

Love A Bunch!

BY CHAMP!

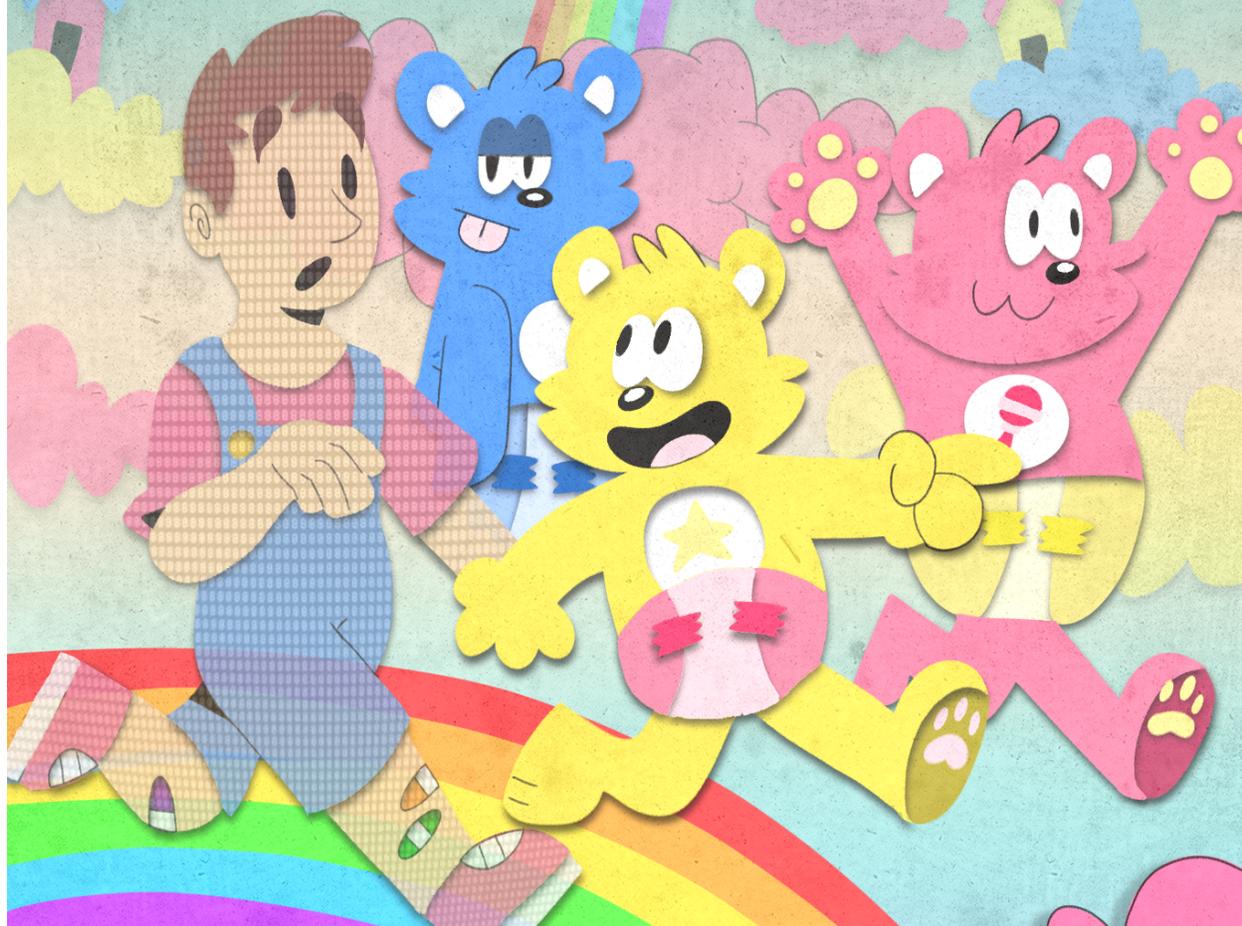


Illustration by Lily ([@CrinkleBuns](#))

Love-a-Bunch

By Champ (<https://champthotter.com/>)

The Love-A-Bunch know best! It's time for ben to settle into his new life... the one the bears have planned for him! [To be continued...]

Chapter 11: Back to the Nursery

"There's our sweet boy Benji," cooed a soft voice, gently waking Benji just in time for him to see a big fluffy bear face smiling down at him and two big arms reaching down to unstrap him from his car seat. Benji whined into his Paci as he was lifted up by the two big furry arms.

"Aww, shhh shhh, there, there. I'm sorry I woke you. You must still be tired n' cranky after your big day out. You just lay in your pal Cheery's arms, and let me take care of you..."

