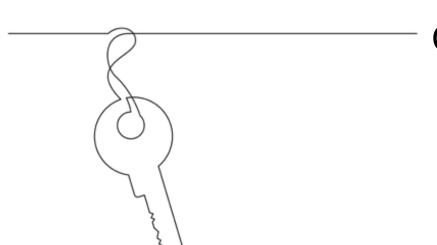


# Conceiving Conception The Workbook

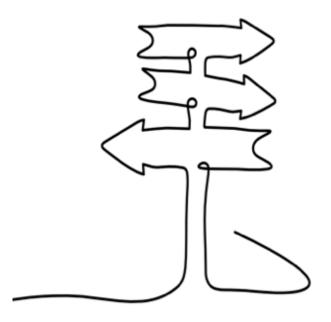
Workbook Resources



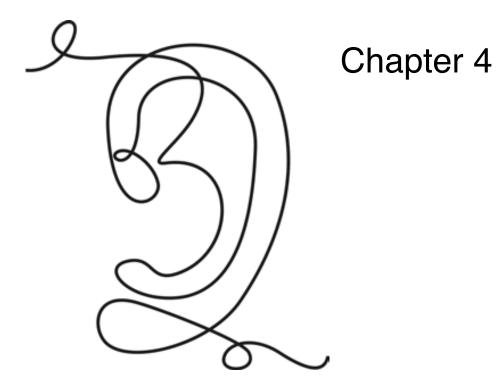
## Exercise 1: Start a gratitude journal

| iotes: |      |  |
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| Εż | xercise 2: The present: Your pregnant self |
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| Yc | our Letter                                 |
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|   |  | ody scan |      |      |      |
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#### My Sensations

| Where? | What did I feel? |
|--------|------------------|
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#### Exercise 2: The mirror

|               | What I love and how that makes me feel  | How do I feel about the parts I think are less desirable? |
|---------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
|               |                                         |                                                           |
|               |                                         |                                                           |
|               |                                         |                                                           |
|               |                                         |                                                           |
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| Ex            | ercise 3: Conversations with your       | womb                                                      |
|               |                                         |                                                           |
| iviy          | womb is                                 |                                                           |
|               |                                         |                                                           |
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|               |                                         |                                                           |
|               |                                         |                                                           |
| \ <b>\</b> /} | nat does she need you to hear?          |                                                           |
| •••           | iat account need you to near :          |                                                           |
|               |                                         |                                                           |
|               |                                         |                                                           |
|               |                                         |                                                           |
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| Exer | cise 4 | : Coni | necting                                 | with yo | our won | nb |                                             |  |
|------|--------|--------|-----------------------------------------|---------|---------|----|---------------------------------------------|--|
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|      |        |        |                                         |         |         |    | <br>                                        |  |

Exercise 5: Period tracking

| Day | Flo | w<br>M-H | ) |   | ergy<br>M-H | ) | Mo<br>(L- | od<br>M-H | ) | Temp | How do<br>you feel? |
|-----|-----|----------|---|---|-------------|---|-----------|-----------|---|------|---------------------|
| 1   | О   | О        | О | О | О           | О | О         | О         | О |      |                     |
| 2   | О   | O        | O | О | O           | O | O         | O         | O |      |                     |
| 3   | О   | О        | О | О | О           | O | О         | О         | О |      |                     |
| 4   | O   | O        | O | О | O           | O | O         | O         | O |      |                     |
| 5   | O   | O        | O | O | O           | O | O         | O         | O |      |                     |
| 6   | O   | O        | O | O | O           | O | O         | O         | O |      |                     |
| 7   | O   | O        | O | О | O           | O | O         | O         | O |      |                     |
| 8   | O   | O        | O | O | O           | O | O         | O         | O |      |                     |
| 9   | O   | O        | O | О | O           | O | О         | O         | O |      |                     |
| 10  | O   | O        | O | О | O           | O | О         | O         | O |      |                     |
| 11  | O   | O        | O | O | O           | O | O         | O         | O |      |                     |
| 12  | O   | O        | O | О | O           | O | O         | O         | O |      |                     |
| 13  | O   | O        | O | О | O           | O | О         | O         | O |      |                     |
| 14  | O   | O        | O | О | O           | O | О         | O         | O |      |                     |
| 15  | O   | O        | O | О | O           | O | О         | O         | O |      |                     |
| 16  | O   | O        | O | O | O           | O | О         | O         | O |      |                     |
| 17  | O   | O        | O | O | O           | O | О         | O         | O |      |                     |
| 18  | O   | O        | O | O | O           | O | О         | O         | O |      |                     |
| 19  | O   | O        | O | O | O           | O | О         | O         | O |      |                     |
| 20  | О   | O        | O | О | O           | O | О         | O         | O |      |                     |
| 21  | О   | O        | O | О | O           | O | О         | O         | O |      |                     |
| 22  | O   | O        | O | О | O           | O | О         | O         | O |      |                     |
| 23  | O   | O        | O | О | O           | O | O         | O         | O |      |                     |
| 24  | O   | O        | O | О | O           | O | О         | O         | O |      |                     |
| 25  | О   | O        | O | О | O           | O | О         | O         | O |      |                     |
| 26  | O   | O        | O | O | O           | O | О         | O         | O |      |                     |
| 27  | O   | O        | O | О | O           | O | О         | O         | O |      |                     |
| 28  | O   | O        | O | О | O           | O | О         | O         | O |      |                     |
| 29  | О   | O        | O | O | O           | O | O         | O         | O |      |                     |
| 30  | О   | O        | O | О | O           | O | О         | O         | O |      |                     |
| 31  | О   | O        | O | О | O           | O | О         | O         | O |      |                     |

