

# Display front cover for book citations in the Preview tab

## Context and Problem Statement

- Users have requested that the front covers of book citations are displayed in JabRef.
- This is discussed on the [JabRef forum](#) and raised as a [feature request](#).
- We need to decide where the book cover should be placed.

## Decision Drivers

- It should not be obtrusive or distracting since the main use of JabRef is for articles not books.
- It should not obstruct the view of existing GUI components, specifically the MainTable or the information in the EntryEditor's tabs.

## Considered Options

Place the book cover in:

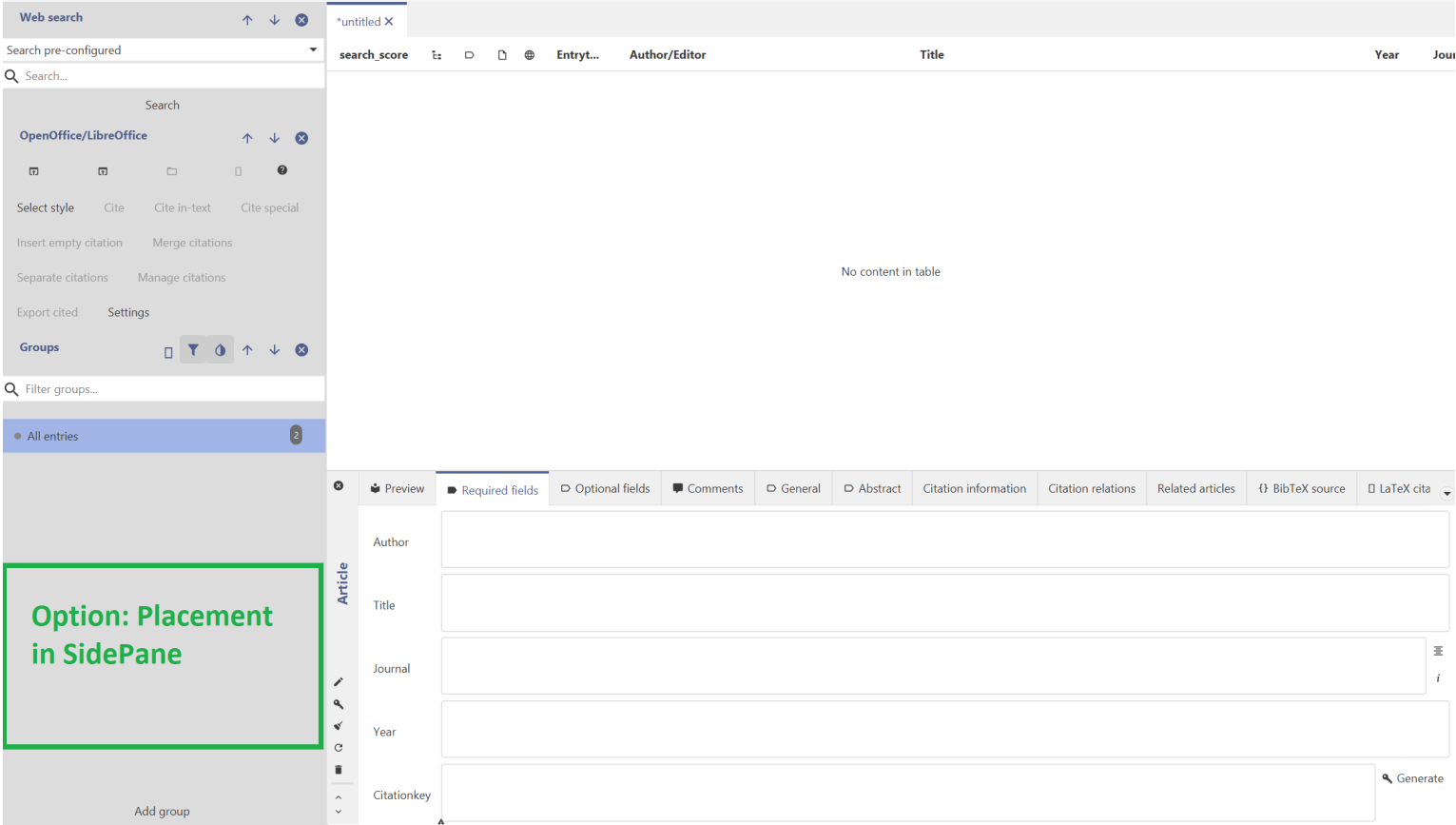
- 1 The existing SidePane
- 2 A new SidePane
- 3 The Preview panel of the EntryEditor
- 4 A SplitPane next to the MainTable

## Decision Outcome

Chosen option: "The PreviewPanel of the EntryEditor".

