

# Journey

*A tale of a foster youth's journey home*

**By Carlina Shotwell**

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***This Book is Dedicated to  
Foster Youth***



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# CHAPTER ONE

On June 29<sup>th</sup> a young mother's life changed within a matter of minutes. The thought of her baby boy leaving her womb to enter another woman's life brought tears to her eyes. This young mother knew her baby boy, Peter, would love her as his mother no matter where his life journey would take him.

The time had come for baby Peter to meet his new mother and embark on his new life. The young mother smiled softly as Peter's new mother approached. She leaned over and kissed her precious baby so long and handed him to Ms. Barlow.

Ms. Barlow could only imagine how hard this could be for this young mother to provide her with such a

wonderful gift. She was forever grateful. For Ms. Barlow was not able to bear her own seed due to her advancing age.

As the years flew by, Ms. Barlow and young Peter enjoyed many vacations, school performances, and class projects. Ms. Barlow age seemed to be getting the best of her and soon she would need help for even the simplest tasks.

Ms. Barlow reached out to her great friend Mr. Hopkins, the lawyer. She informed Mr. Hopkins of her dilemma and he quickly found a solution for young Peter. As young Peter's belongings became nonexistent in Ms. Barlow's home, Peter began to worry.

"I have always loved you from the day our eyes met Peter." said Ms. Barlow. Peter embraced her; unaware of what Ms. Barlow was trying to say to him. "Remember Mr. Hopkins?" she said as she waved in his direction. Peter just nodded his head yes, as he remained embraced within Ms.

Barlow's arms. "Well Peter, Mr. Hopkins has offered you a great opportunity to meet other children just like you."

She said looking Peter directly in the eyes. "Remember I love you Peter, and I am only doing this because I know it is best." Ms. Barlow said as she kissed his wet cheeks. "Will I see you again?" asked Peter while holding Ms. Barlow hands tightly.

"Of course! At least every Sunday my dear!" Ms. Barlow explained. Young Peter began to dry his eyes and smile for he knew what Sundays had in store.

After saying their last good byes and hugs, Peter and Mr. Hopkins drove away. While Mr. Hopkins proceeded to speak, Peter stared out the back window. Not long after their departure, they arrived to their final destination.