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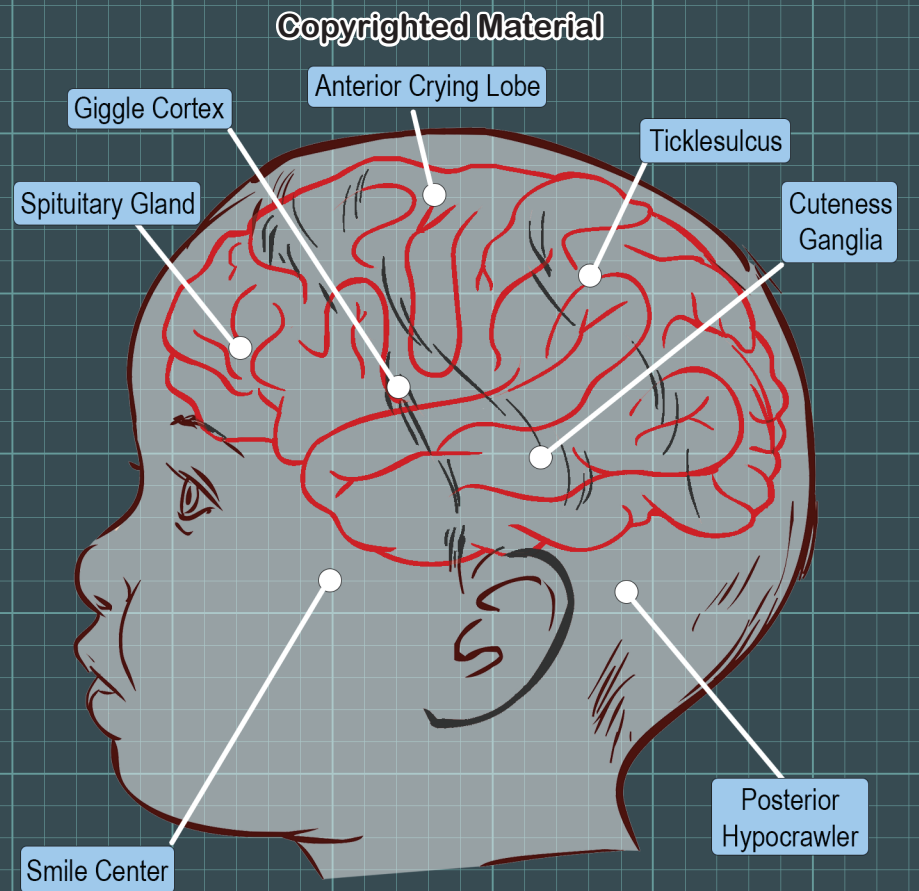
Baby's First Instruction Manual



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How To Be the Center of the Universe

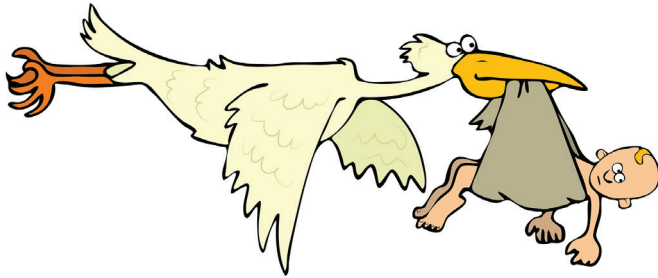
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Baby's First Instruction Manual

How To Be the Center of the Universe

Jimmy Huston



For Casey

who is already the center of the universe.

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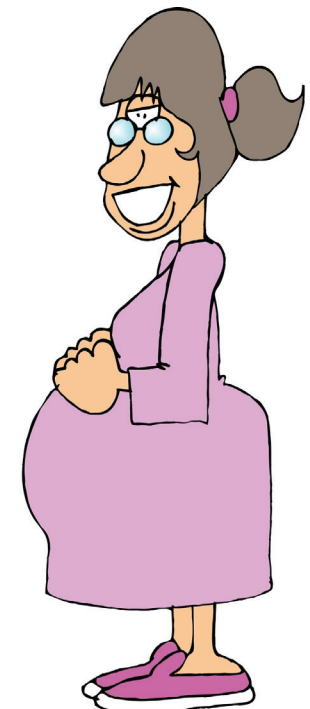
ISBN: 978-1-970022-58-2

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21545 Yucatan Avenue
Woodland Hills CA 91364
www.cosworthpublishing.com

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Welcome

You've been a fetus long enough.

