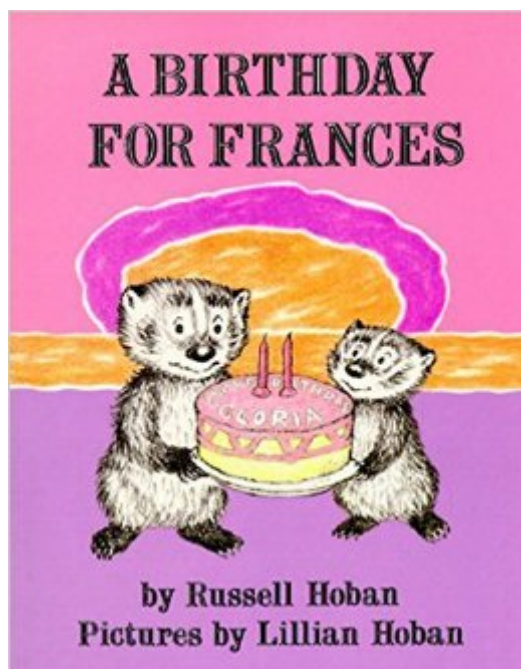


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# A Birthday For Frances



## Synopsis

As her little sister Gloria's birthday approaches, Frances wavers between being generous and being jealous. "[Frances] is every youngster who chafes at being the un-birthday child."

## Book Information

Series: Trophy Picture Books (Paperback)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: HarperCollins; Reprint edition (April 28, 1976)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0064430073

ISBN-13: 978-0064430074

Product Dimensions: 8 x 0.1 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars See all reviews (57 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #27,903 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #57 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Mammals #235 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Siblings #365 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Emotions & Feelings

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

"A rainbow and a happy tree are not for Alice or for me. I will draw three-legged cats and caterpillars with ugly hats." Frances deals with birthday envy and how to be generous when her little sister's birthday rolls around. Another bright and endearing tale about a lovable little badger. She's a model for all of us who aspire to write children's stories. And kids love her too. This is one of my two-year-old's favorite stories.

This is my daughter's favorite Frances book. It has some great Frances moments, such as the "spelling" of various words, the "riding" of her broom, Champ, and Frances's and Albert's discourse of the uselessness of younger sisters. It also captures with such truth the complicated feelings siblings have for one another, such as the moment where Frances announces that she is not getting her sister Gloria a birthday present and then dissolves into tears because she is the only one not getting Gloria a present. As always, Mother and Father Badger are gentle and wise in their handling

of their imaginative and precocious offspring. It is no surprise that children have been continuously reading these books since they were published. As an aside, the portrayal of the simple, homemade birthday party is very refreshing in these days of elaborate, over-the-top children's parties.

This is a wonderful story, I love Hoban's books as they work well on both the adult and the child levels. This is basically the story of Frances, a badger who is struggling with the fact that her little sister Gloria is having a birthday. Frances does not say it out loud, but rather through her actions and her little rhymes we realise that she is unhappy about it, that her sister seems to have all the birthdays and she doesn't have as many. Something which almost all children struggle with at some stage or another. The lovely thing about this book is that the parents are so lovely and patient, and the sub-text is really fun for adults reading it. What Frances does makes for great fun. She borrows two weeks pocket money from her mother to buy Gloria a present, but then she ends up 'accidentally eating half of it - and the other half looks distinctly threatened by her justification. I will guarantee your family will enjoy this story, and the other Frances stories as well - they are highly recommended as great good fun.

I adore all the Frances books, but I think this might be my favorite. My three-year-old daughter has no doubts -- the birthday theme, the entrancing details of Gloria's party (little baskets of jellybeans and chocolate-covered peanuts; it is to swoon!), the tantalizing Chomp-O Bar -- she can't get enough of this book. It also conveys a gentle message about sibling rivalry, but it's not heavy-handed and will delight any child, singleton or otherwise. No children's author remembered childhood joys and miseries more keenly than Hoban, and Frances is instantly recognizable as a very real little girl. I do wish someone more musical than I would supply me with tunes for Frances' little songs!

this book is a wonderful aid for young parents coping w/sibling rivalry. the hobans (the authors) portray a mom and dad who do some really effective things to help ease the pain that 5 year old Frances feels having a new baby sister in the family.

Frances is one of the most endearing characters in all of children's literature. The funny songs she makes up and the way she handles events that happen to all children make her stories classics. In this one, Frances is jealous because it is her little sister, Gloria's birthday and Gloria is getting all the attention. There are several amusing events as Frances tries to cope with her feelings, the best of

which is when she "accidentally" chews the bubble gum she bought as part her birthday gift for Gloria. All turns out well in the end, when Frances realizes it is her sister's turn to have the spotlight.

Again, I gave this to a 3-year old waiting for a baby sister to be born. She was intrigued by the fact that Frances cried. Her parents had to keep discussing this with her. The parents were very pleased with the conversation the book initiated.

The Francis books are well liked by my 4 year old granddaughter. We still read them to her, but she can pick out many of the words for herself. I think they are great tools for getting a child interested in reading for her/himself.

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