Becoming a Parent Chapter

Scene Two

**Clare:** When you find out that you are going to be a parent, many emotions go through your mind: euphoria, excitement, trepidation, fear. Will I be a good parent? Can I provide the guidance, love, financial support a child will need? Will I be a good role model for another human being? You then look to your own failings… worried they will pass on to your child. I knew it would be hard… giving up work, only having one income coming in, the sleepless nights. Would I be able to cope every single day? Would I be able to bring them up properly…teaching them right from wrong and valuable life skills. I wouldn’t be able to go out with my friends as often. I would have to become more responsible.

**Mandeep:** But these things become so insignificant when he or she is born…when you hold your new born baby in your arms, it clutches your finger… holds on tight. Life becomes a learning curve for you as well as for the child you bring up; the highs, the lows, the laughter and the tears. As your children grow, you find yourself growing too. You realise aspects of yourself that you never knew you had, never knew existed. There is no greater gift than when your children bring their own children into the world and you can watch them proudly begin the journey that you started with them.

**Rachael:** And all those expectations in the beginning, although true, I really needn’t have worried, as mine have turned out undamaged and are their own people with their own personalities and opinions. Yes, there have been tough times… but you learn to cope with the dirty nappies, the broken sleep patterns and the lack of money, the temper tantrums and stroppy teenage years. It’s all worth it.

**Eden:** After all I guess parenthood is like a book… there are lots of surprises… and you never know what’s going to happen in each chapter.