

# The Bedtime Bears



By Kathy Warnes

Bed time comes and Mom yawns- a wide mouth sight,  
“It’s bed time Janet, time to say goodnight,”  
Janet hops to her room to inquire  
If her bears are ready to retire.

Mom turns down the comforter, smooths the sheets,  
“Put on your clean night gown and brush your teeth,  
Jump in and I’ll read you a quick story,  
Do you want your favorite – please tell me.

Janet brushes her teeth with a marshmallow,  
She caves the covers and throws her pillow,  
She eats potato chips like lunch at noon,  
She converses with the man in the moon.

Janet says goodnight to Jane and Larry,  
She gives a kiss and bear hug to Harry  
“Mom, I found out something really creepy,  
Not one of my teddy bears is sleepy!”

"Some of my bears that wake up before dawn,  
Couldn’t conjure up the tiniest yawn,  
Mom, I talked to my brown teddy Freddy,  
He tells me that he isn’t bed ready.”

“Mom, if you want me to sleep with ease,  
To set me afloat on a cloud of zzzzs,

Take some time before you go back downstairs,  
Come meet and listen to my bedtime bears.

Freddy's black eyes shimmer in the lamp light,  
"Stay awake with me and enjoy the night,  
Shake your arms and hurry up your feet,  
I have lots of friends I want you to meet."

This is Polar Bear, who's white and snowy,  
He's born on land, but he lives in the sea,  
He thinks hunting seals is very nice,  
He stalks them through the Arctic snow and ice.

Li Ping Panda rumbles hello to you,  
He's from China and he favors bamboo,  
He has black patches surrounding his eyes,  
And always looks like he's Panda surprised.

Spectacle bear- an Andes tree top sight,  
Sleeps all day and wanders throughout the night,  
He eats insects, animals and grasses,  
He looks like he is wearing eyeglasses!

A sloth bear's hair is always out of place,  
His mane makes wild waves around his face,  
In his India home he snorts like a grump  
Sucks termites with a vacuum like kerfump!

North American black bears hide in trees,  
They eat yellow jackets, ants, and bees,  
Fish for salmon while the sun is away-  
The fish spot their black fur during the day.

The brown grizzly bear eats berry broth,  
Yellowstone grizzlies gobble Miller moths,  
Brown bears thrive in Europe and Asia and more,  
They're the national mascot Finns adore.

Janet and the bears play far in the night,  
And Mom laughs and talks with all of her might,  
Finally, the bears huddle in a heap  
"We give up, we're tired, please let us sleep."

Now each night before she slips off to sleep  
Janet pulls her bear friends out of the heap,

Each night before she goes back down the stairs  
Mom and Janet visit the bedtime bears.