

nearly lost

born

came into this world

small hole

heart

first few days

life

mother

father

from room to room

maze

hallways

hospital

where he was born

doctors

tests

worried

afraid

small children

before

learned

words

describe

feelings

comfort

give

deep unease

desperation

new baby

suddenly

dearest thing alive

one miraculous moment

a bond forms

stronger than any other in life

Will he be alright?

waiting

waiting

waiting

not knowing

hide under the covers

I'm scared!

grown-ups

crying

screaming

coping

terrified

holding his hands together very tightly

a small stuffed toy

pleasant in thoughts and memories

miraculous

sewing

special

deliciously comfortable fabric

pleasing

teddy bear

rabbit-like

a red scarf

a simple, hopeful face

the impression of friendliness

keen eye

mother's instinct

homemade

steadfast

unusually charming

gently

a small heart

scrap of fabric

a toy she had loved

as a child

The toy that had been her favorite.

lovely doll

perfect

through her childhood

loved

tiny bell

once-lovely dress

tokens of childhood

live on

inside the heart

a faint but pleasant jingle

a thousand memories

wrapped in blankets

smiling

holding

a funny little sound

small bit of magic