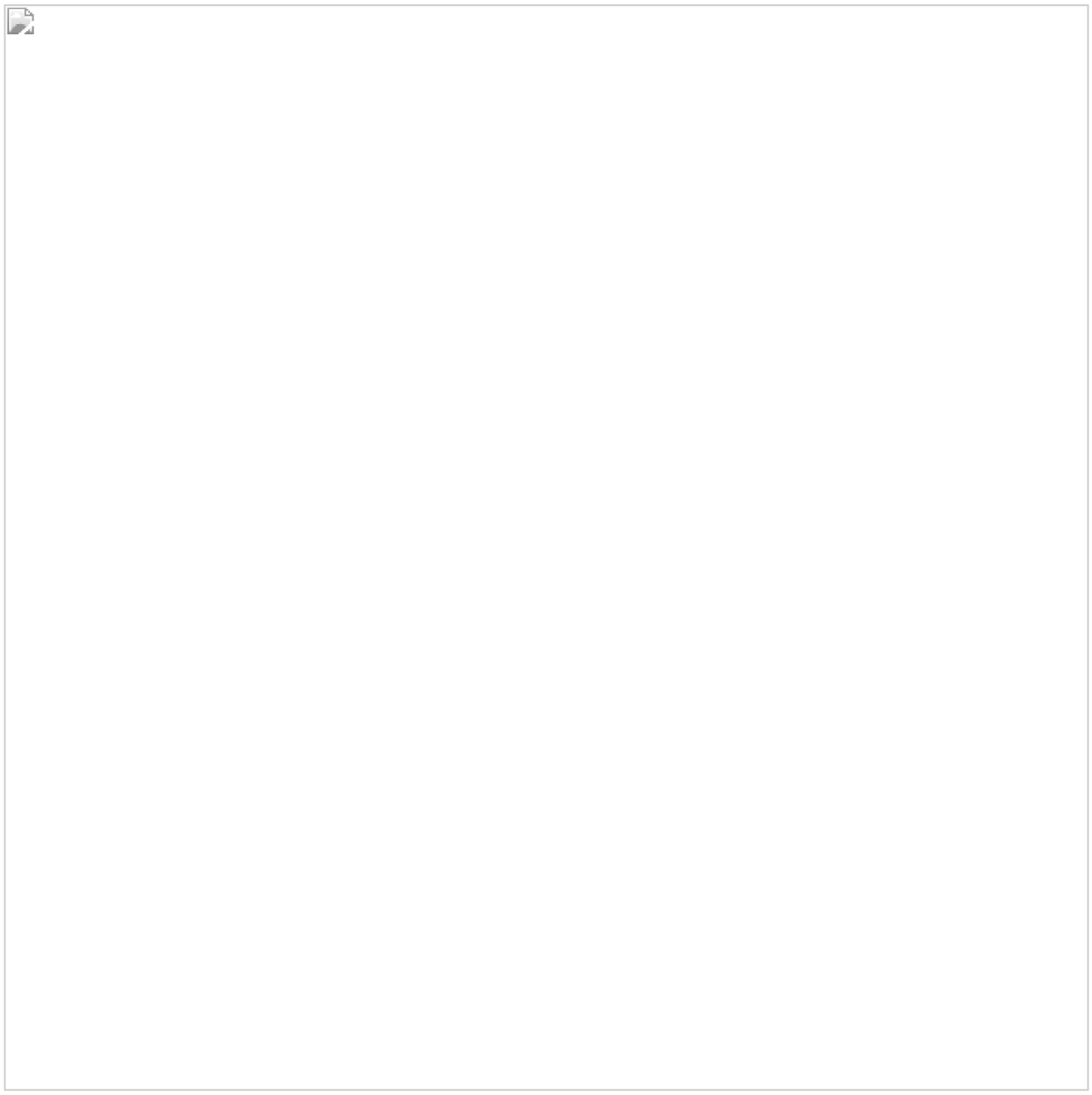
Then the little old Woman went upstairs into the bed-chamber where the three Bears slept. First she lay down upon the bed of the Great, Huge Bear, but it was too high at the head for her. Next she lay down upon the bed of the Middle Bear, and it was too high at the foot.

Then she lay down upon the bed of the Little, Small, Wee Bear. It was neither too high at the head nor at the foot, but just right. So she covered herself up comfortably, and lay there till she fell fast asleep.