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| nat hav | e you lear | ned in th | is chapte | er? | <br> | <br> |
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| ou re welcome to write your thoughts down here in the workbook. |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                 |
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#### Exercise 1: Outcome measures

| I strongly | I somewhat | I feel  | I somewhat | I strongly |
|------------|------------|---------|------------|------------|
| disagree   | disagree   | neutral | agree      | agree      |
| 1          | 2          | 3       | 4          | 5          |

| Statement                                  | Score Today | Review Score<br>(at a later date) |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| When it comes to important                 |             |                                   |
| relationships, I know I can keep them      |             |                                   |
| going.                                     |             |                                   |
| My ability to deal with conflict remains   |             |                                   |
| strong despite the challenges I am         |             |                                   |
| facing.                                    |             |                                   |
| I enjoy seeing my friends and other        |             |                                   |
| social interactions.                       |             |                                   |
| I feel at ease with everything going on    |             |                                   |
| in my life at the moment.                  |             |                                   |
| Everything in my life is going the way     |             |                                   |
| I want it to.                              |             |                                   |
| I prioritise my mental health.             |             |                                   |
| When I consider the future, I feel         |             |                                   |
| optimistic.                                |             |                                   |
| I feel physically fit and well.            |             |                                   |
| I can find joy in life, events and things. |             |                                   |
| I am kind to myself.                       |             |                                   |

## Exercise 2: The assessment

| 1. \       | What brings you to therapy?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| So<br>ma   | When I ask this question, I say nothing else, but just listen to what they have to say. how about you? What made you buy this workbook? Apart from the obvious, what de you buy it now? What's happened? I need you to consider what was the ger to take the step to go through this workbook. |
| 3. \       | What goes through your mind when you feel like this?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>4</b> . | Explore this a little more, and remember: we're not settling for your first answer.                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 5. \       | What physical symptoms do you notice?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 6. (       | Consider how these feelings make you feel physically.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 7.         | How do you cope?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

| inner fertility |
|-----------------|
|                 |
|                 |
|                 |

| 16. L             | et's add some context – what circumstances are particularly difficult?              |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <br>17. V         | Vhat do you do to feel better?                                                      |
| <br>18. T<br>term | The real question here is: does it actually end up making you feel better in the lo |
| <br>19. V         | Vhat makes it feel worse?                                                           |
| <br>20. V         | Vhat things are you doing more or less of because of how you are feeling?           |
|                   | low I'd like to start to understand your fertility story. How long have you been tr |

| How long have you tried naturally?                                                                                                                          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Have you had rounds of IVF?                                                                                                                                 |
| Have you ever been pregnant?                                                                                                                                |
| Have you experienced any miscarriages? You may or may not be aware that miscarriage is an important part of this story. It is, so take your time with this. |
| Have you had a 'biochemical' pregnancy?                                                                                                                     |
| Have you had an ectopic pregnancy?                                                                                                                          |
| Are you currently undergoing treatment?                                                                                                                     |
|                                                                                                                                                             |

| Hav | ve you had treatment in the past?            |
|-----|----------------------------------------------|
| Оо  | you already have any children?               |
|     | – If yes, how was the pregnancy? (in detail) |
|     |                                              |
|     | – How was the birth? (again, I want detail)  |
|     |                                              |
|     | - How have your relationships been affected? |
|     |                                              |

| - What impact has this problem had on your work/family/hobbies/social life? |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                             |
|                                                                             |
|                                                                             |
|                                                                             |
| xercise 3: Quick-fire questions                                             |