After nine months in the dark, it all may seem too bright.

And, you're going to hear a lot more noise than you're used to *in utero*. That noise is coming mostly from your parents.

If you want the sound to stop, simply close your eyes. Then you'll hear a lot of *shhhhhhhing* -- and people shout-whispering, 'Quiet! The baby's sleeping!'

If it's still too loud and you want *all* the noise stopped, close your mouth. That sound is *you* -- crying.

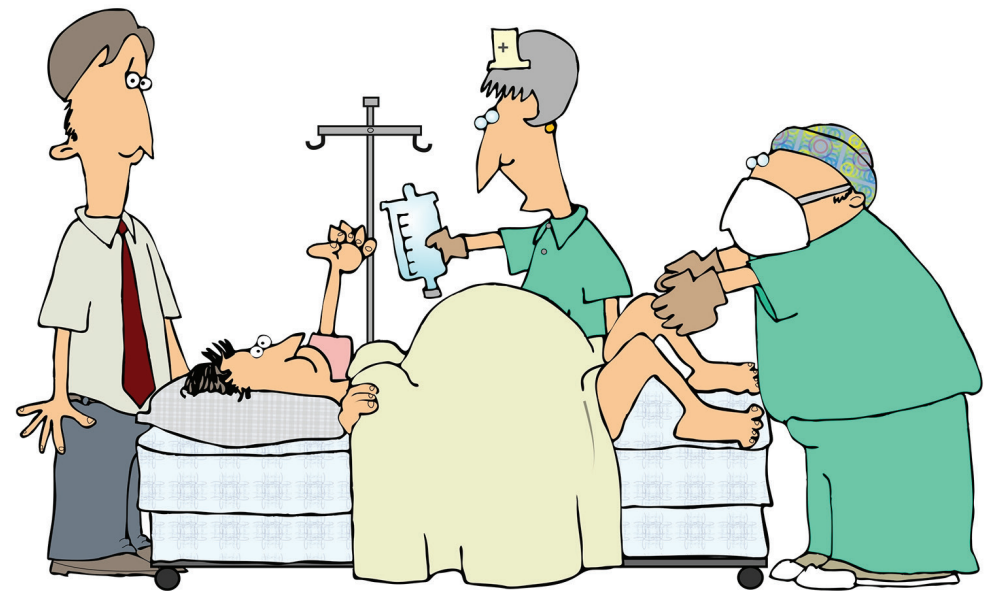
By the way, that warm, soft thing you've been lying on is your mom. Let her rest. She's had a stressful night.