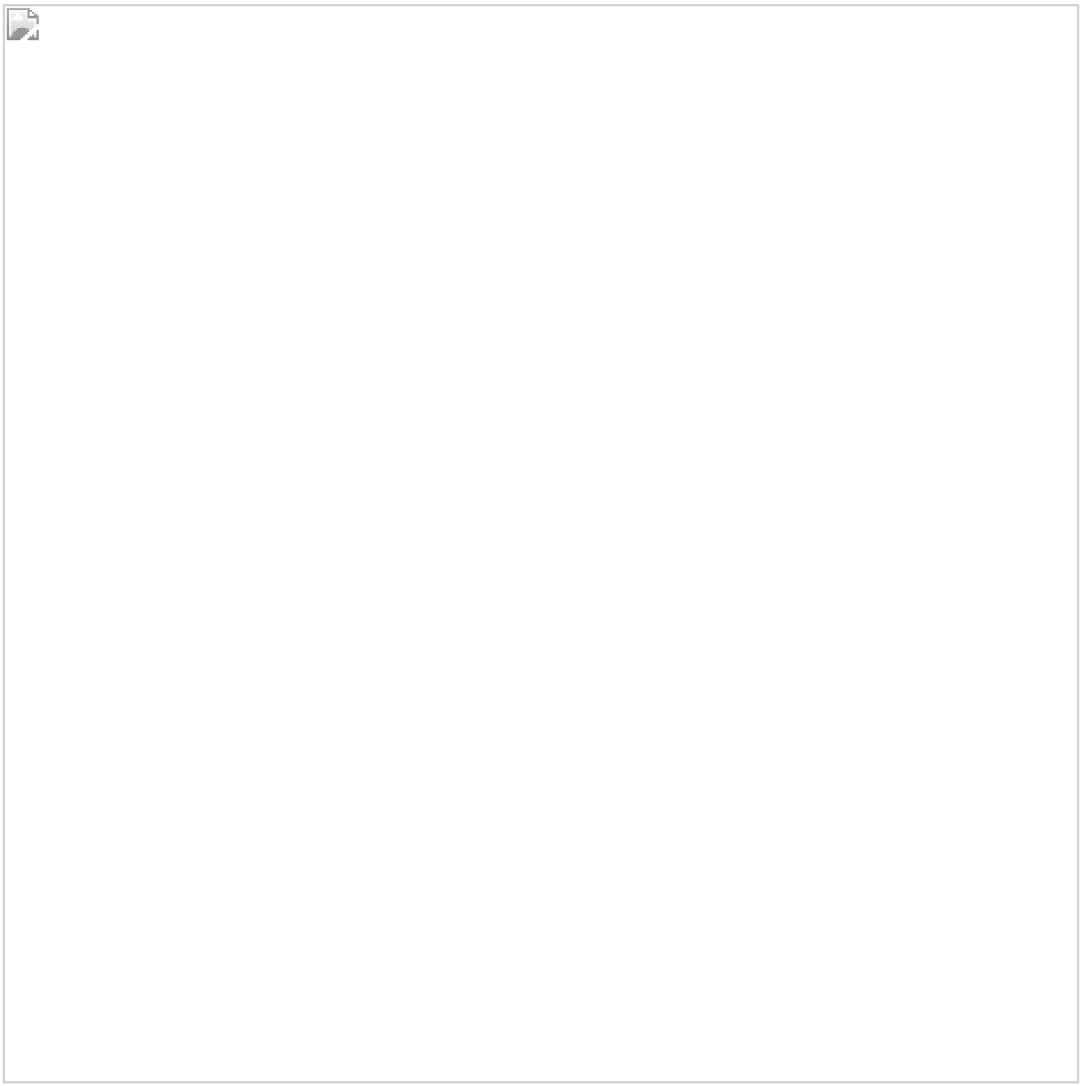
TALK ABOUT IT

She was so comfortable that she fell asleep in a stranger's bed. What do you think the bears will say?

Upstairs to the Beds · another picture



Somebody Has Been at My Porridge



The Three Bears came home to breakfast. The little old Woman had left the Great, Huge Bear's spoon standing in his porridge.

"Somebody has been at my porridge!" said the Great, Huge Bear, in his great, rough, gruff voice.

