

Chapter Three

First Trimester



I am fetus.

My parents are Tom and Mira Cordell. I was conceived in love. Before I was formed in my mother's womb, I was in the thought of my Creator. He had already allocated a number of days for me to live here on Earth with a plan and purpose. My substance coming together is through a process ordained by Him called *sex*. My parents love each other, are married, and bear the legal right to participate in this act.

My parents are in excellent health, and my mother was ovulating. A mature egg was released from her ovary and came down the fallopian tube. I was conceived in their seventh year of marriage. They have sex regularly. In this particular instance, they had intercourse. During intercourse, upon ejaculation, millions of my father's sperm, including (an extraordinarily ordained X chromosome) entered the vagina and rushed down the cervix, which was open owing to ovulation. It rushed through a lot of mucus and headed to the uterus along with millions more of its kind.

Some died due to the acidity of the vagina, some by leucocytes, and millions did not make it that far and flowed out of the vagina. The ordained sperm and others were assisted by muscular uterine contractions. There were others carrying X and Y chromosomes trying to make it to the egg. It was as though all these sperm was on the Olympic stage running a 100-meter race. All of them

wanted to fertilize the egg. About 14 hours after the intercourse, some of the sperm went through one of the fallopian tubes where my mother's unfertilized egg was.

A day later, tiny cilia inside the fallopian tube pushed the egg toward the uterus. Meanwhile, the few sperm that was left surged against this motion for the hit. The ordained sperm rushed with all its strength to reach the egg. It was the first to reach the finish line. The sperm plasma fused with the egg plasma membrane, triggering the sperm head to disconnect from its flagellum. This ordained sperm with an X chromosome decapitated at the right time and penetrated the egg. The egg pulled the sperm inside. The process of fertilization was in process. The egg protected the ordained sperm, warding off all the others that were trying to come in.

Inside the egg, the tightly packed male genetic material from the sperm spreads out. A new membrane formed around the genetic material, which created the male pronucleus. The genetic material inside reformed into 23 chromosomes. The female generic material was awakened by the fusion of the sperm and egg, resulting in the formation of the female pronucleus, which also contained 23 chromosomes. The male and female pronuclei form web-like threads called microtubules that pull toward each other. The two sets of chromosomes are now joined together, completing the process of fertilization.

At this moment, a unique genetic code instantly determined my gender, hair color, eye color and hundreds of other characteristics. *This single cell is me.* I was propelled by the cilia in the fallopian tube to enter the rich uterine lining of the uterus of my mother, where I latched on and began to grow.

I am Fetus.

When I was 15 days, I was about the size of a prune.

At four weeks, I began to rapidly grow a tail.

At eight weeks, as you would recall, my mother Mira found out that she was pregnant with me. Within a few days, she scheduled an appointment with the Obstetric specialist. There, they did another pregnancy test, confirming that I was in her belly.

I was well-nourished and protected by my mother. My heartbeat could be heard, my skeletal and facial features were visible, my eyelids were fusing, the tail had gone, my intestines were growing, and all my organs were in place and functioning.

At 12 weeks, I weighed about 19 grams, and I was kept warm. My gender was revealed to my parents in a sonogram. I am grateful for this innovation that helped my mother know ahead of time that she was going to have a daughter. This helped her make adequate preparations for my nursery and decide the colors for painting the walls, and the choice of clothing and bedding. They left the doctor's office elated, thanking God for a girl.