On a cold windy night, an itty-bitty mouse pitter-pat, tip-toe, creep-crawls into a sleeping bears cozy lair, looking for relief from the bitter winter weather. Soon he is joined by a veritable menagerie of woodland animals, and the party begins. Popping corn, brewing tea, tweeting, and chatting, the critters enjoy themselves thoroughly while the bear slumbers through it all. Until, that is, an errant pepper flake from the simmering stew wakes him up with a giant sneeze. As the bear goes from ferocious snarls and rumbles to pitiful whimpers, his uninvited guests realize what the problem is. Youve snuck in my lair

and youve all had fun!

But me? I was sleeping

and...

I have had none!

Not to worry. Mouse knows just what to do. First-time author Karma Wilson and artist Jane Chapman (illustrator of Phyllis Roots One Duck Stuck) have created a charming little tale of sharing and caring that will have readers of all ages cheering at the humorous finale. (Ages 3 to 7) -- Emilie Coulter

My Personal Review:
I love this book, and my 21-month-old does too! We checked it out from the library, but I'm tempted to purchase my own copy. I love the story, which is about how one by one, some little woodland creatures stumble upon a cozy cave in which a bear is snoozing. As more and more little animals gather there, their plan to warm themselves turns into a party with tea, popcorn, honey nuts, and other assorted goodies. All of this goes on while the bear is still sleeping. A fleck of pepper meant for a stew causes a sneeze that wakes up the bear, and the bears growly anger belies some hurt feelings... but the animals tell him, Hey! It's OK! We can pop more corn and brew more tea!

I love the rhyme and the alliteration... this book is actually fun to read aloud to my son. And the illustrations are precious!

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