

## *A Turn for the Worst, a Change for the Better*

I always wanted children, I always said I would never get pregnant young, I always wanted to be out with my friends and have a good time, that all changed when I became 15 and pregnant. What would my life become? I'm so young how could this happen to me? I was so disappointed in myself for being this stupid and irresponsible. I wasn't ready for this, to take on this big of a challenge, to take care of another life. I knew what I wanted to do I decided to keep my baby. That day changed my life forever.

Months went by and my morning sickness is gone my belly is getting so big, I find out it's a girl and she starts to move. My mom felt her and after that moment I knew she was in love, she had accepted her and she loved her. She knew that this was her grandchild and she would cherish her

While the weeks passed I just went to school and did as much as a could so I can have a better life for my baby and I. I always use to slack off when it came to school, but ever since I knew I had another life to carry on my shoulders I knew we deserved better and I could do that by getting my education.

My mother was so good she helped me educationally and emotionally. I was so ready for my baby to come I thought it would be a piece of cake. I started getting my life together such as school, my license, and trying to get a job. Getting a job was harder then I thought no one really wanted to hire a teen girl that was eight months pregnant. When I was doing a driving lesson I started to feel contractions I did not think anything of it because I have had Braxton hicks contraction plenty of times before. As the day went on the got worse and worse. At 12:30 am on June 3 of 2009 my water broke. We arrived at the hospital and I was already three centimeters dilated. Six hours of labor and then my beautiful baby girl was born on June 4<sup>th</sup> 2009, Ahmirra Imani Steinman, the most beautiful thing I have ever seen and she was mine.

When I first brought her home she was the best behaved baby, we had this unbelievable bond even when I breastfed her. She was so tiny and fragile; when I looked at her I know I had changed a little when I was pregnant but now that she was born I had to do something bigger than her and I. I was ready to go back to school and get my high school diploma and go to college not only for myself but for this new child of mine. I was behind on credits. I knew I had to become responsible and create a better life and a better future for us. If I didn't graduate high school, then how would I get a job? What kind of example would that be if I didn't graduate? Every parent wants a better future for their child.

When I had Ahmirra I knew that I had to stop going out. My relationship improved with my baby's dad and with my family. Since I was home a lot more I started being with my family more often, we became more than just family we were all great friends. I learned so much more, and it helped me grow up a lot more. I always thought I knew everything before I had my daughter. Having my daughter made me open minded. I have the greatest appreciation for my mother. I disappointed her I the worst possible way, but I showed her what I could to make out of the situation. I could stand on my feet and get an education and be

responsible for my daughter and me, and still have time for family. She is so proud of me and what I have accomplished. I love my daughter even more for that, even though she is little she has given me so many things, more than I can ask for even things within myself I never knew I had. She has given me will power and the importance of being healthy mentally and physically. She has made me want more in life. I am glad I kept Ahmirra and I would not change anything for the world. I thought my life had taken a turn for the worst and it was over. In the end and now I realize it changed for the better and it changed for us.