

DEAR MAMA BEAR

Dear Mama Bear,

I went to the bathroom for three minutes of peace. Within twenty seconds, someone knocked, someone pushed a drawing under the door, and someone asked whether I was doing a poo. Their father was sitting right there. Why am I still the help desk?

- Currently Unavailable

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE - COUNTING SYSTEM

Includes “one,” “two,” and “two and a half.” Three remains in original packaging.

MISSING - ONE BUTT

Last seen attached to a child immediately before contact with Mama’s slipper. Child available for identification. Standing appointments only.

DOMESTIC RELOCATION SERVICES

Mess moved from bedroom to hallway with exceptional speed. Cleaning not included. References available from my brother.

FILE AN INCIDENT

Has someone poked the bear in your household?

Send us the request, the response, and the moment Mama’s eyebrow moved. Anonymous submissions welcome. Names may be changed to protect whoever is still grounded.

[pokethebear.news/submit](#)

Poke The Bear is a fictional satirical newspaper. All incidents obey cartoon physics. No children were divided in the production of this issue.



POKE THE BEAR

ISSUE NO. 001

CIRCULATION: CONFIDENTIAL

ROOM STILL A MESS;
CHILD NOW IN TWO HALVES

Brother’s attempt to relocate the problem fails to satisfy Mama



BEARMONE STATUS: CRITICAL / INCIDENT REPORT 001-A

A routine request to clean a bedroom escalated yesterday after Fusuy ignored the instruction and his brother Lalib interpreted “clean” as “put the same mess somewhere slightly different.”

Mama, who had expected to end the afternoon with two children and one clean room, instead found herself with a different set of numbers.

One child subsequently became two halves. The room remained untidy. **Full report, page 2.**

SIX CHILDREN.
ONE AND A HALF REMAIN.

Which half? PAGE 2

ANCIENT SLIPPER
UNEARTHED IN EGYPT

Research Bureau. PAGE 3

DEAR MAMA BEAR

“I hid in the bathroom. They found me.” PAGE 4

A CLEAN BREAK

Both halves have now been instructed to finish the room

The incident began when Mama asked her son Fusuy to clean his bedroom. He said “okay” - a response investigators stress should never be confused with an indication that anything is about to happen. Following a period of complete inactivity, Mama assigned the task to his brother Lalib, who successfully moved the mess from its original location to a new location. He then declared the operation complete.

“Now there are more of you to clean it.”

CASE NOTE: Relocating a mess does not reduce its Bearmone potential.

SIX AT THE START

Household declines to provide a complete accounting

A separate household report began with a mother of six children. As details of the day’s events emerged, an inquiry was made: “How many are left this time?” The answer was immediate: “One and a half.”

A follow-up question - “Wait, which half?” - was met with an equally immediate clarification: “The top half.” Our correspondent had prepared several further questions but decided the available information was sufficient.

Mama’s Bearmone levels rose sharply upon inspection. Fusuy argued that cleaning was now Lalib’s job. Lalib explained that he had already done it. Both appeared confident that these were useful contributions. Mama resolved the disagreement by splitting one of the children into two halves, bringing the discussion to an immediate and geometrically unexpected conclusion.

Witnesses report that Mama pointed both halves back toward the bedroom. “Now there are more of you to clean it.” At press time, the top half was claiming it couldn’t pick anything up without the bottom half, while the bottom half had walked away.

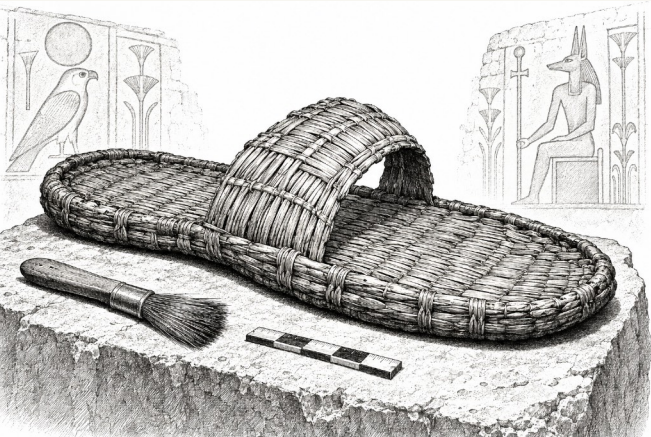
1 1/2

OFFICIAL HOUSEHOLD TOTAL

SLIPPER OF AUTHORITY DISCOVERED IN EGYPT

Artifact predates the phrase “I’m counting to three”

BEARMONE RESEARCH BUREAU / FIELD REPORT 001-S



Archaeologists excavating an ancient Egyptian household have uncovered a single slipper beside an inscription provisionally translated as “I have told you for the last time.” Initial theories that the object was ordinary footwear were abandoned when a researcher picked it up and every member of the expedition immediately began tidying.

The slipper’s matching partner has not been located. Researchers believe it may still be in flight. Wall carvings appear to show the artifact changing direction around a doorway, prompting the Bureau to reconsider whether modern guided missiles deserve quite so much credit.

A junior archaeologist asked whether its powers had been exaggerated. The expedition’s oldest mother raised one eyebrow. He has since cleaned the excavation site, labelled all the pottery, and called to apologize for something he did in 1998.

HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS:
Do not test by saying “You missed.”

THE FIFTH “WHY?”

RESTRICTED INCIDENT 001-R / BEARMONE READING: INSTRUMENT MELTED

A child was asked to put his shoes on. He asked why. Mama explained that they were leaving. He asked why. She explained that they needed groceries. He asked why. She explained that people in the house kept eating the food. He asked why. Mama took a breath normally associated with large animals preparing to defend their territory.

Following the fifth “why,” Mama took matters into her own hands.

[REDACTED]

The remainder of this report has been withheld to protect the mental health of our readers.

The child was never heard from again.

His shoes are still by the door.