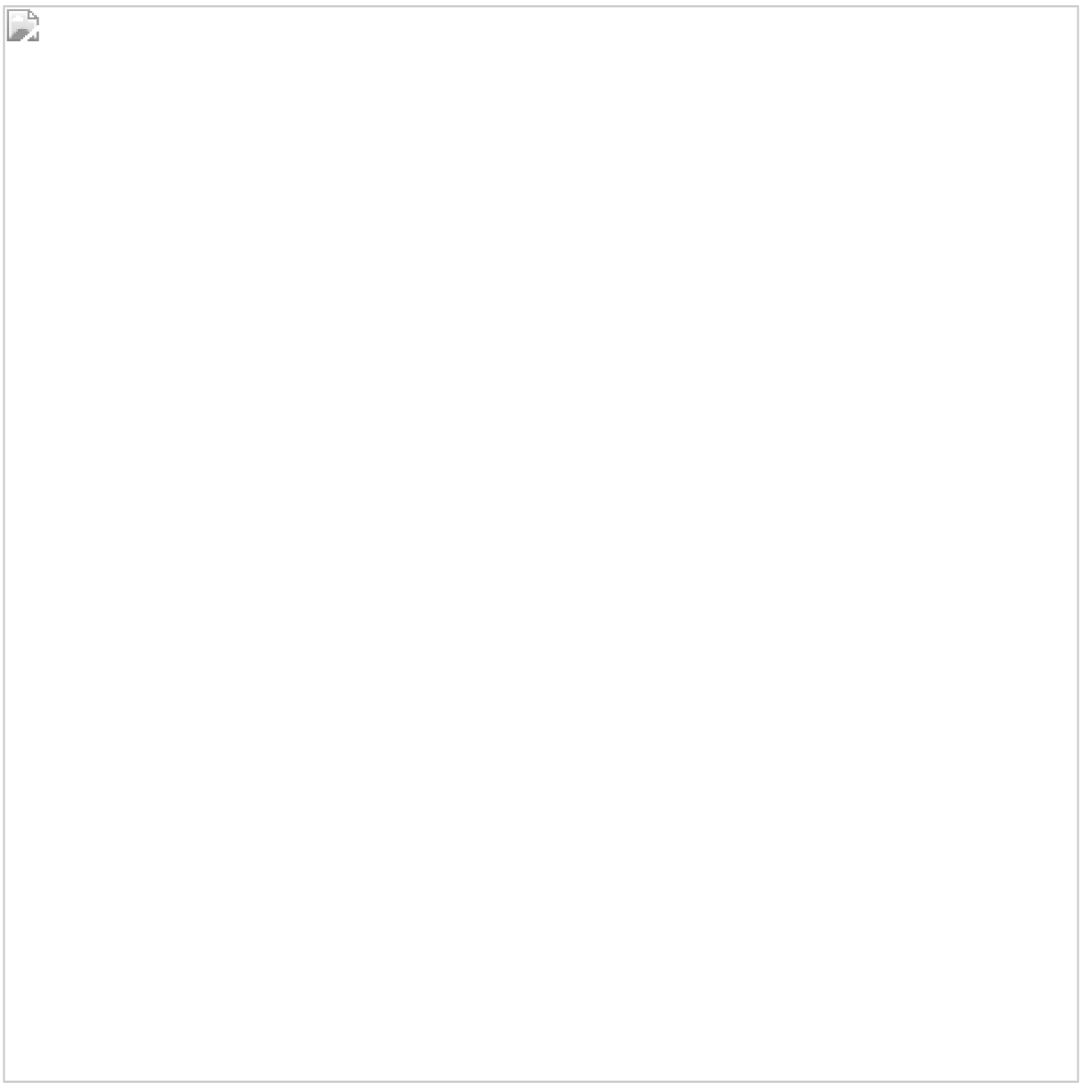
"Somebody has been at my porridge!" said the Middle Bear in his middle voice.

The Little, Small, Wee Bear looked at his, and there was the spoon in the porridge-pot, but the porridge was all gone. "Somebody has been at my porridge, and has eaten it all up!" said the Little, Small, Wee Bear, in his little, small, wee voice.

TALK ABOUT IT

Try saying each bear's line in that bear's voice. How does the great, rough, gruff voice sound?

