

Triumph

Jamie and Aiden sat pensively in the cold doctor's office in the natal care unit of the children's hospital, silently and restlessly staring at the floor, ceiling, and sometimes each other with dire anxiety and muted hope. Faint footfalls on the carpet outside heralded the doctor's return, and she entered their room, shutting the door behind her with a non-descript expression that somehow glowed to them. She spoke with a light tone they've been waiting to hear for months:

"Your baby is doing very well. Her vital signs have climbed and have been stable for a week now. We'll send her home with you today, with this medication. She'll only need to take it once a day for a month, and call us if she seems weak or quiet again," she smiled warmly at the couple.