"Mnnhhh," Benji fussed, halfheartedly as he was carried forth by the much larger yellow bear. "Nodda baybee...."

It was a halfhearted protest at best, one that was muffled by his pacifier, and as he struggled to wake up and form a coherent sentence, he managed to tell Cheery Bear that he needed something very important. It just didn't come out in coherent adult words.

"Aww, I think I know what the problem is, baby boy," said Cheery Bear, as he carried Benji into the foggy realm beyond the garage. "Just be a little patient."

Benji was carried down a cloud corridor, to a door that looked vaguely familiar.

The door opened, and Benji's eyes went wide. His pacifier fell out of his mouth and dangled by its ribbon as he looked around, amazed.

"It's.. it's... my old *nursery*! All of it!"

Sure enough, everything was there, albeit somewhat scaled up. The crib, the rocking horse, the cubbies and bins of toys, everything right down to the foam interlocking playmat. And of course all the bears were there too, looking rather proud of themselves.

"But how...?"

"We had it shipped, buddy! Took a while to get here, but it's all here."

Benji began to tear up a bit. "W-why did you do this for me?" Cheery Bear gave him a kiss on the head and set him down on the floor, gently, crouching to get down on his level.

"We know you've been feeling a little out of your element living in Love-a-Bunch full time, kiddo. It's been a big adjustment going back to being the baby you should be... it's all very new for you. But we saw how happy you were when you came to see us that first time, how good you felt when you saw your nursery. So we decided to save it... just for you." Ben was amazed. He wandered around - just like when he visited his parent's estate for the last time.

"It's just like I remember it. Everything's here, and it's..." He picked up his old blankie and smelled it, before hugging it to his chest. "It's *rea!* You really brought it all here..."

"I'm so glad you like it, sweetheart," said Softheart, strolling over to Ben along with the other bears, filling the nursery with the sound of crinkles. "We thought it would be the perfect time to set it all up while you were out. We all helped to make it just like you remembered..."

"It *is* just like I remembered," said Ben, "only better."

The bears looked at each other quizzically.

"Because you're here," finished Ben. This comment made all of Ben's companions very happy and the big bears all rushed to hug the boy they loved. "ACK!" he cried, as he was dogpiled by soft fuzzy crinklers, but it was no use. He was in the middle of a cuddle puddle now, and he was just going to have to accept it.

"You're the best, Ben!"

"We love you!"

"Thank you for coming back!"

Once again, there was a flash of light and energy as the bears hugged Ben.

"...Whoa... did you feel that?" asked Ben, rubbing his eyes.

"We sure did," said Softheart, smiling down at the precious boy and ruffling his hair. The bears all gave each other knowing looks and Baby Bear stepped forward to check his diaper.

"Just as I thought. You're soaked, little buddy!"

"What? Again? What the heck is going on anyway?"

"It's a very special reaction we've noticed," said Smart Bear as Baby Bear carried Benji to the changing table and got to work changing the babied man. Benji blushed as the intelligent blue bear gave his explanation, paying no mind to the fact that Benji was getting a diaper change as he went on about the unusual phenomenon. "Yes, it seems like there's a sort of... synergy... a spontaneous energy generation that happens when you pour your love into us. *We are* your toys, after all, at our very core, and the love of one's owner is the most nourishing thing that a toy could ask for. You have no idea how happy you've made us all by coming back..."

A pang of guilt twinged in Ben's chest as he thought about how long he'd been away. How could he ever think of walking out on these, his truest friends?

"Of course, there are some... *unexpected* side effects when this *synergetic flash* happens... but the diapers take care of that just fine, as you can see!"

"H-hold on... are you saying... that this energy reaction makes me *pee* myself?"

"Well, it stimulates quite a lot more than that, actually, but yes, the most obvious side effect is loss of bladder control associated with overstimulation of certain nerves and the resultant involuntary muscle contractions that occur as a result..."

"Huh?" Benji gave Smart Bear a blank stare.

"All done!" said Baby Bear, pulling up the thick diaper between Ben's legs and taping it up, leaving it nice and snug like a comfy hug.

"Don't worry about it, sweetie," said Smart Bear, ruffling Ben's hair, much to his frustration. "All you need to know is you're a very good boy, and you're safe and secure with us. We love you very much, and we want to give you a happier life than the one you had since you left us."

Benji's bears knew just what he needed, and they were sure that Smart Bear was right. Benji needed to go back to something familiar and comfortable before he could go forward with his new life, and what better way than to go back to when he was at his happiest and most babyish? Back to the nursery. Softheart spoke up next.

"Benji, you've suffered long enough through loneliness, exhaustion, and all the stresses of adulthood. Now you deserve a rest. Don't you think?"

