

My pregnancy was not a very good one. If anyone has read my journal, you will see that I was very sick from day one. I finally had to go on a chemotherapy drug to keep me from being sick. Through the whole pregnancy, I gained a whopping 1 pound.

Our final Dr.'s appointment came on 8-6-99 and Dr. Clouatre told me that Baylie was still breech. (She had been breech for 12 weeks now, so there was no chance of her turning on her own.) We decided that on August 11th, Dr. C would give me a spinal and attempt to turn her. If he was unsuccessful, we would then go ahead with a c-section.

Russell and I arrived at the hospital at 5:30 A.M. the morning of the 11th. I had never been so scared in my entire life. They immediately hooked me up to the monitors and started my I.V. Russell and I just talked (trying to keep me calm) about what it was going to be like the first time we got to see our precious angel.

At 7:00 A.M. the anesthesiologist came in and told me what the spinal would consist of. To me, I was more scared about the spinal than the surgery. (The spinal turned out to be nothing. I was scared for nothing!) Then Dr. Clouatre came in and told me to be calm, that he would take good care of me. They then put me in a wheel chair and wheeled me to the operating room. The spinal was given twice because I was so scared I was shaking to bad for the anesthesiologist to get it in the first time.

Things seemed to move SO FAST!! Dr. C tried to turn Baylie, but he said he couldn't and said he was going to go ahead with the c-section. Russell was able to come in and be with me at that time, thank goodness.

Elizabeth (Dr. C's nurse) was there too. I was so glad to see someone I had been around through my whole pregnancy. She was wonderful!!! Dr. C started the surgery at 8:00 and Baylie came into the world at 8:11 on 8-11 weighing 6 pounds and 12 ounces and was 18 inches long. She didn't scream at first so it scared me, but Russ said she was busy taking in the new world. Dr. Lovell (Peditrician) came over and told me that she was perfect and her legs would straighten out in about a week or so. I was confused until Russ explained to me that her legs had been up by her ears for so long that they weren't used to having room to move. Russell kept saying, "She has SO much hair!!!!" He even brought her over to show me, but they had already put a hat on her.

She was so beautiful!!! (And still is for that matter) I was in the recovery room by 8:30 and finally able to see her at 10:30.

My recovery was great and I have had no problems at all. I guess all the pain is forgotten when you look into your baby's eyes for the first time. It is the most amazing and warm feeling in the world. I will never forget it as long as I live. I hope you have enjoyed my birth story. Thank you Dr. Clouatre and Elizabeth for giving Russell and I the most precious gift, a baby!