

"Silence would have been better..."

NOT ALL BABIES COME HOME

BREYANA SEGURA

She sat there that April morning thinking that, although she was carrying a child inside of her, she didn't have that 'feeling.'

It was on a beautiful spring day that the gender of the growing child she had been carrying for 18 weeks would be revealed.

Instead, Laura Rodriguez' world was turned upside down that day.

"I remember I had this horrible feeling while I was getting dressed," she explained. "I was looking in the mirror and had to tell myself that I needed to accept myself as a pregnant person. But I couldn't; even though it was a reality."

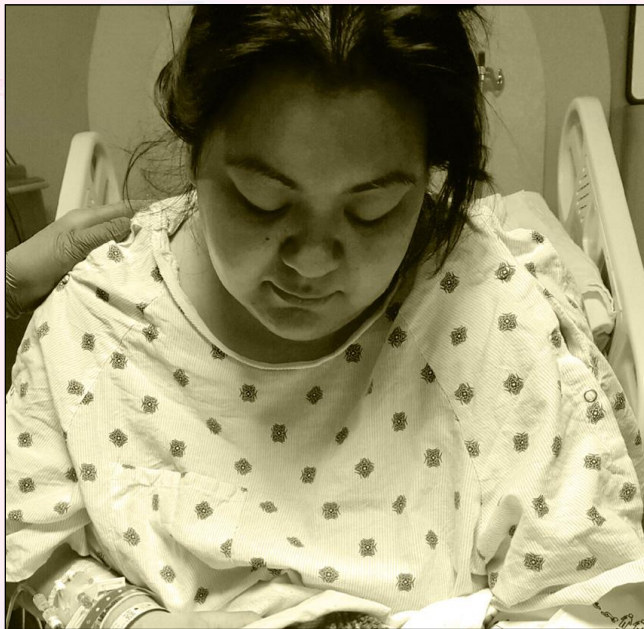
Laura describes the resistance to accept her pregnancy as guarded.

"I just didn't have that feeling, it is not that I didn't want that, I just didn't have it. And I knew this wasn't normal."

The new mom was elated when she found out she was expecting as pre-existing health conditions deemed her as high-risk.

Weekly appointments were necessary to ensure the health of both baby and mom. Anticipation was high as she was eager to ease her gut feeling and well, a trip to Babies-R-Us was on the agenda after identifying the gender.

The newly-expectant mother had recently publicly announced her pregnancy and was trying to update social media by checking in.



It wouldn't let her.

"I look back and that should have been another sign."

As she laid on the cold bed in the doctor's office, a cheery nurse came in and used the fetal Doppler.

In came another nurse.

Then another, whose staff referred to as the 'doppler whisperer.'

"They dug so hard they picked up my heartbeat."

An emergency sonogram was ordered, and Laura knew something was wrong the moment her doctor placed the wand on her stomach and did not move it.

"Here is your baby," the doctor quietly said. "And right here is where his heart beat should be and it's not there."

Laura was sent home, the place she was preparing to raise her son, to wait.

Waiting for four days. Alone.

"I didn't have anyone to talk to; I didn't know anyone, I mean miscarriages are not talked about."

On Monday, a final rescan, confirmed Thursday's results and she was told she would have to deliver the baby or let her body naturally go into labor.

Adamant she was not going back to her home, a home that she was preparing to raise her son in, with him no longer alive inside of her.

Laura delivered Elijah Ray Rodriguez on Tuesday, April 12,