Benji nodded. A rest did sound good right now. It seemed like it had been years of tension, fear, and loneliness since he last called this nursery his home. It had been. But did he deserve it?

"Of *course* you deserve it, Ben! You're our super special bestest boy! We love you... and so does everyone else!"

"They do?" he asked, gulping back bitter tears. He couldn't believe that. Before he found his furry friends again, he didn't think anyone could love him.

"Sure they do," chimed in Cheery Bear. "Didn't you see how everyone reacted when you went outside? You're a celebrity!"

"That doesn't mean it's a good thing," said Ben, thinking of all the tabloid coverage celebrities got.

"No one's laughing at you, sweetheart," said Cheery Bear. "If anything, people want to be more like you! You're a role model!"

"I- I am?" The bears smiled at each other, and they decided to show Benji something very special. With a snap of a fuzzy finger, a movie screen lowered down in the nursery and Benji got to see firsthand just what the bears were talking about.

A group of adults in adorable overalls were huddled around a big screen TV, all watching the Love-a-Bunch adventures. There was Ben, waddling along as the bears encouraged him forward through his many thrilling - though completely safe and protected - adventures. The episode ended and everyone giggled and clapped.

"Wook at me! I'm Benji!" shouted one man, running around the room with his arms out.

"I'm Benji too!" said a woman, giggling and following behind him. "I'm gonna be the bestest helper!"

"I'm Benji three!" said a third man, laughing. "I love you! Hugs!!"

Benji was flabbergasted. "But... I'm... I'm... you know..."

"A gay baby?" asked Smart Bear, with his cloud tablet in hand and a smirk on his face. "Survey says being a gay baby is *in* right now! Wonder who started that trend?"

Benji was a bit overwhelmed. He never imagined that he would live in a world that accepted him, much less *celebrated* him, yet here he was, and he wasn't alone.

"You're never alone, sweetie," said Cheery Bear, hugging Benji from behind.

"How do you guys always know what I'm thinking?"

"We can see everything that goes on in that little noggin of yours, Benji," said Smart Bear, turning around his cloud tablet, which he cycled to show Ben's readouts.

"You can? How can you do that?"

"Science."

Benji was not sure he understood what the silly bear was talking about, but when he yawned and covered his mouth, any further attempt at explanation was cut short.

"Bed time for sleepy babies!" exclaimed Sleepytime Bear. Everyone joined in, carrying Benji to his sized-up crib and climbing in after him. He was now in a sea of lovable fluff, and he couldn't be happier. And that's how he slept from then on. Happy and content with his Love-a-Bunch pals.

Chapter 12: The Things He Left Behind

Benji wasn't wrong. He did live in a world that didn't accept him. But the bears didn't care about what the world thought. They cared about what Benji needed, and as Smart Bear said, what Benji needed was lots of love and attention from his real friends - the Love-a-Bunch bears - along with a healthy dose of babying. It didn't matter what the world thought, because the Love-a-Bunch bears were building a world that *would* accept and love Benji as the little boy he needed to be. Him and so many others that needed the same thing.

"You see?" said Smart Bear, as the bears monitored a sleeping Benji from the observation room, "His numbers are healthier than ever! And look at *us*! We've got so much energy we're practically glowing!"

"I've never felt so big and strong," said Baby Bear, flexing his furry arm with a giggle. "It's baby power!"

"You could call it that," said Smart Bear with a smile. "We've never had the chance to build out into the world like this before, or the energy to make it possible. But I think a lot of people are on board with this new lifestyle and they're feeling the healthy effects. The scientists and scholars are reading my papers and it's gaining traction in the medical community as well. All we have left are the lawmakers, and I think we can secure some serious changes with the right 'campaign donations'. Then we can start to tackle some of the bigger fish."

"Bigger fish?"

"Way bigger," said Smart Bear. Now the bears were all curious.

While the bears made their plans, little Benji slept soundly without any clue about how the world was slowly being changed around him. He had started this journey out feeling that he had to look out for the bears. He didn't yet realize how completely that had been turned on its head. In fact, as he slowly woke up, there was already a bear checking on *him*.

"Whuh, what's up?" Benji said with a sleepy yawn as Baby Bear pawed at the front of his diaper. His onesie had already been pulled up to his belly as the bear went about whatever he was doing.

"Ooh, little one. You're wet! It's a good thing you were wearing that stuffer! You would have woken up in Leaked-a-Bunch!"

"Whuh? N-no," said Ben, wiping the sleep from his eyes, but he was already being carried to the changing table by Baby Bear. "But I never wet the bed before... How come this keeps happening?"

"Don't worry," said Baby Bear. "We all wear diapers here! It's totally normal and comfy!"