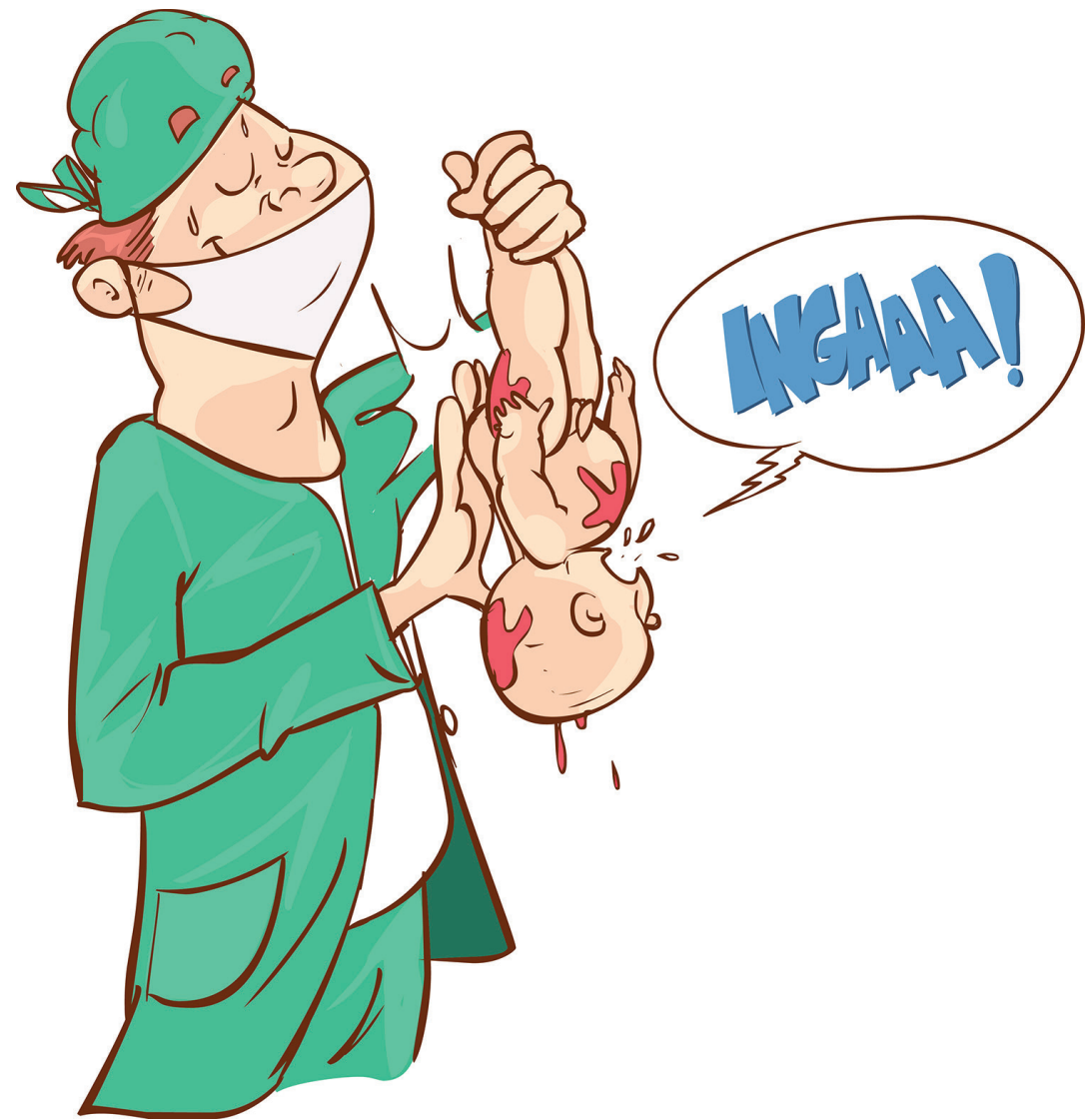
You'll be learning about her later. She will explain a lot of things to you.

But for now, get someone to turn the page for you.

Chapter One

FIRST THINGS FIRST





BREATHE

And breathe again. And again. And again. And again.



SUCK

You may not have noticed, but there's no more umbilical cord. That means the free ride is over.

Luckily, there is an alternative. That 'mom' mentioned earlier was your feedbag -- a handy source of food, energy, protein, vitamins, etc. -- and, she still is, but now you're going to have to go after it.

She is a miraculous fountain of sustenance. What you need to look for is... well, she's probably going to help with this, and you'll probably find three meals a day right in your face. Just clamp down and enjoy.

Sucking is a lot like breathing -- which you mastered on the previous page -- except that instead of air, you've got a deliciously sweet liquid coming in.

And, instead of inhaling into your lungs and then blowing it out, you'll swallow it into your stomach.

(Don't ask where it goes after that or you might lose your appetite. You'll be learning that stuff soon enough.)

CRY

It's just another form of breathing -- only more urgent.

But, it's your most powerful tool. People will come running from all directions. 'Are you hungry?' 'Are you wet?' 'What do you want?'

Until, eventually, it doesn't seem to work any more. But don't give up. Keep crying!

In time, Mom and Dad will do *anything* to stop it.

They'll ply you with goodies to eat. They will take you for a ride. They'll rock you till they drop. It's great fun!





PEE

It's not hard. Just stop *not* peeing.

Just let go. Relax. Enjoy the comforting warmth.

You'll soon discover that peeing provides unlimited entertainment as you watch those around you react, scrambling to get out of the line of fire.

You'll learn about timing -- particularly comic timing. Obviously, the best time to pee is during a diaper change.

Boys will learn about target practice.

Girls will simply tinkle.



SPIT UP

Eventually you're going to get tired of being passed around between grownups who all want to 'hold the baby.'

