



## Bread and honey

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BREAD AND HONEY (A FRANK ASCH Bear Story / Parents Magazine Press 1981) Hardcover

## **Bread and honey Details**

Date : Published April 1st 1982 by Parents Magazine Press (first published 1982)

ISBN : 9780819310774

Author : Frank Asch

Format : Hardcover 39 pages

Genre : Childrens, Picture Books, Art, Animals, Storytime

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## **From Reader Review Bread and honey for online ebook**

### **Melinda Christensen says**

A cute story about children's innocent drawings and their mothers' reactions to them. Ben drew a picture of his mother at school. On the way home, he met his pet friends who critiqued his drawing for him. They felt he should enlarge the eyes, mouth, ears, etc, so by the time he got home, the picture of his mother was extremely distorted and did not look a thing like her! She loved it anyway, and put it on the refrigerator.

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### **Sheila says**

Ben Bear wants freshly baked bread but it is too hot. He goes off to school with the promise of a slice with honey when he returns. He decides to make a drawing of his mother at school. On his way home, he shows it to his friends who each "suggest" improvements to it.

A cute story for kids. Mama is surprised at how she looks but with love in her heart keeps her promise to Ben. I enjoyed it. I figured the picture would change with each "improvement" but it was fun to read.

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### **Bobby says**

May be more like 4.5 stars but rounding up because the story does an excellent job of teaching some pretty profound ideas to young kids. Definitely a book to discuss after reading it to the little ones.

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### **Ina says**

Heartwarming story of a young bear and a mother's unconditional love. One day in school Bear paints a picture of his mother. On the way home with friends suggest ways to make it better, and Bear succumbs to peer pressure, and turns a great likeness of his mother into something...very different. His mother loves it anyway! Lovely, emotional illustrations and simple text.

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### **Oznasia says**

Ben the bear paints a picture of his mother at school. On the way home everyone he meets advises him how to improve it. Owl says the eyes should be bigger. Alligator says the mouth should be bigger. Rabbit says the ears...well, you get the idea.

Great story but personally I'm not all that inspired by Frank Asch's childlike drawings. The story starts and ends with bread and honey but otherwise there's no justification for the title.

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### **Samantha Penrose says**

This book will teach you some animal names, dominant physical traits of those animals (big eyes, long neck, etc) and most importantly, that mommy loves you (and the things you do) just the way you are! I have owned this book since I was a child, and have read it to all three of my own children.

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### **Susan says**

This is a fun story to tell & draw - glad the actual book is available again.

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### **Linda says**

This book is cute, and the message about trying to please everyone is a good one, but Bear is supposed to be simply Bear. NOT Ben. Giving Bear a name takes him out of the realm of universal. That cost this book a star.

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### **Stacy says**

Good for communicating the concept of not always listening to others opinion-- how they could be wrong and you may have been right to begin with.

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### **Margaret says**

Simple story for preschoolers. I just don't think I'm jiving with Asch on these bear books.

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### **Phyll says**

Cute little story with too many babas wrt ART. Makes a GREAT flannel FYI

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### **Hannah says**

This book is about a young bear who draws a picture of his mom at school and on the way home, he runs into several different animals that tell him he needs to change it to look more like them. His mother ends up loving the painting of her that he ends up with.

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## **Vivian says**

Before story time begins, prepare cut-outs of the drawing and additions that appear in this story. I used brown craft paper and cut a simple outline of bear's drawing of his mother. I cut out large circles for the eyes from white paper and drew a black dot in them. Next I cut the circles smaller, keeping the outside cut-away rings to use later. I cut rabbit ears from the brown paper. I cut a sliver of a smile from pink paper and then a huge smile from yellow paper. I cut two pink circle to make ears and I also cut pink ovals to put on the rabbit ears. I cut a long neck from the brown paper and I cut a long trunk from the brown paper. I cut a fluffy mane from the yellow paper.

Here's how the story goes. Bear's mother pulls a loaf of bread from the oven just as he is leaving for school. He asks for a slice but is told it is too hot. He is promised a slice spread with (icky-sticky) honey when he gets home from school. While at school he paints a picture of his mother. While walking home he proudly shows off his picture to all his friends. They all love it, but each makes a suggestion for it's improvement.

Owl: "But you made the eyes too small" (tape the circles over the eyes) "Fine work!"

Alligator: "But the mouth needs to be much, much bigger." (add the mouth) "Much better!"

Rabbit: "But the ears are too short." (add the ears) "Wonderful."

Elephant: "But the nose is too small." (add the nose) "Unforgettable!"

Lion: "But you forgot a fluffy mane." (add the mane) "A picture to be proud of."

Giraffe: "But the neck is too short." (add neck) "Perfect."

When bear arrives home he proudly shows his mother her altered portrait. She declares she loves it.

Bear: "Just the way it is?"

Mother: "Just the way it is." And she hung it on the refrigerator for everybody to see.

Then she gave bear a thick slice of homemade bread with lots of (icky-sticky) honey on it.

I can see this done as a play with simple costumes and props.

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## **Vicki says**

I have shared this book with many age groups and get laughs every time. I really feel that the title doesn't represent what the book is about. This story is about creativity, friendship, and a mother's love and acceptance. I found this story in a flannel board form and recreated it. The script that went along with it was titled "Monkey Face". Today I used this flannelboard for our summer reading outdoor Family Story Time with our theme of Friendly Monsters and Lights. Again this story was well received - very visual as a flannel board.

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## **Heather Torgersen says**

I can't help but give this story 5 stars since it's one of the few I remember from my childhood, but it's such a great book! This is a great book that reminds children that mom will love their artwork no matter, because it's theirs! It reminds me of an early version of the book Ish :)