"Normal and... comfy," repeated Ben, as he was deposited on the soft padded table. The crinkle. The thick soft padding between his legs pressing his thighs apart. The smooth cool plastic of the changing table under his thighs. It didn't seem normal to him at all. Especially when he was pushed onto his back and his diaper was pulled down.

"Don't worry, Benji! You'll be in a fresh diaper in no time!"

"But Baby Bear, *that's* not what I'm worried about..."

"Aww, you just need more baby time! That always makes *me* feel better."

Benji looked around. "I mean, can it get much more baby than this?" The room was in a rainbow cloud castle, fully equipped with a crib, a changing table, plushies galore, and of course, all the diapers he and the bears could possibly need. The bears were now much bigger than Benji, big enough to practically be bean bags, and Baby Bear seemed to have the same idea as he taped up his distracted baby Benji.

"Time to jump into the diaper piiiile!"

"The what? Whoooooah!" Benji yelled out as he was footballed over to the diaper pile, held in two fuzzy arms as the big Baby Bear ran and jumped into the pile. It was... surprisingly comfy!

"Relax, lil guy! I'll put on some tunes, maybe some *cartoons*, and we can just... chill in the diaper pile!"

"O-okay... I guess," said Ben. It was hard to deny that the diaper pile was comfy.

"Come on, you got somewhere else to be?" asked Baby Bear.

"I guess not..." Benji didn't have anywhere to be. He didn't even have a job anymore - or need one - apparently, since the bears were so successful at... doing bear things.

So they spent the day chilling in a pile of diapers, and Benji decided it was not a terrible way to spend the day.

"You know, you can enjoy relaxing," said Baby Bear. "That's the best part of being a baby."

"I guess... I just feel guilty when I'm, you know, not doing stuff..." Benji scratched his head and looked down.

"But why?" asked Baby Bear. "Who made that rule?"

"I dunno. People?"

"Well, you can tell *people* that Baby Bear says that's a load of hooey. I give you permission to relax as much as you want. In fact, it's mandatory!"

"Oh! Well, I guess if I *have* to..." Benji couldn't help but smile a little bit as he laid back and closed his eyes. He was really able to relax... at least until his tummy grumbled.

"You know what else helps us relax?" asked Baby Bear, pulling out his special surprise. "A warm bottle of miiiilk."

Benji blushed. He hated being fed bottles by the bears because it was embarrassing. Especially now, knowing that thousands, maybe hundreds of thousands were watching. Still, it was relaxing. Benji allowed Baby Bear to take him up in his arms and cradle him.

"That's it," said Baby Bear, as he held the huge bottle up with the nipple tickling baby Benji's lips. "Open up, little one. Just give it a try. One day of relaxing Baby Bear style."

Benji relented, opening his mouth and sucking while Baby Bear gave him lots of encouragement. "That's right. It's okay to enjoy this. Just relax and feel good. You deserve it! You're a good little one. Just drink and relax. Good baby...."

Benji enjoyed being taken care of and loved like this. After all those years without, it was like finally getting water in the desert. And after all, Baby Bear said he had to, so it was super extra okay to enjoy this... at least for now.

"That's it, baby boy! You're learning! You just gotta keep it up."

The bears watched from their observation room and nodded at each other. This was working. And if it worked for Ben, it could certainly work for others...

Baby Bear was doing a pretty good job of keeping Benji from worrying about his regressive tendencies under their care. After a nice long bottle feeding session, they

enjoyed some more cartoon time in the diaper pile. Then, they moved on to some more interactive games.

"You wanna play with some Brickos?"

"I love Brickos!" exclaimed Ben, excitedly following Baby Bear to the toy chest to help him rummage through all of Ben's old toys to find the Brickos. In the process, they found lots of Ben's favorite forgotten toys as well.

"Oh wow! It's my old Lincoln logs! And I remember that blue stamp pad! And the bottle that magically disappears all the milk when you tip it over! And my Super Wheelz!"

"That's right, Benji! All your favorite toys are here! And we can play with whatever you want. Look, here's your Brickos!"

Benji didn't see because he was playing with a red slide viewer called a ViewBoss that took a circular piece of paper with slides in it. He clicked through the pictures with the click of a lever and looked at the cool and very outdated pictures of San Francisco. Baby Bear smiled and let Benji finish playing with it before holding up the Bricko box again for Benji. He didn't mind. Baby Bear was in no hurry. Seeing Benji happy was all he wanted, and of course, getting to play with Benji was the best reward of all.

"Here they are, Ben! Ready to play?"

Benji put his ViewBoss back in the toy chest and joined Baby Bear on the floor to play Brickos with the huge tub he had. The first step was to dump them all out. And then came the building. Benji looked through all the various shapes and picked up some wheels out of the pile to collect in a smaller pile.