Somebody Has Been at My Porridge · another picture

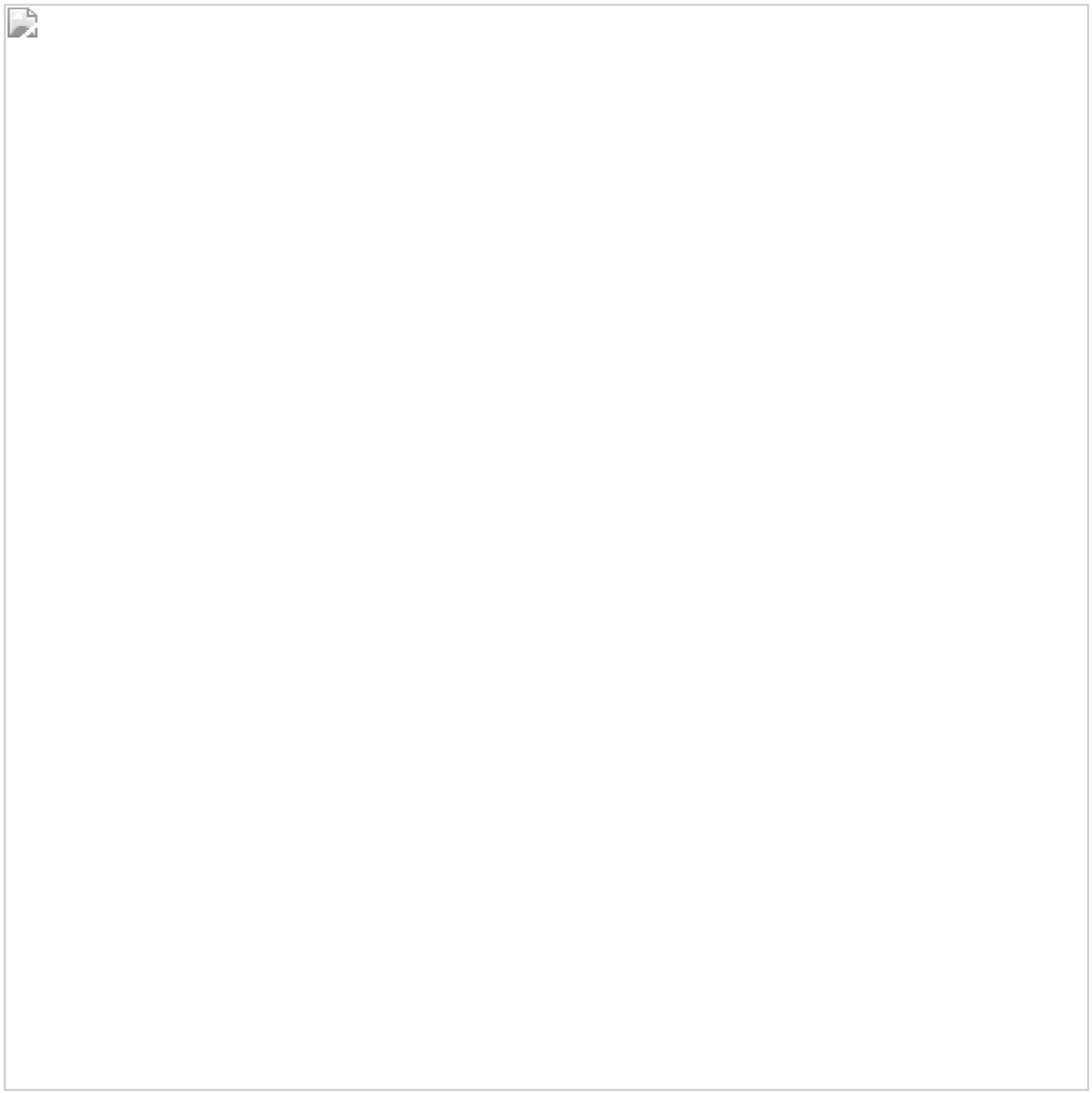


Think about it

1. What did the Little, Small, Wee Bear find in his pot?

- ○ Porridge, still hot
- ○ A spoon, but no porridge
- ○ Nothing at all

Somebody Has Been Sitting in My Chair



The Three Bears saw that someone had come into their house and eaten up the little bear's breakfast, and they began to look about.

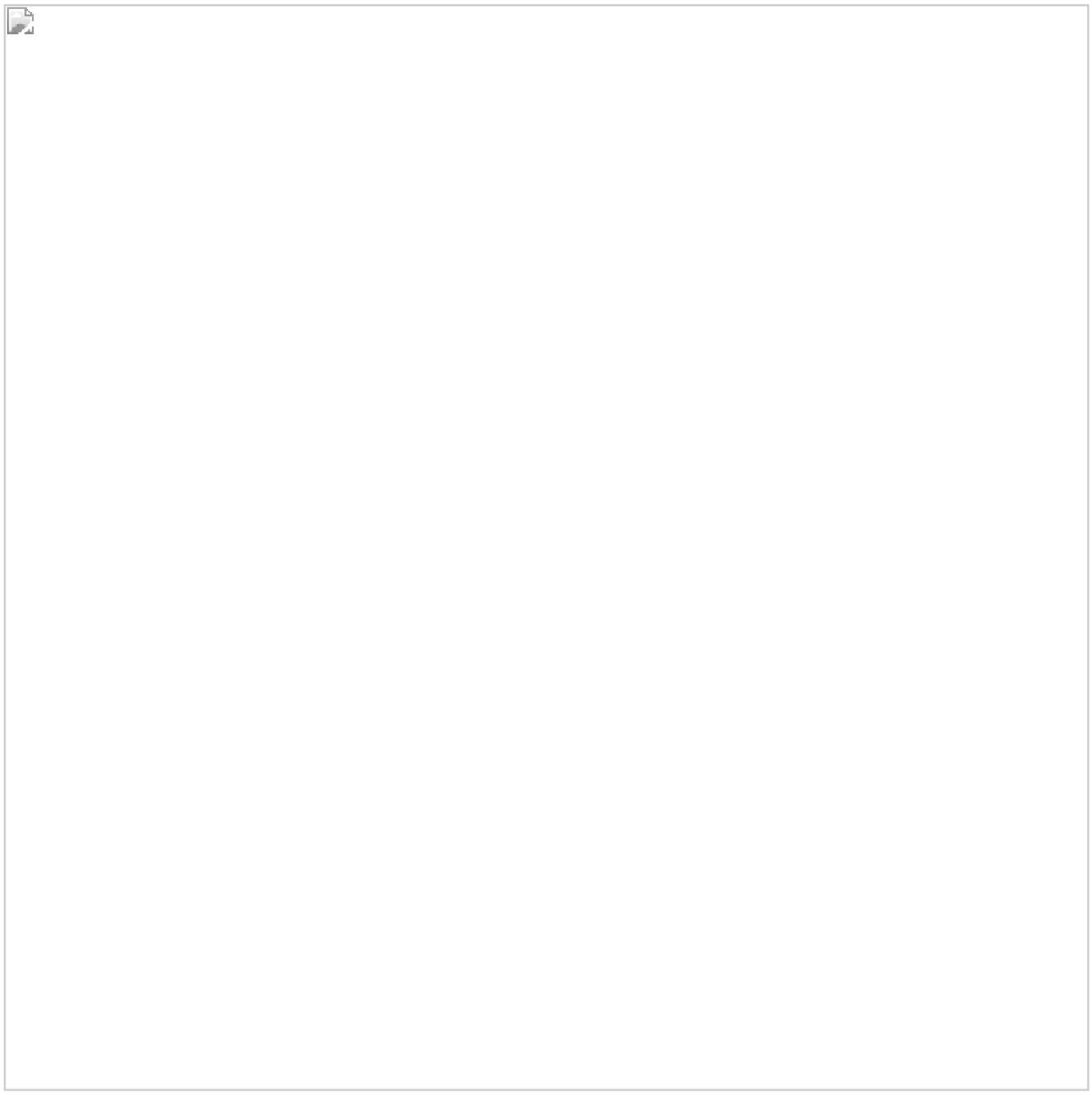
"Somebody has been sitting in my chair!" said the Great, Huge Bear, in his great, rough, gruff voice.

