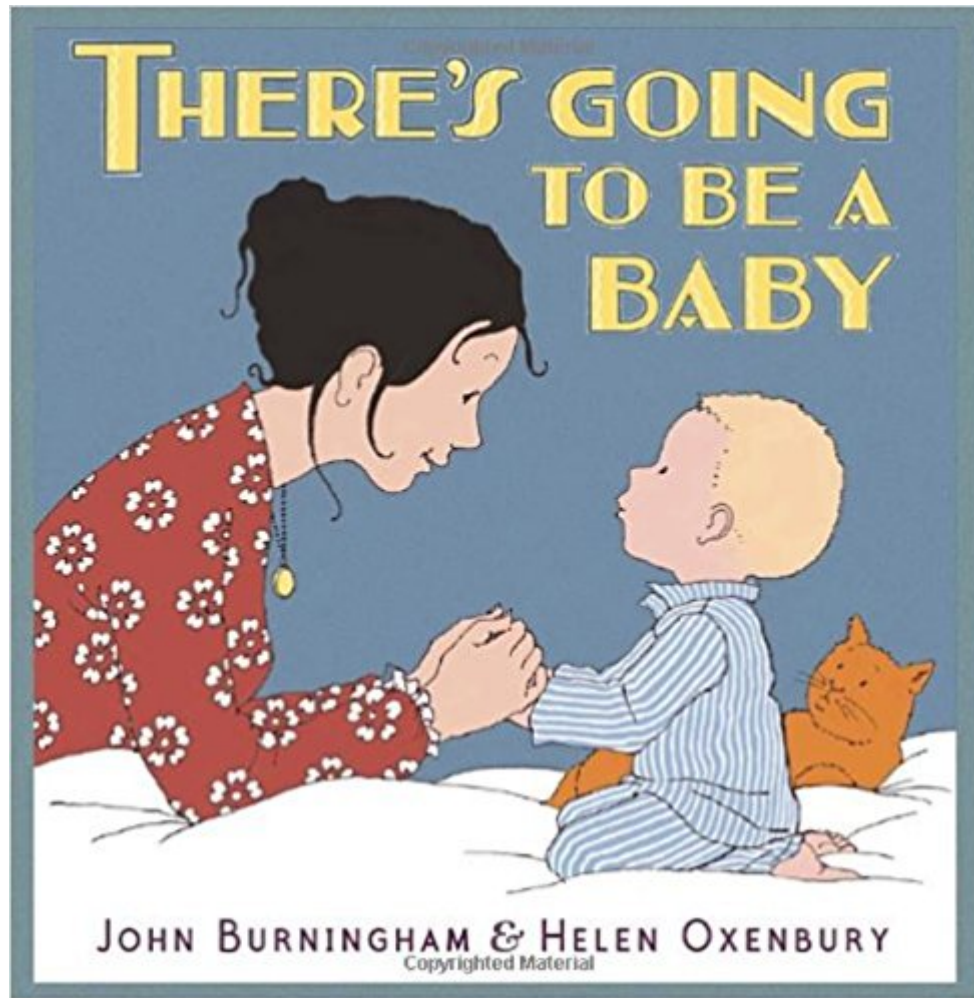




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# There's Going To Be A Baby



## Synopsis

In a first-time creative pairing, two of the world's most treasured picture book creators offer a truly delightful book for new-siblings-to-be. When is the new baby coming? What will we call it? What will he do? We don't really need a baby, do we? With sensitivity and wit, John Burningham follows the swirl of questions in the mind of a young child anticipating a baby sibling with excitement, curiosity, and just a bit of trepidation. In perfect tandem, Helen Oxenbury captures the child's loving interactions with his mother along with the fanciful future scenarios he imagines for the new family member he has yet to meet. Combining a warm, timeless story with illustrations both freshly enchanting and wonderfully nostalgic, this gorgeous book has all the hallmarks of a classic.

## Book Information

Age Range: 2 - 5 years

Lexile Measure: AD610L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 48 pages

Publisher: Candlewick; First Edition edition (September 14, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0763649074

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Product Dimensions: 10.2 x 0.5 x 10.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.7 out of 5 stars See all reviews (29 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,128,239 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #107 in Books > Children's Books > Early Learning > Basic Concepts > Time #775 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > New Baby #2421 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Self-Esteem & Self-Respect

## Customer Reviews

Although I enjoyed parts, I thought the story was a bit too negative. This is my fourth child and I understand that a big sibling may have negative feelings about a new baby but I just thought this book had a little too much of it. It was the line where the big brother says, "Then the baby might get eaten by a tiger." that made me decide that this book was not for us. It does have beautiful pictures though.

