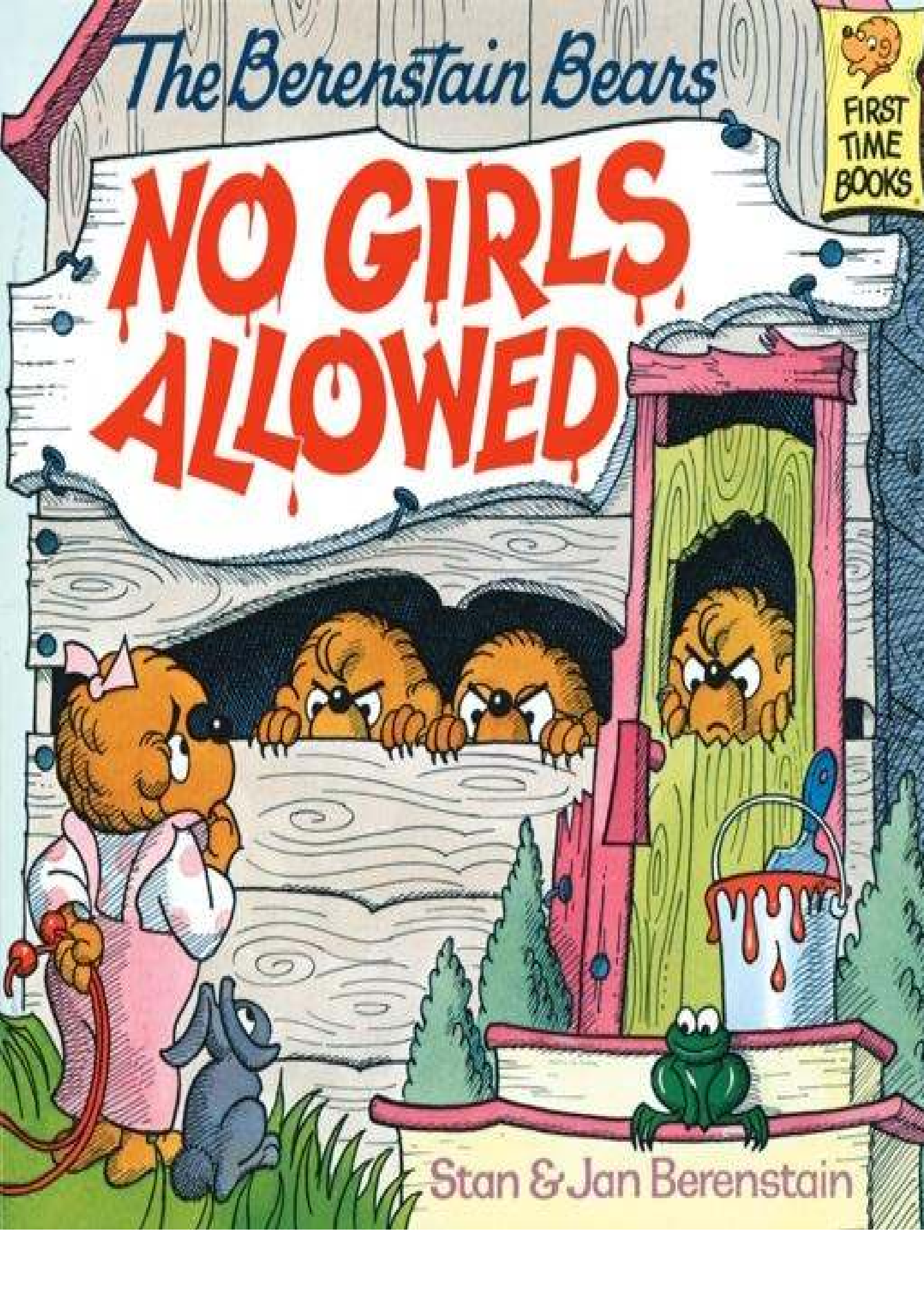


The Berenstain Bears


FIRST
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**NO GIRLS
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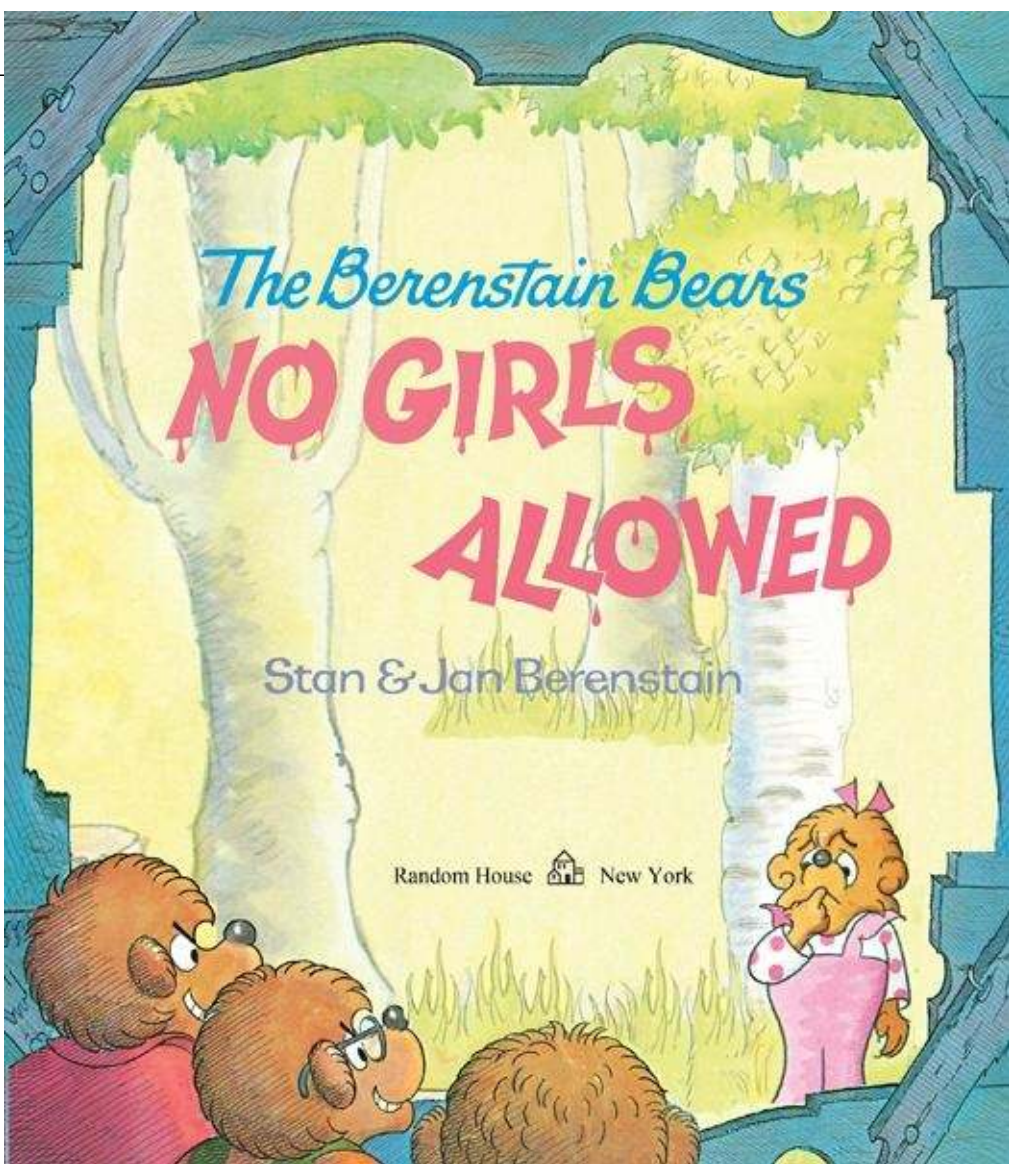


Stan & Jan Berenstain

The Berenstain Bears


NO GIRLS ALLOWED





The Berenstain Bears
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Stan & Jan Berenstain

Random House  New York

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Ever since Sister Bear had been a tiny cub, she liked to tag along and play with Brother Bear and his friends. It was a bit of a nuisance because she slowed down their running ...