"Somebody has been sitting in my chair!" said the Middle Bear, in his middle voice.

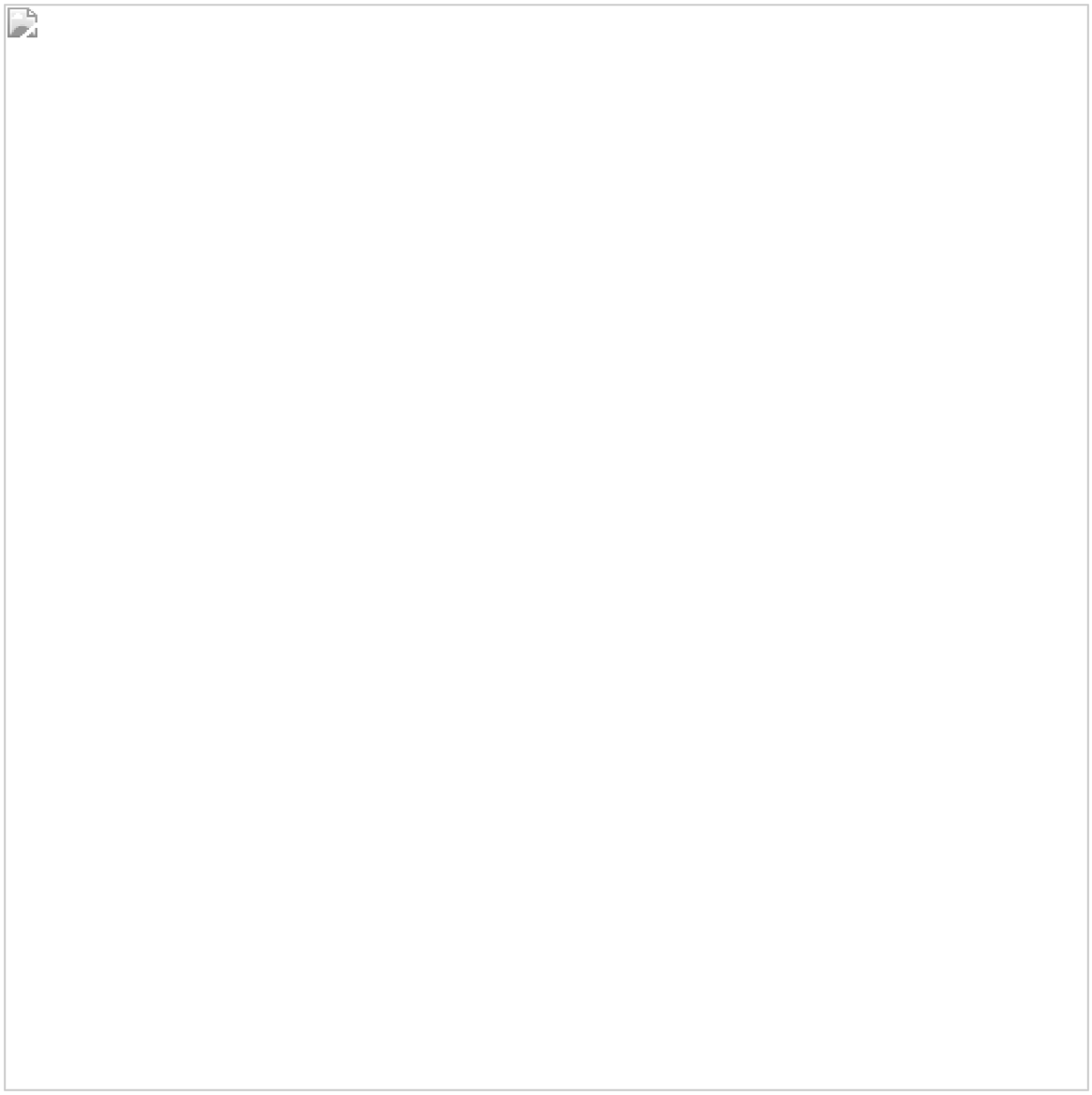
"Somebody has been sitting in my chair and has sate the bottom out of it!" said the Little, Small, Wee Bear, in his little, small, wee voice.