#### Е

- 1. Do you have any thoughts/images/impulses or rituals that you can't easily stop?
- 2. Do you try to ignore these or put them out of your mind?
- 3. Are you uncomfortable or embarrassed being at the centre of attention?
- 4. Do you avoid work/social situations where you feel you may be scrutinised?
- 5. Do you worry a lot of the time about a variety of topics?
- 6. Do you worry about worrying?
- 7. Are you afraid of going out of the house, being in crowds or taking public transport?
- 8. Are you overly concerned you might have a serious illness that doctors haven't found?

| Exerci  | se 5: Brief life hi | story and time      | eline         |     |  |
|---------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------|-----|--|
|         |                     |                     |               |     |  |
|         |                     |                     |               |     |  |
|         |                     |                     |               |     |  |
|         |                     |                     |               |     |  |
|         |                     |                     |               |     |  |
|         |                     |                     |               |     |  |
| What w  | as your mother lik  | e?                  |               |     |  |
|         |                     |                     |               |     |  |
|         |                     |                     |               |     |  |
| What d  | o you know about    |                     |               |     |  |
|         |                     |                     |               |     |  |
|         |                     |                     |               |     |  |
|         |                     | ortility biotony? E |               |     |  |
| vvnat w | as your parents' fo | erunty mistory? E   | asy pregnancy | y ! |  |
|         |                     |                     |               |     |  |
|         |                     |                     |               |     |  |

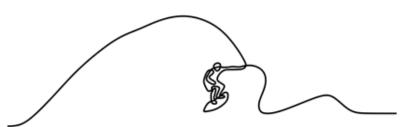
| Difficult delive |                 |                |                |      |  |
|------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|------|--|
| What did you     | see of your mo  | other and fath | er's relations | hip? |  |
| What about a     | ny siblings you | may have?      |                |      |  |
| Where were y     | ou in the order | r of siblings? |                |      |  |
| How did you g    | get on with you | r siblings?    |                |      |  |
|                  |                 |                |                |      |  |

| What was your experience of school like?                         |  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
|                                                                  |  |
|                                                                  |  |
| Did you enjoy school?                                            |  |
|                                                                  |  |
|                                                                  |  |
| What were you like at school?                                    |  |
|                                                                  |  |
|                                                                  |  |
| How was university/college?                                      |  |
|                                                                  |  |
|                                                                  |  |
|                                                                  |  |
| What other people were significant to you during your childhood? |  |
|                                                                  |  |
|                                                                  |  |

#### YOUR TIME-LINE

Fill out your time-line below in the blank spaces with significant events for each stage in your life

| D.O.B     | AGE 1-5   | AGE 5-10  | AGE 10-15 |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| $\forall$ |           |           |           |
|           |           |           |           |
| •         |           |           |           |
|           |           |           |           |
|           |           |           |           |
| <b>†</b>  |           |           |           |
|           |           |           |           |
|           | AGE 15-20 | AGE 20-25 | AGE 25-30 |
|           |           |           |           |
|           |           |           |           |
| ļ         |           |           |           |
|           |           |           |           |
|           |           |           |           |
| <b>†</b>  |           |           |           |
|           |           |           |           |
|           | AGE 30-35 | AGE 35-40 | AGE 40-45 |
|           |           |           |           |
|           |           |           |           |
|           |           |           |           |
|           |           |           |           |
|           |           |           |           |
| •         |           |           |           |
|           |           |           |           |