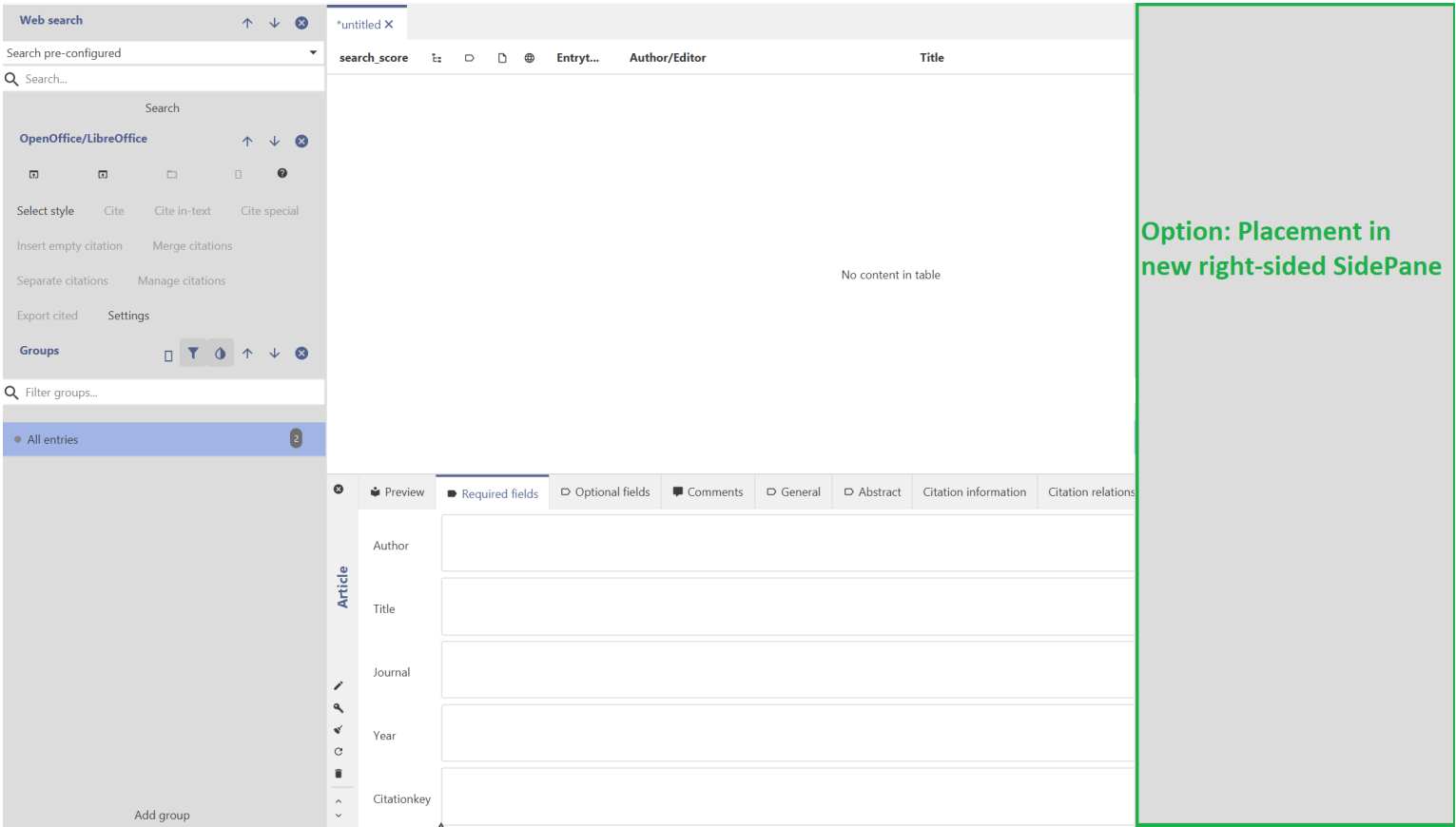
## Pros and Cons of the Options

Existing SidePane



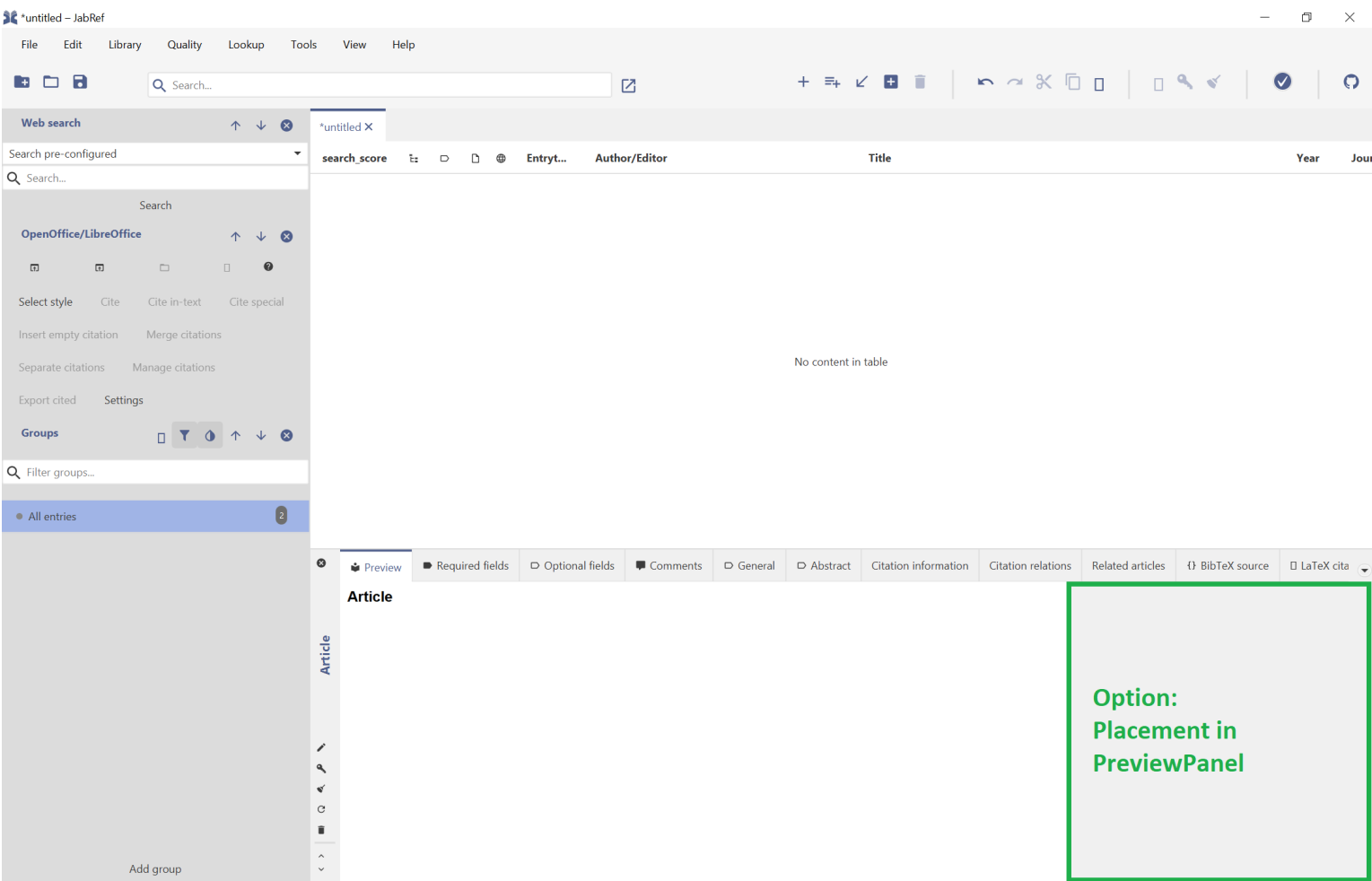
- Good, because it would be unobtrusive
- Bad, because it would crowd other panels in the SidePane
- Bad, because changing the size of the SidePane would affect both the MainTable and the EntryEditor.