TALK ABOUT IT

The little bear's chair was broken. How do you think the little bear felt?



Somebody Has Been Lying in My Bed



Then the Three Bears went upstairs into their bedchamber.

"Somebody has been lying in my bed!" said the Great, Huge Bear, in his great, rough, gruff voice.

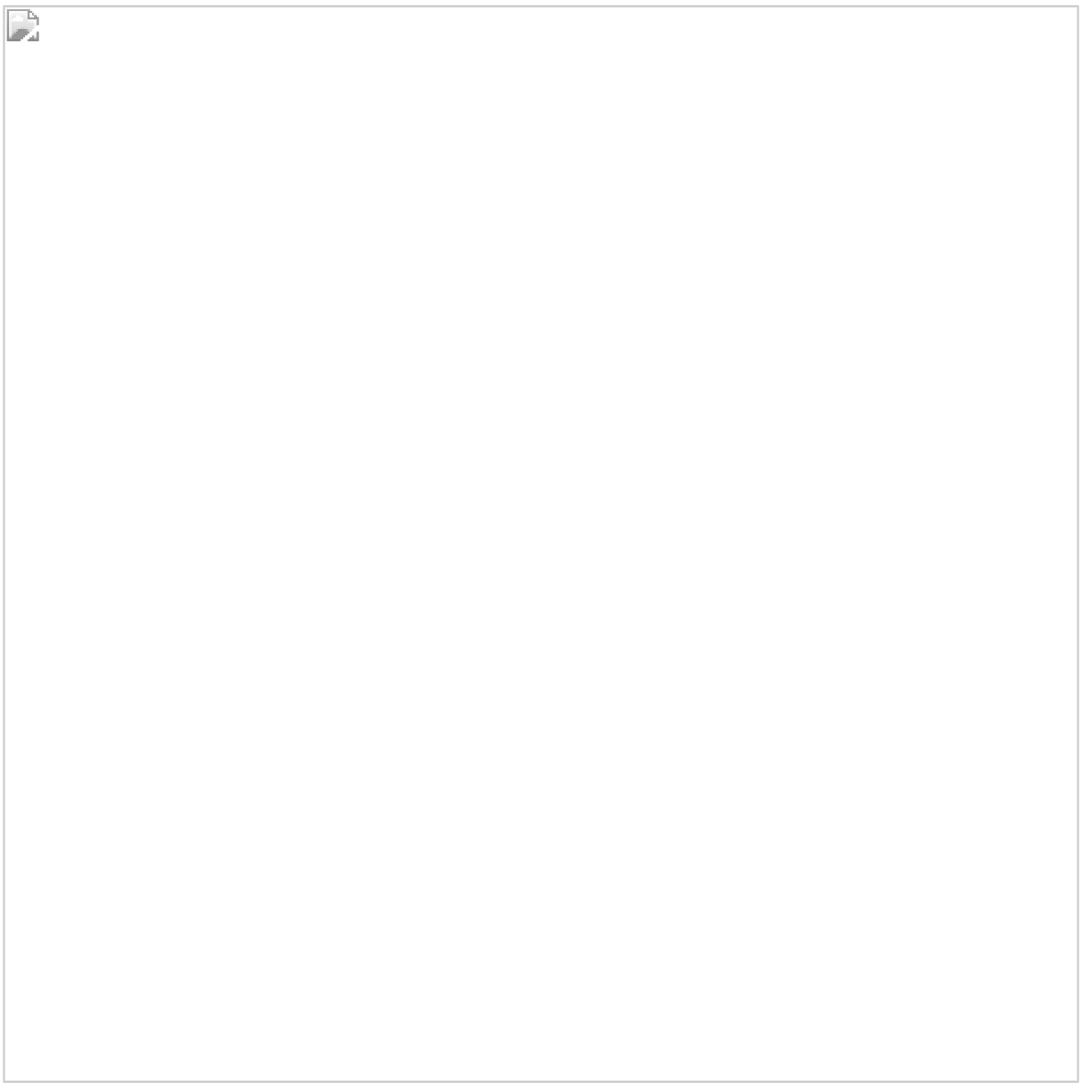
"Somebody has been lying in my bed!" said the Middle Bear, in his middle voice.

