

Baby shoes

It was 5.56 a.m. when she woke, a strange feeling overwhelmed her but she wasn't sure what had happened. Her husband was still fast asleep next to her. It wasn't until 7 o'clock that the alarm sounded and her husband clambered out of bed, without saying a word. Within an hour he had left the house whilst she was still sat up in bed.

After the front door slammed shut she finally brought herself to get out of bed. She walked over to the cot she had bought; it was white and covered by a white and pink sheet. In the cot lay, what was going to be, her baby's first teddy bear. She was due for her fourth ultrasound that day but didn't want to go alone, yet again. She glanced over at the clock and realised the time. She had a quick shower and got dressed. As she looked at her bump in the mirror she thought of all the trouble this baby had already caused, and dreaded what it would cause in the future. Her baby was what she wanted more than anything even though it was the cause of the destruction of her marriage.

As she neared the hospital she imagined how dramatically her life would change after this baby was born. The fear of losing her husband was nothing compared to the excitement of having her new baby girl in her life, she would never feel alone again. As she sat in the waiting room she felt nervous and excited to see her baby on the screen for the fourth time. Her name was called and she walked into the cold, clinical room and lay on the bed. The mid-wife was kind and talkative, unlike herself; she always asked how she was and what she had been doing. The nurse roughly put the cold gel on her stomach and ran the Doppler over the bump. There was no heart beat.