## New right-sided SidePane



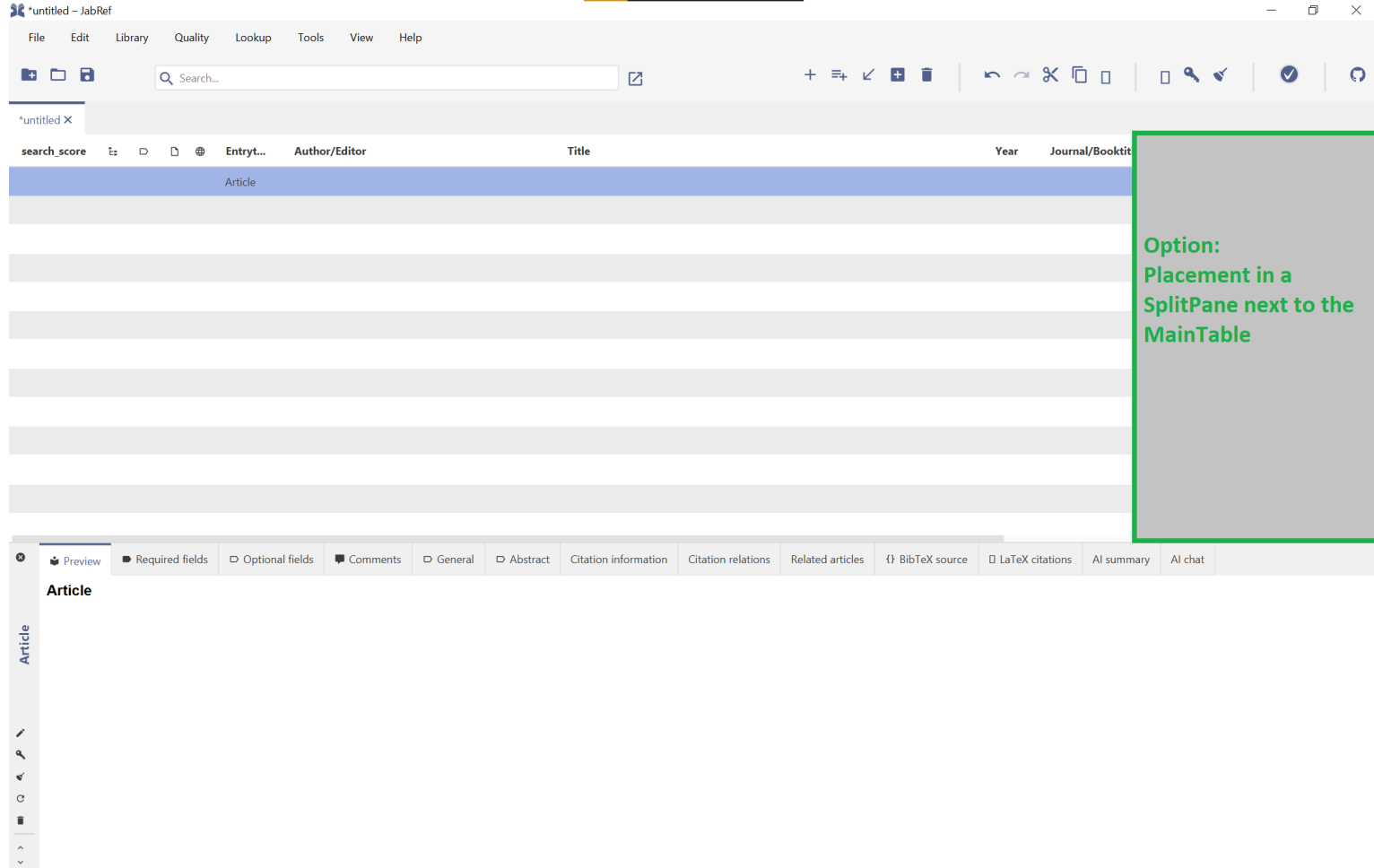
- Good, if integrated together with entry preview because it would make it easier to view a citation’s preview.
- Bad, because an extra SidePane would make the interface overly complex.

## The PreviewPanel of the EntryEditor



- Good, because it would not be obtrusive or distracting.
- Bad, if the Entry Editor is closed, users will have to open the Entry Editor and navigate to the “Preview” or “Required fields” tab to see the cover.

## SplitPane next to the MainTable



- Good, because changing the size of this SplitPane would only affect the MainTable.
- Bad, because it would obstruct some columns in the MainTable.