When the Little, Small, Wee Bear came to his bed, there was the bolster in its place, and the pillow in its place, and upon the pillow was the little old Woman's head. "Somebody has been lying in my bed, and here she is!" said the Little, Small, Wee Bear, in his little, small, wee voice.

TALK ABOUT IT

The little bear found someone fast asleep in his bed! What do you think happens next?

Somebody Has Been Lying in My Bed · another picture

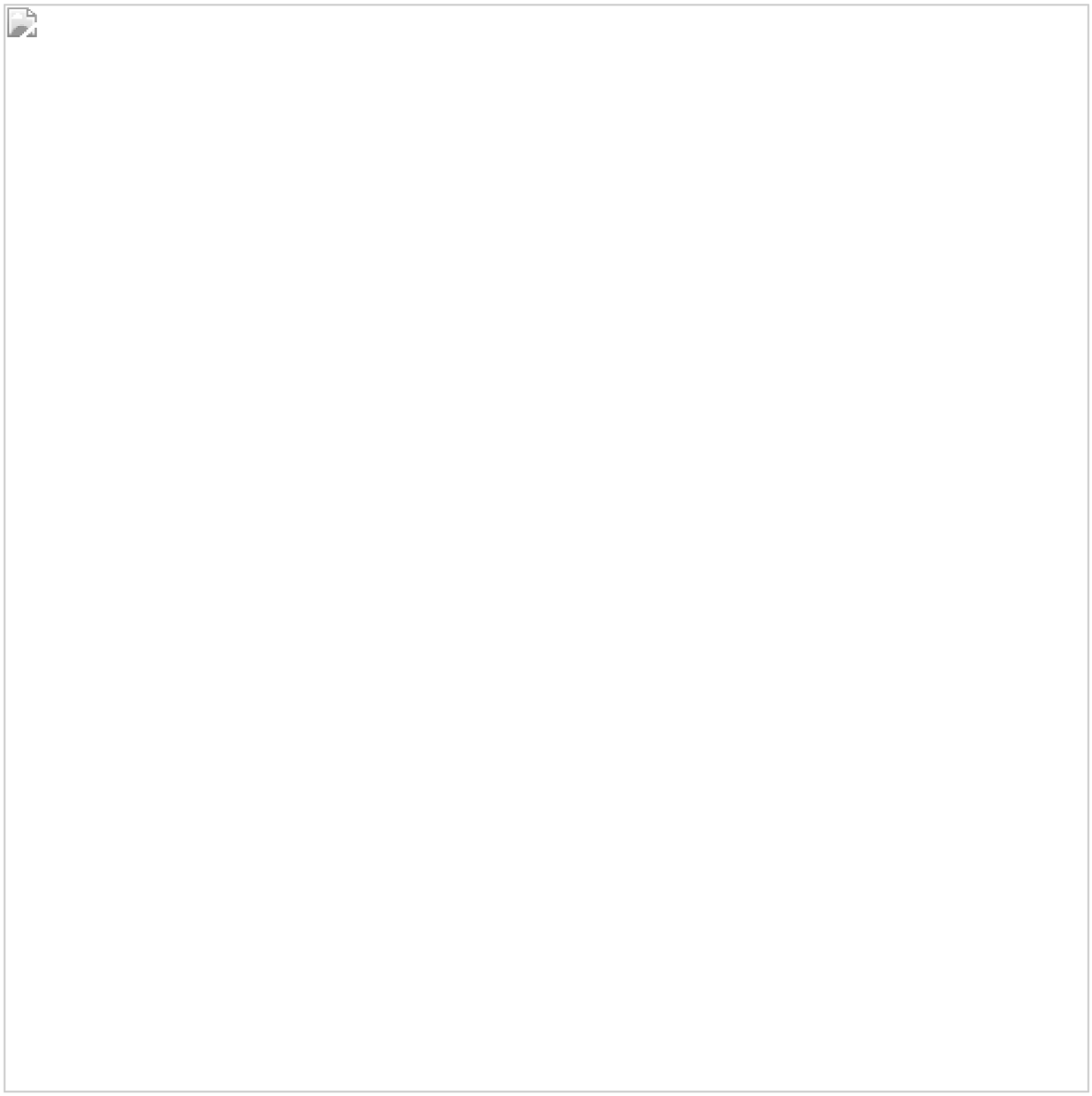


Think about it

1. Where did the little bear find the old Woman?

- ○ In the kitchen
- ○ In his bed
- ○ In the wood

Out of the Window



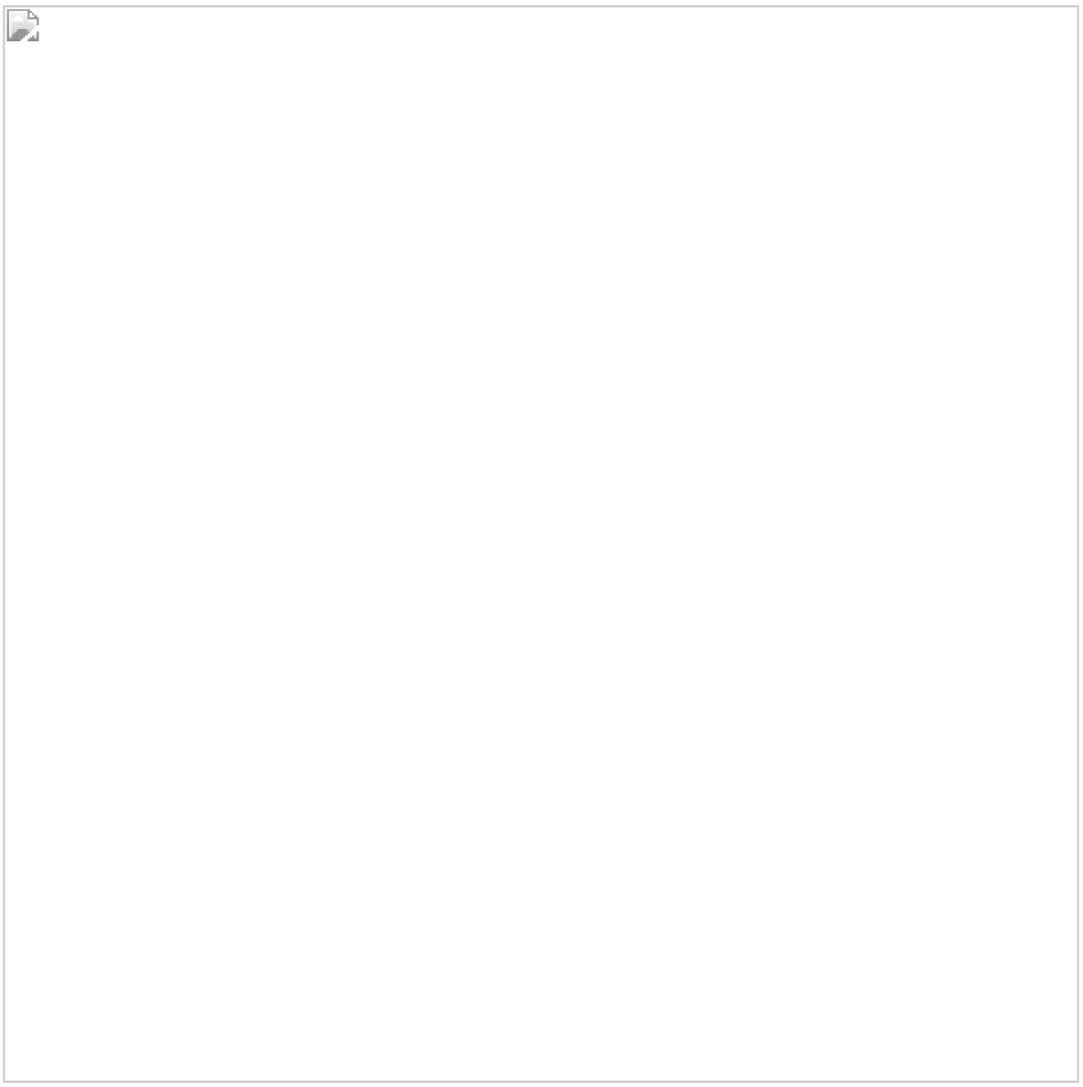
The little old Woman had slept through the great, rough, gruff voice; it was no more to her than the roaring of the wind. The middle voice was like someone speaking in a dream.

But the little, small, wee voice was so sharp and so shrill that it woke her at once. Up she started. Seeing the Three Bears on one side of the bed, she tumbled out at the other and ran to the open window.

Out she jumped. Whether she was lost in the wood or found her way out, I cannot tell. But the Three Bears never saw anything more of her.

TALK ABOUT IT

The story does not say where the old Woman went. Where do you think she ended up?



Think about it

1. How did the little old Woman get away?

- ○ Out of the open window
- ○ Down the chimney
- ○ Through the front door

2. What would you do if you were the little bear in this story?

“There is no greater love than to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.”

— Yeshua HaMashiach

Free to read, color, and print in the Book Library

Made with love by Love is a Habit