

tilized by the male. You have seen many hens' eggs. They may be fertile or sterile. If fertile they will hatch out little chickens if maintained at a warm temperature by the hen's body or in an incubator. If sterile they will not hatch. Hence, we see that LIFE is derived from fertile eggs.

Human beings, when they are old enough, mate. A man and a woman decide that they love one another, and they get married. The wife has many tiny eggs in her body, much smaller than those in a fish roe. The husband places within his wife's body a fluid from his own, which fertilizes one of these eggs. One egg is ready each month to be fertilized. If it is not fertilized it passes out of the woman's body. If fertilized it begins to grow in a chamber inside the mother's body and nine months later a baby is born. The place where the baby grows in mother's body is called the uterus, or womb, and is a little dark room down below mother's heart. At first the egg is smaller than a pin point. But it grows slowly for three-quarters of a year. During this time it is called an embryo or, after it has grown for about three months, it is called the fetus. The mother eats food which is turned into blood and goes into the body of the fetus to feed it.

After it has been there for a few months the mother feels the little one moving in her body. A hand or a foot moves and strikes against the wall of her womb, and she knows the unborn child is living. That makes her happy and she loves the baby very much. The mother is careful to eat good wholesome food and to be kind and gentle to people because she wants her child to be strong and well, and likewise good to everyone.

After the embryo begins to grow in mother's body, the father has nothing more to do about it. His part was concluded when he fertilized the ovum and started the little life on its way. Yet when the baby is born it will be like its father and its mother. It will have parts of two lives within it, the life of the father and the life of the mother. During the nine months while the embryo is growing, the father will be very kind to the mother, encourage her and care for her. He will try to help her not to fall or be in-

jured, lest that should cause a miscarriage or premature birth of the fetus.

When the baby is big enough to live a separate life, the door of the little dark room opens and the baby comes out of the mother's body into the light. It is born. The opening of the door of the mother's womb causes her much pain and suffering, for the baby is a good size and stretches the body of its mother a great deal when coming into the world. The moment it comes out into the light the baby's lungs fill up with air. That is its first breath, and it gives a little cry. The mother rejoices at the sound, knowing that the baby is alive and that her birth pains are over.

After the nurse has washed and warmly wrapped the infant she brings it to the mother, lays its head upon her arm, and mother sees her baby for the first time. And she loves it because it has been inside her body for so long and she has been thinking about it every day. When the father comes into the room where the mother and child are lying, and looks at his offspring he loves it too. It is so weak and helpless; it needs the care of both father and mother. The mother feeds it with milk from her own breasts, and then it lies quiet and contented, and is happy to be alive. That is how you were born.

That explains why you love your mother more than anyone else in the world, because you lived first in her body, she suffered pain to give you life and fed and cared for you when you were too small and weak to do anything for yourself.

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This or a similar explanation, together with a simple account of reproduction in plants and animals, is about all a child needs know until it reaches the age of puberty. It usually satisfies the child. Most children know about puppies and kittens, and it is well to draw a comparison between them and the baby, building the story upon the knowledge the child already possesses. Care should be taken not to make the story sentimental or mawkish. The reasons for mother love as explained above are not too sentimental, but a true explanation of a real relationship.