

West Coast Midwives

"I can't begin to tell you what a wonderful experience this pregnancy was thanks to all of you. I felt so at ease, cared for and safe. I only wish I had had the same care with Dakota. I really appreciate all you do and will be singing praises for you until I can no longer sing! Thankyou so much for everything!" Jodi, Keith, Janessa, Dakota & Danika!

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"I am so happy that you guys were able to take me on again. What another wonderful experience. Kim thanks so much for being who you are! I've always felt so comfortable, safe and cared for in your care. You are so patient, supportive and give all us moms power and a big boost of confidence. Hopefully I'll be seeing you again soon (not for another pregnancy!) but maybe to see another one of my sister's babies being born." All our love, Elisha, Trent, Jocelyn and the kids

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"We can't begin to thank you enough for all your help and guidance during our special time. We couldn't have done so well without your support. Again, thanking you for keeping us on once little Harrison arrived. It was a trying time for us, but knowing we had your energy and support behind us gave us peace of mind and strength." Love Sarah, Jolyon & Harrison

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"Words can not explain how much we appreciate everything you did for our little family during this amazing journey. We just wanted to say thanks for your incredible support and encouragement. this experience will stay with us all forever." Tania, Chris & Mila

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"We can't stop raving about how awesome it was to have you be a part of Charlie's birth. Your positive and upbeat energy is fabulous. Thank you for helping to make a home birth possible. It was truly one of the best decisions of my life. You are amazing! A million thank you's!" Chelsea & Christian

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"I feel as though you are part of the family! Thank you for giving me a sense of peace, calmness, excitement and fun during my pregnancy journey - and of course thank you for helping me welcome the gift of Saige. (Although the peace and calmness is totally gone) haha. And thank you to Heather as well! The two of you have such an amazing partnership and work so well together - you are both definitely the full package! I'm so happy I found you both. As long as you both continue to do what you do - I will be sending my knocked up friends your way!" Brooke, Nick & Baby Saige

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"Thank you for being the best midwife on the planet! Somehow you made all our questions seem important (and I know we had too many) ... and you seemed to have an answer for each of them. You instilled us with such confidence and kept us healthy the whole way along - it's no wonder Pierre is so huge & happy & healthy! Thank you for being such a big part of this amazing journey. Looking forward to being back for our second baby already." Madeleine, Rob & Pierre

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"It is difficult to express how happy and contented we both feel when we think back on the birth of our little Jack. As you well know, there was a lot of anxiety and fear as we approached the day - now, it's hard to imagine how a birth could possibly be any better. So much of "the credit" for the ease of his birth is attributed to the loving and professional care we received from you throughout the pregnancy, during the birth, and in the weeks that followed. I can't imagine how or why anyone would approach a birth without such care. I am so happy for you and your profession that your expertise is getting the recognition it deserves.. You will always be a very special person to all of us."

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"Well, I couldn't have done it without you! That last session with you on Thursday really opened my eyes. Wow, mental power is amazing! You were so wonderful to me throughout my whole pregnancy. I always felt I could open up to you. Thank you for putting up with the labour from hell! It was all worth it!"

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"I'm sure you've been thanked many times for bringing into this world such special little souls. Your knowledge, compassion and encouragement created a meaningful pregnancy and an unforgettable birth at home. You're a true blessing to our family and especially to little Zak. Thank you."

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"I often procrastinate on doing things I wish to make for people I am immensely grateful for because my project is proportionally equivalent to the gratefulness I feel. But as I am entering a new segment in my life, I choose to do it differently. I will start by letting you know that I am quite amazed with you. Not only your care for me, but you are a beautiful soul, Kim! Thank you."

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"Thank you so very much for your wisdom and support in bringing both of our daughters into this world. We greatly value the experiences we had with you and will look back on it - often- with much fondness. We also look forward to being able to recommend you to others in the future. All our love."

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"I wanted to thank you for your care and advice prenatal, for making my delivery an easy and special event, and for the detailed follow-up after Libby was born. I am so glad I made the choice to have midwifery care and I would recommend it and your practice to others. Libby is doing well Nd growing like a week. We are looking to buy a house together.... so the future looks even brighter! I hope our paths cross again."

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"Dear Kim - there are no words to express how much I appreciate all that you did for me, us. All the hours you gave to us at the hospital, and that kind shoulder you let me cry on when I was afraid. (Though being a Scorpio I can hide it sometimes).

I'd like to make a magnanimous gesture but all I have is my heart and my memories. Thank you good midwife, you did well."

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"Dear Kim - A belated thank-you for all the time and love lavished on us. We really appreciated all the extra time you spent listening to our concerns, and the extra work you assumed so we could have the birth experience we wanted. We were exceedingly lucky to have had a caregiver who was willing to explore all the options with us!! Once again, thanks so much for your support."

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"Dear Kim - Thank you for being our friend and guide in the birth of Mitchell. We believe he is a healthy and happy boy in part because of your commitment to the principles of midwifery. Thanks for the great experience."