Tick whichever box you instinctively feel is closest to the 'real' you feel right now:

|                                                                    | Never | Rarely | Sometimes | Often | Very<br>Often |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|-----------|-------|---------------|
| I find it very hard to be<br>at peace with myself and<br>the world |       |        |           |       |               |
| I have problems with<br>my tummy                                   |       |        |           |       |               |
| I have a very short fuse<br>and can quickly become<br>angry        |       |        |           |       |               |
| I have felt light-headed<br>on a few occasions                     |       |        |           |       |               |
| I find it difficult to get<br>to sleep                             |       |        |           |       |               |
| I have feelings of being overwhelmed                               |       |        |           |       |               |
| I have feelings of<br>nervous tension                              |       |        |           |       |               |
| I have feelings of dread                                           |       |        |           |       |               |
| I have had shaking<br>hands                                        |       |        |           |       |               |
| I am always worrying                                               |       |        |           |       |               |

## Exercise 1: Childhood memory

| How do you think you will feel when you are pregnant?                                     |    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
|                                                                                           |    |
| How do you think you will look when you're pregnant?                                      |    |
|                                                                                           |    |
| What do you think your own labour and childbirth will be like?                            |    |
|                                                                                           |    |
| Do you have nightmares about the birth?                                                   |    |
|                                                                                           |    |
| Are you unable to feel the joy of pregnancy as your thoughts are preoccupied by th birth? | ıe |
|                                                                                           |    |

| ? |
|---|
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|   |

| Do you feel afraid that you m    |                         | omes?          |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|
|                                  |                         |                |
|                                  |                         |                |
| Is your fear affecting your rela |                         |                |
|                                  |                         |                |
|                                  |                         |                |
| Is it interfering with your diet | or physical activities? |                |
|                                  |                         |                |
|                                  |                         |                |
| Does it affect your work or yo   | our sleep?              |                |
|                                  |                         |                |
|                                  |                         |                |
|                                  |                         |                |
| Control                          |                         |                |
|                                  | Things I CAN            | Things I CAN'T |
|                                  | control                 | control        |

I CHOOSE TO ACT

I CHOOSE NOT TO

ACT

#### Exercise 2: Your matrix of control

| Γŀ | nings I can control   |
|----|-----------------------|
|    |                       |
|    |                       |
|    |                       |
|    |                       |
|    |                       |
|    |                       |
|    |                       |
|    |                       |
|    |                       |
| Γŀ | nings I can't control |
|    |                       |
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## Exercise 6: Journaling

## Journal

| Date:   |                                           |                        |
|---------|-------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| He      | ow was my sleep?                          | Poor - OK - Good       |
| He      | ow many hours did I sleep for?            | 6 - 7 - 8 - 9 - 10     |
| W       | hat is my energy level like?              | Poor - OK - Good       |
| He      | ow do I feel my concentration ability is? | Poor - OK - Good       |
| He      | ow have I been eating?                    | Poor - OK - Good       |
| Ha      | ave I kept myself hydrated?               | Poor - OK - Good       |
| He      | ow do I feel overall?                     | Low – OK – Upbeat      |
| Pl      | ease consider the following statements:   |                        |
| 1.      | What am I feeling?                        |                        |
| 2.      | What is my feeling temperature? How d     | o I feel from 1 to 10? |
|         | (10 being anxious, 1 being calm)          |                        |
| 3.      | What am I thinking?                       |                        |
| 4.      | What's the proof that it will happen?     |                        |
| 5.      | What's the proof that it won't happen?    |                        |
| 6.      | So what if it happens?                    |                        |
| 7.      | How can I deal with it?                   |                        |
| 8.      | What can I say and do to help me get th   | rough this?            |
| 9.      | What's my feeling temperature now?        |                        |
| Now lis | st three things you're grateful for:      |                        |
| 1.      |                                           |                        |
| 2.      |                                           |                        |
| 3.      |                                           |                        |
| Now lis | st two people you're grateful for:        |                        |
| 1.      |                                           |                        |
| 2       |                                           |                        |



| So what do you see here?                                |  |
|---------------------------------------------------------|--|
|                                                         |  |
|                                                         |  |
|                                                         |  |
|                                                         |  |
| Exercise 1: The sinking ship                            |  |
| Sowho gets the seat?                                    |  |
|                                                         |  |
| Now, what did you notice? Write your observations here. |  |
|                                                         |  |
|                                                         |  |