"What are you gonna make there, Benji?" asked Baby Bear, picking up some square and some sloping pieces.

"I'm gonna make a car!" Benji said, not disguising his excitement one bit. There was nothing like Brickos to bring out the inner child in just about anyone.

"That's cool! I'll make a garage that you can park it in!" said Baby Bear. Benji thought this was a swell idea, and so the two of them got to work. Well, everyone knows that Brickos are hard to resist, and one by one, the bears came by to play with the Brickos too. Some came from the viewing room to join in on the fun while others just happened by for whatever reason.

The bears could find any number of excuses to stop by and check on their favorite boy. After all, their lives were very rewarding now that Benji was back, and

getting to play with Benji was the best reward of all! Of course once Builder Bear showed up, the building got competitive. Builder Bear was an excellent builder, but the other bears weren't to be outdone! Soon, they were all building the best cars they could for the 'greatest race of the century'.

Benji smiled as he looked around at all his friends joining in on the fun. He had never had friends growing up, at least not since he was kicked out of his house. Here, everyone was excited to play with him, and everyone was super kind and friendly. A thought struck him like a bolt. Was this what it was like to be popular? He liked this feeling a lot, whatever it was.

Soon enough, there was a big track and all the bears and Benji raced their cars around the track making all the appropriate noises, crashes, and cheers as they lapped. Of course the cars were only moved by hand-power, so they had to use their imagination to decide who won, who lost, and all the other drama that happened on the track, like Scare Bear's dastardly placement of a monkey wrench that might stifle other racers. But eventually, Ben's tummy began to rumble, and right on cue, Baker bear showed up with a whole tray full of cinnamon sugar croissants.

"Are there any hungry little boys in here who would like some croissants?" asked Baker bear, peeking in with a tall chef's hat and a tray full of wonderful fragrant pastries.

"Ooh! Me! Me! Me!" said Ben, raising his hand and waving it around. Baker bear chuckled and came right over to Ben, gratified that this special boy was so excited for his baking.

"Here you go, little guy," said Baker Bear, leaning forward and holding out his tray.

Ben's eyes grew wide in anticipation as he saw the tray of fresh, warm, crisp, and sugary croissants. He picked one up and took a big bite. The sweet spice of cinnamon assailed his nostrils and washed over his tongue as he crunched the crisp pastry.

"Mmmm! Thith ith really good!" said Ben, with a mouthful of sweet bread.

"Now, now," said Softheart, waving a fuzzy finger. "We don't talk with our mouths full."

"Oop... sorry," said Ben, wiping his mouth and blushing.

"It's okay," said Baker bear. "Sometimes little guys get excited. I'm just glad you like my pastries so much! That's the best compliment this ol' Baker Bear could ever hear!"

"These are so good! Thank you!" Baker Bear smiled. His pastries were already world famous, but he would always make time for Benji. Meanwhile, the livecast of this episode was leading to major sales of Baker Bear's wares in his brick and mortar store chain, not that any of the bears needed the money. All that money would simply go back into research and into helping more people join in on the little lifestyle with promos, giveaways, outreach, info, and support for littles and their caretakers alike.

Benji was completely unaware of the far-reaching implications of his actions, as he munched on the tasty treats. All he cared about was eating as many nummy yummys as he could get his hands on, and none of the bears stopped him. He ate his fill of the tasty treats, and when he was done, Cheery Bear wiped his face and hands with a wet wipe. Benji blushed when he realized he had no idea of the mess on his face and hands. He would have made a terrible mess with all that sticky sugar and cinnamon clinging to him.

"Don't be embarrassed kiddo," said Cheery as he wiped away all the stickiness. "Little boys get excited, and that's perfectly fine! Sometimes they forget to clean up or do lots of things, but that's why they have bigger ones to look after them!"

"Hey, wait a second. Wasn't I bigger than you when I first found you? How come I'm the little one all of a sudden?"

"You were *always* the little one, silly! You just forgot how to be your little self. But now you're back, and aren't you much happier for it?"

Benji paused and thought about it. He was happier, he couldn't deny that, though he couldn't pinpoint exactly why except that he had his friends back, and the things he left behind.

The things he left behind. That was it, wasn't it... Benji fell deep into thought as this realization struck him.

"Ben? Earth to Ben? Watcha thinkin' buddy?"

Benji looked up at Cheery bear and said, "I know why I'm so happy now. It's because I finally came back to the things I left behind... These were the happiest times in my life... and I am coming back to them... It's like I'm getting a second chance."

"That's right kiddo! And you know, even for people with happy lives, they might still like to go back to a happy time that makes them feel oh so good and special, and that's totally okay too!"