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"Dear Kim - We felt our attempt to thank you at the 6-week appointment was inadequate; I am overwhelmed by how wonderful you were throughout my pregnancy, in labour and at the birth, and with Hazel since. You were attentive to so much more than the body, with genuine concern about my mother's illness, for example, or timing a Gentian Violet treatment so I'm healed in time for my wedding and Hazel isn't *presented* with a purple mouth. You were incredibly thorough when answering questions or responding to small worries or big worries. You were dependably serious, calm, and compassionate. And good-humoured.

I don't know how you do it, but I'm happy so many women and children will benefit from your art.

No - Sara is not making me write this. I meant what I said: that I will miss our visits to your office. I always felt comfortable and included (being a man at the birthing process is a bit like being a mascot at a football game: everybody likes you but no one is sure what you do). I enjoyed asking you questions. I was never disappointed with your answers. You are an obviously happy person and seem perfectly suited to what you do. Your humour and energy serve you well. Must I go on! Ton 'o' Thanks"

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" Thank you so much for being such a positive influence during my pregnancy. Your expertise and calm personality really helped to make Rachel's birth a wonderful experience! Warm wishes."

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'Dear Kim - A little something for your bathroom. I noticed you would often have a little candle burning to greet people! Hope you like it. The butterfly reminded me of you - full of life and making people feel happy. Thank you so much for taking me as one of your **LUCKY** clients. you have always made me feel confident and secure throughout this, my first pregnancy. We will see you next time around.

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kim, thank you very much! for the great care. I felt very confident that my wife had the best care she could get. We couldn't have received a better feeling of relaxation. God bless you and see you in 2 years!"

West Coast Midwives

For the midwives

There's the middle of the baby and the
middle of the mother
and the middle of
the air.

The middle of the air?
(The middle of the air!)

Who's there?
to thread us through
invisible sand invisible hourglass
bright sleeping sun
"i hardly know her and I love her so much!"
says her new daddy

"Who caught her? asks grandma

Mommy looks: Where did she go?
(Where did the mid-wife go?)
She is off
running bases
spinning her galaxies
Pop fly! Pop fly! Pop fly!
shooting star champagne cork
spinning bubbly galaxies
rounding pubic corners
Hitting home runs for us all.

It's a tricky fold she's walking
(trickier than a hospital corner)
a tricky fold
of space she's
walking
tightrope walker
threading us through
spinning other galaxies

Tonight
water unfolds
from the tap as
husband washes dishes
and the neighbours party
on the porch
unfurling laughter
like bolts of cloth

Our neighbours, our
neighbours, and baby's
first party
(she is sleeping, sleeping, sleeping)
startle reflex!
(sleeping, sleeping, sleeping)

Husband opens kitchen window:
Hey, shouts neighbour
Hey, shouts husband, Our first child was born!
When? asks neighbour She or he? asks neighbour
(*Was born by whom?!)*)

Open window, summer night
husband, wife daddy, mommy
neighbours grandma (who asked who caught her),
grandpa (who, in another city, told the waiter)
other grandpa (who wept, tears from stone)
Aunt Sherry ("cute as a button!") (*threaded by
whom?*)
the corners of this house, the leaves of the plants
cutlery, books, guitar and banjo - the stars
of the newest galaxy

"I feel so different!" says daddy
dishes done
"Like life is beginning again."

- Sara

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Club Mama

Do you pee when you giggle
when you cough or when you sneeze
do you have spit stains on your shoulders
and bruises on your knees
do you have stretchmarks on your belly
bags under your eyes
are you too wiped for whoopee
do you fantasize
about taking a shower
or an uninterrupted shit
are you still complaining
that your Levi's don't fit?

If you've answered yes to these
chances are pretty good
that you've just survived childbirth
though you never thought you would
and that eulogy you'd written
for your genitalia
while you were in transition
in your midwife's Westfalia
might never win the Nobel prize
though Lord knows, it really should
'cause you survived childbirth
and now motherhood!

- Robyn Levy

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"Thank you Kim for always being supportive and informative and above all - caring! You are what a midwife is meant to be. We've really appreciated having you in our lives and wish you all the best."

♥ Sarah, Bob, Hannah & Maya

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"I wanted to thank you for your wonderful care during this pregnancy and birth - of me, and of our family as a whole. It has been an emotional, trying and wonderful time, and we are grateful for your continued assistance and support."

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"Kim, what can I say but thank you, thank you, thank you!! I am so blessed to have such an amazing midwife to deliver my beautiful babies! I feel privileged to have gotten to know you and my labour experience was a positive one and I felt so at peace knowing I could trust you in your expertise to deliver Judah. I loved hangin' out with you at my appointments and felt totally cared for by you. Thank you so MUCH!!"

♥ Adam (Chelsea) & Judah

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"Kim, how can we ever thank you enough for bringing our daughter safely into this world. You made us feel comfortable and easy during a time that was anything but. We feel blessed to have had your insight, support and expertise throughout this time. So, simply put, THANK YOU for your gift."

♥ Amber, Steven & Kathryn

West Coast Midwives

“Kim, thank you so much for all your advice, wisdom and humour. Rob and I are so very lucky to have had you as our midwife. If by some freak accident we do all of this again, you will be the first we call.”

♥ Rob, Catherine, Rowan & Brynn