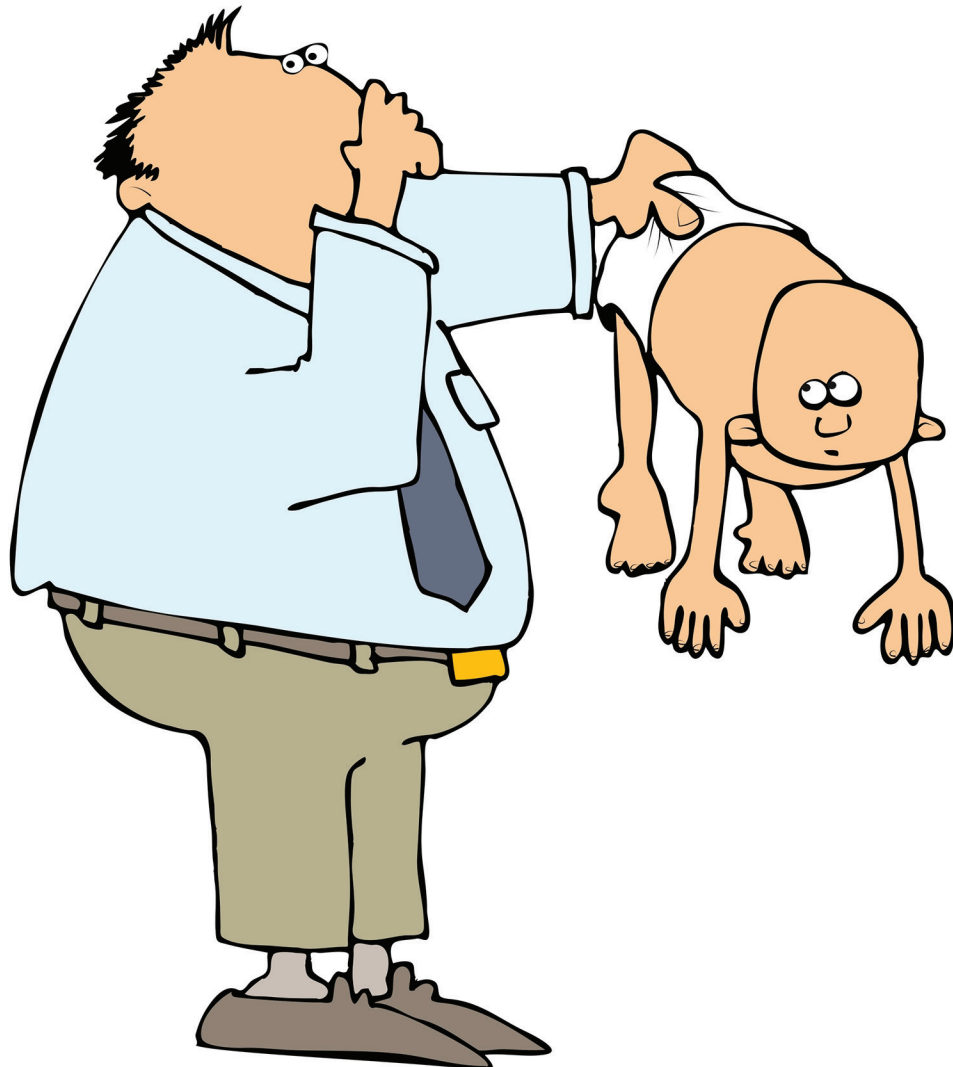
The quickest way to put a stop to that is to spit up -- preferably on someone's dressy outfit. Silk is good. Or cashmere.

Remember, it's about timing, not quantity or distance.

Reactions will range from 'ehhh' to 'horrific,' but oddly enough, no one will blame you. They all know they should have known better.

It's not hard to spit up. It's just one more version of breathing, but this time there's a little bit of whatever you're digesting. That adds color, texture, and aroma to things.

And stains. Enjoy.



Poop

Not your fault, right? It just shows up somehow -- never where you're looking. It's always a surprise.

And it's always changing. Not just in consistency, but in both velocity and bouquet.

Afterwards, you'll feel bouncy and energized. If you'd like to tell the world, but you can't talk, perhaps some special pooping noises will highlight the moment.

In general, an impressive poop will get you a lot of attention, especially from Mom.

Dad, however, will be handing you off to whoever's closest.

The best time to poop is right after you get a fresh diaper, which is pretty often, so if one try doesn't work, don't worry. You'll get another chance soon enough.

And, it doesn't matter where you are -- church, the grocery store, or in the car on a long trip. Just poop away and enjoy.

Luckily, poop is a renewable, never-ending resource. Miraculously, you'll never run out.

Pages 18-77 are not shown in this sample.

What's a baby to do?



Plenty!

But how? There are no directions, no instructions provided to a child at birth. Until now!

This handbook has compiled all that an infant needs to know and made it available in a form no baby can read.

Oh well.