“Wait for me!”



interfered with their climbing ...



“Not so high!”

and messed up their marble games.



“Oh! That slipped!”

But as she grew older, things changed. She still liked to tag along with her older brother and his friends and it was no longer a *bit* of a nuisance: it was a **BIG** nuisance. She got to be a fast runner and outran Brother and his friends.



“Look at her go!” said Papa.



She got to be a good climber and outclimbed them.



“Oh, dear,” said Mama. “I do wish she’d be more careful.”

And she won all their marbles.



“Goodness! I hope they’re not playing for keeps!” said Mama.

“It certainly is good to see Sister and Brother and their friends playing so nicely together,” said Papa. “Look, they’re organizing a baseball game.”



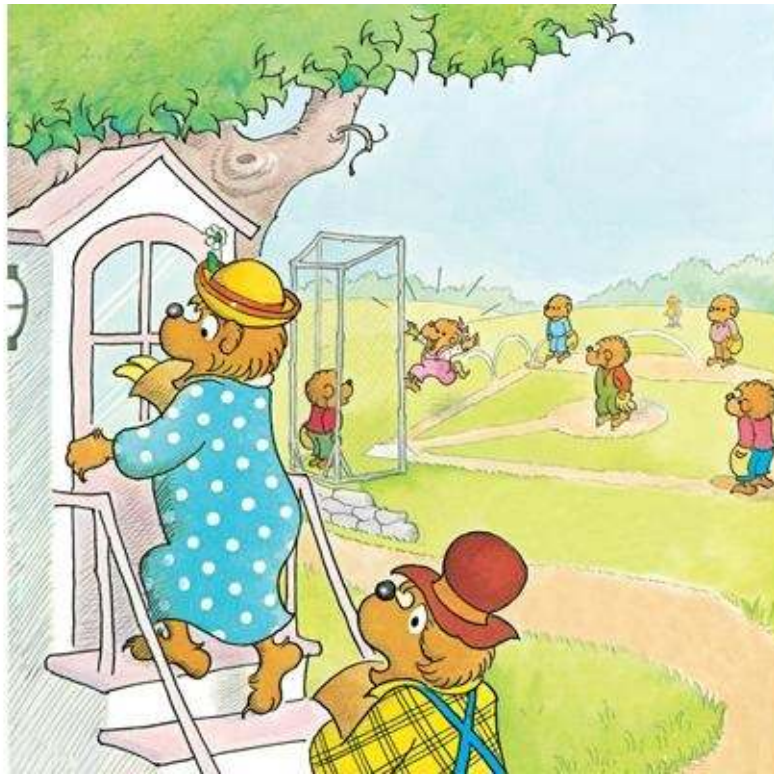
“Yes,” said Mama. “But it does worry me just a little that Sister is the only girl in the group.”



~~“Now, Mama,” said Papa. “It’s not whether you’re a he or a she that counts, it’s how you play the game—look, she just hit a home run!”~~



“I agree,” said Mama. “But think back—how would you have liked it when you were a cub if some little girl could outrun, outclimb, and outhit you?”



Papa thought for a moment.



“I wouldn’t have liked it,” he said.

Brother and his friends didn't like losing either. And what made it worse was the way Sister celebrated every time she won.



~~Her victory dance and cartwheels were annoying, but it was the war whoops that really got everybody's nerves.~~



Then one day, when Sister was planning to tag along as usual, her playmates were nowhere to be seen.



No matter, she thought, and went about her business. She picked wild flowers for Mama and jumped rope with some butterflies.



When there were no cubs around the next day, she was puzzled.



But there was plenty to do—she had a tea party for her dolls and read some books.



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