| No  | w, what did you notice? Write your observations here. |
|-----|-------------------------------------------------------|
|     |                                                       |
|     |                                                       |
|     |                                                       |
|     |                                                       |
|     |                                                       |
|     |                                                       |
| Ex  | ercise 2: Into the shadows                            |
|     |                                                       |
| No  | w, what did you notice? Write your thoughts here.     |
|     |                                                       |
|     |                                                       |
|     |                                                       |
|     |                                                       |
|     |                                                       |
|     |                                                       |
| A / |                                                       |
| vvr | ite your answers here.                                |
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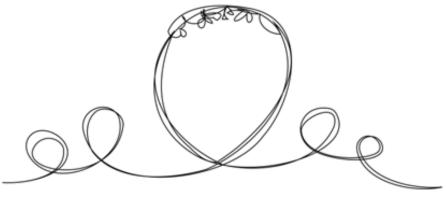
#### Exercise 3: The Cube Test

| Cı | ube - Write your answers here.   |
|----|----------------------------------|
|    |                                  |
|    |                                  |
|    |                                  |
|    |                                  |
|    |                                  |
| La | adder - Write your answers here. |
|    |                                  |
|    |                                  |
|    |                                  |
|    |                                  |
|    | \A\ldots                         |
| H  | orse - Write your answers here.  |
|    |                                  |
|    |                                  |
|    |                                  |
|    |                                  |
|    |                                  |

| Flo | owers - Write your answers here.        |
|-----|-----------------------------------------|
|     |                                         |
|     |                                         |
|     |                                         |
|     |                                         |
|     |                                         |
| St  | orm - Write your answers here.          |
|     |                                         |
|     |                                         |
|     |                                         |
|     |                                         |
|     |                                         |
| Сι  | ube - Write your interpretations here.  |
|     |                                         |
|     |                                         |
|     |                                         |
|     |                                         |
|     |                                         |
|     |                                         |
| La  | dder - Write your interpretations here. |
|     |                                         |
|     |                                         |
|     |                                         |
|     |                                         |

| Horse  | - Write your interpretations here.     |
|--------|----------------------------------------|
|        |                                        |
|        |                                        |
|        |                                        |
|        |                                        |
|        |                                        |
| Elowo  | ers - Write your interpretations here. |
| i iowe | ris - write your interpretations here. |
|        |                                        |
|        |                                        |
|        |                                        |
|        |                                        |
|        |                                        |
| Storm  | - Write your interpretations here.     |
|        |                                        |
|        |                                        |
|        |                                        |
|        |                                        |
|        |                                        |





## Exercise 1: Identifying your emotional state

| No | ote five emotions that match your current emotional state here. |
|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1  |                                                                 |
|    |                                                                 |
|    |                                                                 |
| 2  |                                                                 |
|    |                                                                 |
| 3  |                                                                 |
|    |                                                                 |
| 4  |                                                                 |
|    |                                                                 |
|    |                                                                 |
| 5  |                                                                 |
|    |                                                                 |

| Now note down the five active emotions that match your emotional state right her moment.  1 |  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| 2                                                                                           |  |
| 2                                                                                           |  |
| 3                                                                                           |  |
| 4                                                                                           |  |
|                                                                                             |  |
| 5                                                                                           |  |
|                                                                                             |  |

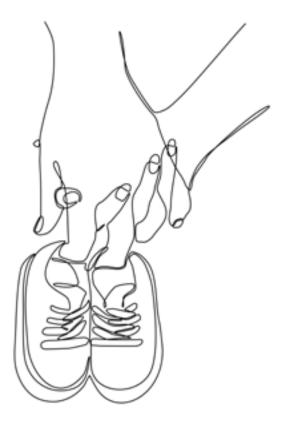
| 1 |  |
|---|--|
|   |  |
| 2 |  |
|   |  |
| 3 |  |
|   |  |
| 4 |  |
|   |  |
| 5 |  |
|   |  |

How do you feel?

|    | cercise 3: Breathing: 4–7–8 hat do you notice? |
|----|------------------------------------------------|
|    |                                                |
|    |                                                |
|    |                                                |
|    |                                                |
|    |                                                |
| Ex | cercise 4: Compassion                          |
| Wı | rite here                                      |
|    |                                                |
|    |                                                |
|    |                                                |
|    |                                                |
|    |                                                |
| Wı | rite here                                      |
|    |                                                |
|    |                                                |
|    |                                                |
|    |                                                |

