

“ NOW OR NEVER.”



LITTLE Bear, stand still! If you are ever to be licked into shape, it is now. When you are a great, big, grown-up bear, there will be no chance for you. There will be nobody to lick you, to begin with; and, besides that, your joints will be so stiff, and the hairs of your fur so bristly, that if you had a dozen mammas, ready and willing, they would not be able to smooth you down. As it is—round, rough ball as you are—there is every chance (if you will but stand quiet, you know) of your turning out very tidy and respectable—even shapely, indeed—*for a bear.*

You had rather be the sort of bear you are of yourself, do you say? No! don't say it, there's a