Benji nodded. This made total sense to him. "But normally, it's not possible to do this *all* the time, is it?"

"Ben, anything is possible. All you have to do is make it so." And with that, the bears launched into a song and dance about how anything was possible, and also about how it was good and fine to be a baby. Benji clapped and giggled at the fun song they were singing.

After he asked, "Can I really be little as often as I like?"

"As often as you need, little cutie. Annd, well, we think you need to be like this *all* the time!"

"R-really?" asked Ben, blushing, but oddly pleased by the idea.

"That's right, kiddo," chimed in Softheart. "You can and you will! No more big boy Benji ever again!"

Ben's heart thudded in his chest when he heard this. Why did these words excite him so? The bears looked at each other and grinned, sensing from Smart Bear's body monitoring integration software exactly what Benji was feeling.

Blood rushing to the groin. Increased mental arousal. Heart rate increasing. Release of various hormones. It meant that Benji was getting excited about his new lifestyle in a very big boy way.

"Does somebody like that?" asked Softheart with a sly smile. Benji just whimpered and nodded. "Well, then, I think it's time we introduced you to Mr. Buzz Buzz, your very special friend.

"Whuh?" asked Ben, confused as the bears grabbed him by one arm and leg each and softly helped him onto his back while Cheery Bear came up with a big vibrating wand in his hand.

"Something to help good excited little guys like you calm down, Benji! It happens to babies who are a little bit older sometimes... don't worry, it's perfectly natural..."

Benji was cushioned by fluff and held quite immobile but in the most comfortable way possible as the wand neared. He had no idea what to expect, but he was about to find out.

Chapter 13: Too Little for Stickies

The bears smiled as they anticipated giving Benji his first Buzz Buzz. After all, getting to play with Benji was the best reward of all. Baby Bear smiled a smile like he was introducing Benji to a big secret while the other bears held him fast, comfortably restrained. The moment the buzzy wand touched the plastic between Benji's legs, he exploded into his diaper.

"Ahhhhnnnnnn!" He groaned. Benji could feel all the muscles in his thighs, buttocks, bladder, and between his legs contract - almost painfully so - as he rode out a long series of involuntary muscle contractions that filled his diaper almost as much as if he were peeing. Luckily the bears continued to hold Benji fast in the most cushiony form of restraint he could dream of, pairs of paws keeping him on his back and preventing him from pulling away or rolling over.

"Good baby! You used your diapers!" exclaimed Baby Bear. The contractions lasted so long, it really did make Benji wonder if he was peeing or doing something else. He was sure that Baby Bear was being euphemistic when he said 'used your diapers' - at least until he looked down and noticed how full his diaper really was.

"Whuh?" gasped Benji. A bright blue indicator strip running down the center of his diaper told him that he had really done a number on them. Sure enough, when the bears checked his diaper, he was soaking wet. He lay there, still held by the bears while Baby Bear slipped a couple fingers into his waistband, causing him to giggle as the fur brushed the sensitive skin between his thigh and his leak guards.

"Yup, you're wet, buddy boy! Guess you weren't ready to fill your diapers the *big boy* way quite yet..."

"N-no, that's not possible," said Ben. He had used his diapers like a big boy plenty of times, hadn't he? Thinking back, maybe not. He hadn't actually made stickies since... since he encountered the Love-a-Bunch. He gasped at the realization. Had it really been that long?

"Aww, it's okay, honey pie, you are okay. You just had a little accident is all," said Softheart as Baby Bear put the buzzy wand back in the toy chest. Softheart turned back to Baby Bear to say, "I think we'd better not use Mr. Buzz Buzz on this one. He's awful tiny."

The other bears nodded in agreement, releasing their grip on Benji so he could be carried to the changing table.

"Nhh... no... I'm not too tiny for stickies... I'm..." Benji's emotions were confused. What had just happened? In his state of mind, he wasn't even sure himself. Did he just orgasm, or was it a real accident? His mind was in such a state that he couldn't fully process the concept of having an orgasm, despite that he had done it so easily in the past without any mental turmoil. His worries were confirmed when he was picked up, carried to the changing table, laid back on the soft crinkly padding of the table with bears running and playing all over it, and strapped down.

It was Cheery Bear's turn to change Ben, and he did it with all the warmth implied in his name.

"There we go, baby boy," cooed Cheery as he untaped the four tapes. *Rrrip Rrrip Rrrip Rrrip* Benji gasped as the diaper was pulled away and the air hit his groin, causing him to spurt a bit of pee involuntarily into the front of his diaper.