# Exercise 5: Conscious compassion

| When you have finished this exercise, you may want to take some notes about how this felt for you. |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                    |
|                                                                                                    |
|                                                                                                    |
|                                                                                                    |
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|                                                                                                    |
|                                                                                                    |
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|                                                                                                    |
|                                                                                                    |



|   | si siep |      |      |      |      |         |
|---|---------|------|------|------|------|---------|
| • |         | <br> | <br> | <br> | <br> | <br>    |
| • |         | <br> | <br> | <br> | <br> | <br>••• |
|   |         |      |      |      |      |         |
| • |         | <br> | <br> | <br> | <br> | <br>••• |
|   |         | <br> | <br> | <br> | <br> | <br>    |
|   |         |      |      |      |      |         |
| • |         |      |      |      |      |         |
|   |         | <br> | <br> | <br> | <br> | <br>    |
|   |         | <br> | <br> | <br> | <br> | <br>    |
|   |         |      |      |      |      |         |

#### Exercise 1: Timeline

## Exercise 2: Saying goodbye

| Goodbye     | letter                                  |   |      |  |
|-------------|-----------------------------------------|---|------|--|
| To          |                                         |   |      |  |
| I am sayiı  | ng goodbye because                      |   |      |  |
|             |                                         |   | <br> |  |
|             |                                         |   | <br> |  |
|             |                                         |   | <br> |  |
|             |                                         |   |      |  |
| Saving go   | oodbye makes me fee                     | a |      |  |
|             | , o a o , o , o , o , o , o , o , o , o | • |      |  |
| •••••       |                                         |   | <br> |  |
|             |                                         |   | <br> |  |
| Somethin    | g I want you to know                    |   |      |  |
|             |                                         |   | <br> |  |
| I will alwa | ys remember                             |   |      |  |
|             |                                         |   | <br> |  |
|             |                                         |   | <br> |  |
|             |                                         |   | <br> |  |
| _           |                                         |   |      |  |

| E | xercise 3: Miscarriage           |
|---|----------------------------------|
|   |                                  |
|   |                                  |
|   |                                  |
|   |                                  |
|   |                                  |
|   |                                  |
|   |                                  |
|   |                                  |
|   |                                  |
| E | xercise 4: Speaking to your baby |
|   |                                  |
|   |                                  |
|   |                                  |
|   |                                  |
|   |                                  |
|   |                                  |
|   |                                  |

#### Journal

| Date:    |                                                       |                      |  |  |  |  |
|----------|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Ho       | w was my sleep?                                       | Poor - OK - Good     |  |  |  |  |
| Ho       | w many hours did I sleep for?                         | 6 - 7 - 8 - 9 - 10   |  |  |  |  |
| Wl       | hat is my energy level like?                          | Poor - OK - Good     |  |  |  |  |
| Ho       | w do I feel my concentration ability is?              | Poor - OK - Good     |  |  |  |  |
| Ho       | w have I been eating?                                 | Poor - OK - Good     |  |  |  |  |
| Ha       | ve I kept myself hydrated?                            | Poor - OK - Good     |  |  |  |  |
| Ho       | w do I feel overall?                                  | Low – OK – Upbeat    |  |  |  |  |
| D/       |                                                       |                      |  |  |  |  |
|          | ease consider the following statements:               |                      |  |  |  |  |
|          | 1. What am I feeling?                                 |                      |  |  |  |  |
| 2.       | What is my feeling temperature? How do                | I feel from 1 to 10? |  |  |  |  |
|          | (10 being anxious, 1 being calm)                      |                      |  |  |  |  |
|          | 3. What am I thinking?                                |                      |  |  |  |  |
|          | 4. What's the proof that it will happen?              |                      |  |  |  |  |
|          | 5. What's the proof that it won't happen?             |                      |  |  |  |  |
|          | 6. So what if it happens?                             |                      |  |  |  |  |
| 7.       | 7. How can I deal with it?                            |                      |  |  |  |  |
|          | 8. What can I say and do to help me get through this? |                      |  |  |  |  |
| 9.       | <ol><li>What's my feeling temperature now?</li></ol>  |                      |  |  |  |  |
| Now list | t three things you're grateful for:                   |                      |  |  |  |  |
|          |                                                       |                      |  |  |  |  |
|          | 2                                                     |                      |  |  |  |  |
|          |                                                       |                      |  |  |  |  |
|          |                                                       |                      |  |  |  |  |
| Now list | t two people you're grateful for:                     |                      |  |  |  |  |
| 1.       | 1                                                     |                      |  |  |  |  |
| 2.       | 2                                                     |                      |  |  |  |  |