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### THE MOST EXCITING DAY OF MY LIFE

Someone was shaking me to wake up. It was still very early and everybody seemed to be in a rush. We were in such an ungodly hurry that we didn't even have breakfast. We clambered into the car and soon we were off to my grandpa's house. Dad dropped me at the doorstep and was soon on his way off somewhere with mum. I was so sleepy that as soon as I got in my grandpa's sitting room I dozed off on the sofa again. Suddenly I was woken up by the sound of the telephone. Grandpa's face was beaming with happiness and soon I was bundled into a car again. We were off to the hospital to see my new baby brother Gianluca!

As I walked into my mum's room, I saw a strange sight. My dad's nose was as red as a plum and you could easily mistake him for Rudolph the red nose reindeer. He was looking adoringly without saying a single word at the bed in the middle of the room. The bed was occupied by my mum. She looked exhausted but her face was beaming and she looked just like a person who has won first prize in the national lottery. Mum was cradling a white bundle while cooing gently at it.

I could not resist racing towards my mum to have a look at the baby. A wrinkled, pinkish face peeped at me from the numerous layers of clothing and shawls. I leaned on my mum's shoulders to look at two jet black eyes staring at me. I asked mum to let me hold Gianluca for a while and she agreed. Having waited for 10 years for this moment, I felt tears swelling in my eyes. I was over the moon. It was amazing to look at Gianluca's minute yet perfect features. My mind fast forwarded to the future and I tried to picture those little fingers and cute little nose in ten years time. I was fascinated by the fact that the human being that I was cradling had lived for the previous nine months in the shelter of my mum's

womb. No wonder that Gianluca was startled when a nurse came in to check on my mum and almost tripped in one of the bags. In mum's womb, sounds had been muffled but now they were loud and clear.

I couldn't imagine that the tiny tot that I was holding in my hands would soon be crawling, babbling and talking. My day dreaming was suddenly interrupted by the arrival of my grandparents. Everyone was gazing at the new born as if he were a star from heaven. Suddenly the room was full of a bunch of people all 'ooing' and 'aahing' when Gianluca yawned for the first time. Dozens of camera flashes and beeps filled the room since everybody was eager to capture baby's first movement on camera.

Gianluca rewarded their efforts by breaking into a heart rending scream. Panic broke in the room. Grandma started looking for the pacifier. Dad started stammering excuses. They had not bought one yet. Grandpa went on filming the whole scene while tripping in everyone's toes. Nearly all the other relatives started coming up with crazy ideas on how to calm baby Gianluca. Nobody seemed to realize that they had startled the poor baby out of his wits their own noise in the first place. Gianluca was handed back to mum. Silence soon followed as Gianluca was given the world's natural pacifier- mum's breast.

Time flew and it was time for me to go back to grandma's house. I reluctantly left mum's room. As I lay in bed that night, I remembered all the events that had happened that day. It had certainly been the most exciting day of my life. Nothing can ever beat the excitement brought into my life by the birth of my baby brother Gianluca.