"Oops! Almost got me there," giggled Cheery, as he expertly contained the spill in the confines of Ben's padding. Sure enough, the moment the diaper was opened, Benji was hit by the sweet smell of baby powder and pee, and he became acutely aware of the heft that was being removed from between his legs. It left him feeling particularly naked, and missing the warmth and comfort of his soggy diaper, but Cheery didn't leave him a moment to dwell on that sad thought, because Benji was immediately doted over with fresh warm wipes galore, rubbing over his belly, his pubic bone, his legs from his thighs up to his pelvis, his soft and spent little pee pee, his hairless balls, and eventually under his tush, which was lifted up high by the helpful Baby Bear, who pushed up Benji's ankles to give Cheery bear full access

Benji blushed at the babyish feelings that flooded through him as he was given such a caring diaper change. Without any active assistance from Benji, the well-used diaper was slid out from under him and replaced by a fresh, even thicker one, before his butt was lowered down. Benji sighed as he felt his skin touch a soft cloud of padding, sinking down into it. He could smell that fresh diaper scent, as if the whole room wasn't constantly filled with fresh diaper scent already. It was a strong and nostalgic scent, so strong it was almost as if it was being pumped into the room.

"Powder," said Cheery, holding out a paw to Baby Bear. The moment Baby Bear opened the powder bottle, Benji was hit by a strong whiff of that wonderful baby powder scent he loved so much. He sighed as Cheery shook the cool powder over his skin, spreading the scent further. The bear rubbed the soothing powder over his thighs, his crotch, his belly, and yes, his chest just for good measure. Benji blushed as Cheery Bear gave him a wink.

"I know you like the smell, Benji. I'm just giving you a little extra so you can enjoy it all day!"

Once more, Ben's legs were lifted to put more powder behind. He would have tried to protest how much Cheery was doing for him, but he was used to being taken care of by now. Being changed by someone else almost seemed... normal, as strange as that was to think about.

The whole process was repeated when Cheery held out his paw and said, "Oil!"

The moment the bottle was opened, he was hit with another wave of nostalgia as the unmistakable scent of baby oil flooded his senses. Benji gasped and squirmed as his most sensitive areas were rubbed down in slick oil. That felt so good. Once again his thighs, his soft pee pee, his balls, and his buttocks were all liberally coated in the protective barrier, then some liquid baby powder was added for good measure.

Benji sighed as the thick crinkling diaper was finally brought up between his legs, the soft guards brushing against his powdered and oiled skin, and the thickness enveloping him once more in that familiar hug that left him feeling so good inside. The loud crinkles of the diaper left no doubt to just what was between his legs, even if he didn't look down to see it with his own eyes. Benji was in a big thick diaper once more, and with each tape that Cheery Bear secured in front, he felt a little bit cozier.

"There we go," said Cheery bear, patting Ben's belly and giving it a kiss. "All better!"

Benji squirmed around experimentally, lightly kicking his legs and trying (but failing) to close his thighs around the big bulk of the diapers between them. He whimpered a bit.

"B-but I couldn't make big boy stickies! I-it's not fair. Did I really make pee pees instead?"

"You did," said Cheery, rubbing Benji's head and smiling at his infantile choice of words. Benji was clearly agitated and uncertain, his crankiness a sure sign that he needed more rest.

In a clear voice, Sleepy Bear said, "Bedtime for sleepy babies," and Benji was out like a light.

While Benji slept, the bears discussed how to best help him be the best little baby ever.

"He's just gotta get used to spending time in the nursery and doing baby stuff!" said Baby Bear.

"Well that's obvious," huffed Grumpy Bear. "But babies get cranky too. I can teach him that it's okay to be cranky sometimes and your people will still love you!"

"That's a good lesson," said Cheery Bear, but don't you think it's also good for him to learn to be positive and stop letting all those negative ideas that other kids and grownups taught him cloud his mind?"

"Yes," said Softheart bear. "He should learn to focus on building positive social connections, and share good feelings and affection with others around him!"

"And if you ask me, he should learn to think simpler thoughts," said Smart Bear. "Leave the real thinking to his beartakers!"

"Did you just make that word up?" asked Softheart, with an affectionate grin.

"Yup! Do ya like it?"

"I don't like it. I love it!"

The bears were truly happy, as happy as Benji was. They had their boy back, and there was no way they were going to let him get taken away and lost again. They continued to discuss their plans for their best boy as Benji slept, blissfully unaware of the further changes and lessons he would encounter in the coming days, weeks, years.

Some time later, Benji woke up.

"Good babies get up for breakfast," whispered Baby Bear in his ear. Benji yawned and stretched.

"Is it morning already?" Benji asked. He really couldn't tell. In this special world his Beartakers had created, it could be sunny for days on end, or be night time whenever it seemed appropriate.