That's an actual line from this book, along with "Mrs. Anderson's baby threw up all over their new

carpet". While it's title is a sweet sentiment and it's beautifully illustrated, this might be the worst "big sibling" book on the market. We don't recommend it unless you want to practice your creativity by changing the words to kind ideas about having a younger sibling.

Very charming book, with delightfully art deco artwork. A little bit awkward to read in the modern era when the gender of the baby is known so early, but I just read "the baby" as "your sister" when I read it to my son, and skip over the parts where we wonder if it's going to be a boy or a girl.

Really cute book! Bought it for my 2 year old son once we found out we were expecting our 2nd and we have continued to read it once his baby brother arrived. This is one of my toddlers favorites. He loves this illustrations!

We actually bought this on accident. We had 2 books up and I added the wrong one to the cart. Anyway, I didn't like the book at all. Here is why: \*No father figure in the book. This may be OK for some people. \*At one point, the little boy in the book even asked his mom: "Why do we have to have a baby, can't it just go away?", and the mom doesn't talk to him about the joys it will bring to the family, or that a baby is a good thing. \*All it is is the boy whining and upset that he doesn't want a sibling. I expected at the end that it was this joyous event that the baby came and the little boy was happy. They don't even say if the baby was a boy or girl. This is a book about a self-absorbed child wondering what the coming baby will be when it grows up, and whining about the baby. It doesn't teach or explain anything.

Some reviewers say this book is "too negative" or doesn't really prepare kids for the arrival of the new baby. I, however, found those to be some of its best qualities. Way too many books already tell the older kid "don't worry, everything will be fine". This one, however, validates what are usually the most common feelings for older siblings: jealousy, rivalry, uncertainty, all the while using language that is accessible for toddlers and preschoolers, and lots of fantasy and imagination. I practice RIE principles with my kid (think Janet Lansbury, Magda Gerber, Emily Pikler), and this book fits in so well with our parenting philosophy. Also, it's entertaining and beautifully illustrated. My son loves it, and it has become one of our favorites - when the boy in the book says "we don't really need the baby, do we?", my boy enthusiastically agrees. Having his feelings validated, he has calmed down a lot, which was great. For those who believe the best way to handle challenging situations with kids is to acknowledge and validate the "ugly" feelings they may have, and use fantasy to help them cope,

this book is a must.

This book showed up on a lot of book lists for soon-to-be big siblings. No. The focus of the book is imagining what job the baby will one day have. There isn't much about the boy's feelings except for a few negative thoughts ("Do we really need a baby?" and "Maybe a tiger will eat it,") but they are not the focus of the book either. In fact, the mother has no response to either one, so they just seem like random sentences that didn't belong in the book. My 2YO didn't like this book because she likes to look at pictures of families taking care of a baby - these pictures were of a baby dressed in uniforms for different professions and cooking, painting, counting money, etc. She was also confused about how each 2 page spread of the baby doing a job was followed by the pregnant mother and son imagining another job. She kept asking, "Where's the baby?" because she didn't get that the pictures were just the boy's imagination. The worst part was the ending. While the words finally became positive ("We're going to love the baby,") the final picture showed the boy and Grandad walking toward the hospital door with presents, and that was it. My daughter was left with her mouth hanging open, and again asking, "Where's the baby?" This book is just not about having a new baby. It would be more useful if you're talking about different professions.

I was given this book as a gift, our cover is different but the pictures and story are the same. As other reviewers have said, the book is so negative! There is definitely something to be said for validating and soothing a child's fears about a new sibling, but this book doesn't do that. In my opinion, all it does is plant negative thoughts about the baby and what to expect in the child's mind. When we read this book to my son, we did not read most of the words as they are. Instead, we would read it like "Maybe you and the baby can be doctors! Here is the baby taking care of his teddy bear." etc. Also, there is no father in the book. I have no problem with single mothers but it wasn't clear to me whether that was intentional. This book does nothing to prepare a child for having a new baby in the home or being a big sibling. This book gets two stars instead of one because the illustrations are nice and we were able to adapt. My son still pulls it off the shelf once in a while. I also liked seeing mom's belly grow through the seasons, especially since our second baby was born in the fall just like in the book. We really preferred "My New Baby" by Rachel Fuller and also "The New Baby" by Mercer Mayer.

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