

# What a Difference a Doc Makes

By Mey & Damien

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During our wilderness times, in the days of our baby Noah who was diagnosed with a genetic disorder (Trisomy 13) during the first trimester, we found people who gave us rainbows – Doctors, who speak life with their actions.

There were specialists, experts aplenty. We saw many, but those with heart, there seemed so few. Perhaps they are too busy, too jaded by undercurrents – unappreciative people, patients with no patience; endless pursuits by needless lawsuits...I can only imagine.

Disheartened, we sat with our shoulders drooped low. Like a rock that came crashing, our stoic doctors delivered the bad news, that our baby in tummy is not ordinary.

- “Abnormal” was the medical term used
- “High Risk” was his rating
- Doctors’ views: “I have no comment.”
- **TERMINATE** - that’s the way of the day

And it rained on us. When it rains, it pours. The stoic doctors didn't believe. They couldn't help us see any other ways. Their concerns felt heavy, their way of care seemed to be nudging us – To terminate, that's the way of the day. What a difference a doc makes...

WHO holds the way of life?

Who delivers, the crushing rock?

Dismayed, but we determined to keep going. Life is a precious gift, entrusted to us from heaven above. We felt so alone, trying to navigate our way in the storm. From days to months, time went by, so fast yet so long.

Then, the rainbow appeared. We were introduced to a new doctor who breathed in **New Life!** The amazing connection, it could only be divine. Dr Denise came alongside like a friend, pouring in care, shining light in.

*"Let us take care of you, we'll journey with you all the way."*

*"We respect you, because you **Choose Life.**"*

**What a Difference a Doc Makes!** Going into my final trimester, we made the change to a new care team. Dr Denise paved the way smoothly ahead - determined to give us **the time of our lives.** In came Dr Chi, our OB Gynae. So cheery, ever-cheering, our shared vision was to Enjoy the Journey! **Motherhood is the best gift of a woman's life.**

*"Stay hopeful, stay cheerful, we are in this with you!"*

*"Let's not focus on what we already know. Let us look forward, to every new growth."*

*"Let nature take its own course."*

The gynae, the paedi, the medical team - they all echoed positivity with great sensitivity. Even though very concerned, they helped us stay calm and kept our hearts at ease. They **respected our decision.**



The time of delivery, baby came early – a month too excited, wanted to see us sooner. Dr Lee, the neonatologist came chasing for us from block to block, running down the long hospital corridors. Holding my hand, looking into our eyes, she assured, “We will give it our all, to give you a beautiful time.” **What a Difference They all Make!**

**A beautiful time**, it sure was. From nurses to porters, the team was as One. Determined to deliver to us, the treasures of life. Ensuring those short but precious moments of life are for us to sweetly keep. **FOR LIFE!** Those wonderful memories, in thankfulness we savour. Till today we still recall, with bittersweet fondness.

Our journey did not end there, it went far beyond. *Go the extra mile, cheer the final lap!* Dr Denise knows Noah’s Ark story highlights the Rainbow: The Promise, the Hope; the Rescue, the Freedom! She takes pics and sends them to me - precious support, in my journey through bereavement.

So did Dr Lee. We barely knew each other, yet she came to say farewell to our little Noah, to tell us **they Care**. 6 years on, we are so glad. To see SPARK take off, set ablaze by Dr Lee.

My doctor. My friend. I have hope, I see it in my doc.

