



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	1
CHAPTER ONE:	
Is Adoption Right for You	3
The Role of Control in Adoption	8
The Role of Fear in Adoption	9
Communication	10
Adoption Sabotage	11
CHAPTER TWO:	
What Type of Adoption Works Best for You	13
Domestic v. International Adoption	13
Domestic: Independent v. Fost-Adopt	14
Domestic: Independent v. Agency	15
Clarifying Your Adoption Criteria	16
CHAPTER THREE:	
What Professionals Should You Hire	18
Information Gathering	20
Agencies, Attorneys and Facilitators	21
Agencies	21
Attorneys	23
Facilitators	27
Discuss, Decide, Know and Understand	30
Working with Your Professionals	30
Home Studies	34
CHAPTER FOUR:	
Birthmothers and Making an Adoption Plan	36
Finding Your Birthmother	36
Making a Match	39
Working with Your Birthmother	40
Expenses and Money Management	41
"Red Flags"	42
Developing a Positive Relationship	
with Your Birthmother	42
Contact with Your Birthmother	44
Second Thoughts	46
Family Support	46
At the Hospital	47
Birthfathers	48
Scammers	48
Failed Adoption Plans	51
Conclusion	53
About the Authors	54