"Only one way to find out, silly," said Cheery bear, strolling in decked out in his adventuring gear. "After you eat a nice full meal, we'll go on a little stroll!"

"It's not going to be in a stroller again, is it?" asked Ben.

"No, no, not unless you want it to be. But I think you'll want to walk on your own."

Benji thought about it as he was helped into the high chair by Baby Bear and his tray was set in place.

"Well, yeah, I would, but I can't be in too thick of diapers, or else I won't be able to walk very good." Cheery bear smirked. It almost seemed like Benji was *sad* about the idea of giving up the thickest diapers possible so that he could walk on his own.

"No worries, kiddo. We'll figure it out."

As the sunny yellow bib was tied around Ben's neck, Benji couldn't help but smile. Cheery bear had such a sunny disposition, it was hard to doubt anything he said. He was like the cheerleader of the team, and Benji was glad that they would be getting some quality time together, though first, he had to open up for the airplane.

"Vroooooom!" said Baby Bear, giggling and having so much fun as he climbed up onto the tray and fed Benji like the big baby he was. Benji was still occasionally self-conscious about always letting the bears feed him, but he was pretty much used to it by now. That's just how things were here, unless he could get his hands on Baker Bear's cookies and rolls. The bears kept Benji's diet pretty healthy aside from Baker Bear's treats but Benji was still getting a little bit of a tummy from all those pastries and milk. Benji looked down at his tummy to see his hairless belly button peeking out between his bib and his diaper,]

"Aww, stop pokin' your belly, silly. It's cute!" said Baby Bear.

"I agree," said Cheery bear. "Babies are nice and soft, and so are you, Benji! Don't worry, we won't hike *too* hard today."

Benji wasn't worried about the hike tiring him out. He was more worried about being seen in his current state, though if his last trip out told him anything, it was a little late to be worrying about appearances.

"Are we going out for real?" Benji said, as his face was wiped clean by Baby Bear.

"Hold still, kiddo, let me just get you with this washcloth, you've got a *little* bit of breakfast left on your cheeks..."

Cheery Bear chimed in.

"Don't worry, kiddo. It's all gone! And yeah, we're going out on a real adventure in Love-a-Bunch!"

"What?" Benji was confused as he was helped down from the high chair. In the wink of an eye he was changed and in a fresh romper, a green diamond checker pattern with Baby Bears romping across the chest and tush. "H-hold on. I'm confused."

"What are you confused about, buddy?" asked Cheery Bear.

"Well, are we going out for real or not? You said we were, but if we're still in Love-a-Bunch..."

"Oh, I get it," chuckled Cheery bear. "So that's why you're confused. Don't worry, you'll see..."

Baby Bear hefted a backpack, which Benji was sure was really just a diaper bag, and he joined Benji and Cheery Bear as they made their way through the cloud castle, through the fog, all the way to the front door of the house. When the front door opened, Benji couldn't believe his eyes... The whole neighborhood looked like Love-a-Bunch!

"What is this?" asked Benji, completely confused.

"Well," said Cheery Bear, "let's just say that Love-a-Bunch just got a lot bigger."

Unable to resist, Baby Bear chimed in. "Now that we have enough energy, we can expand beyond your house, Benji! We've got a whole new world for you to explore, and you don't have to choose between Love-a-Bunch and the real world ever again!"

Benji wasn't sure if he should be excited or terrified, but he had a feeling his adventures with the Love-a-Bunch were just beginning...

[TO BE CONTINUED...]

Characters

Primary Characters

Baby Bear - Loves everything about being a baby, and spreads that enthusiasm to others. His color is baby blue.

Grumpy Bear - A snarky bear with a soft heart. He is blue like a rainstorm.

Softheart Bear - The social leader and organizer; Social connectedness, organizes the bears with thoughtful care; helps humans share good feelings and affection. He's a soft and friendly orange.

Cheery Bear - An optimist who always knows how to cheer others up; approaches life with a sunny disposition. His color is sunshine yellow.

Smart Bear - The intellectual leader and tech wizard. His fur is an indigo-violet hue.

Secondary Characters

Sleepytime Bear - helps everyone get to bed on time, especially little ones, He's the color of a deep blue moonlit sky.

Builder Bear - Makes all the furniture in Love-a-Bunch. His main building material is clouds.

Safety Bear - A crossing guard whose fur is bright yellow and red like a warning sign.

Baker Bear - A cinnamon-colored bear who dreams of being a baker for real; loves to cook and share.

Hardheart - a villain character who is the opposite of softheart.

The Witch of Apathy - another villain character that doesn't care - until the bears teach her to. She's human-like, unlike the other denizens of Love-a-Bunch.