

Alice is excited. She tells her mother all about her day as soon as she sees her after school.

"Emma was sitting next to me today. She told me a big secret: her mother is expecting a baby! She says that the baby is hardly bigger than a pea at the moment. Her mum and dad went to the doctor and they could already hear the heart beating!"

"What lovely news!" Alice's mum replies. "That's the beginning of a big adventure. I can remember very well the day I knew that I was expecting each one of you. Come on, I'll find you some old photos."

Alice and her mum sit down close to each other.

"This is when I was expecting you. Look how big my tummy was. You were always moving, ready to come out, I used to think. I was playing with your sister when I realised you were coming. Daddy and I left Marcia with Granny and Grandpa and went to the hospital. We were so full of joy when we saw you for the first time. You had a lot of hair, and very pretty eyes. The doctor placed you on my chest, and then Dad took you in his arms."

Dad walks in and notices the photos. "You seemed so tiny! I could hold you in my hands. Look at this photo. There you are with Mum. Oh, and here you are with Marcia." "Mummy, were you as happy when I was born as you were with Marcia?" Alice asks.

Her mum replies: "Alice, darling. I am going to tell you something I want you always to remember. You are unique, there is nobody like you. You are my Alice and I love you because of who you are. Even when children have the same father and the same mother, they are each unique. That's what makes you so precious."

