

Dear Chris,

I wanted to take the opportunity to wish you a Happy New Year, and thank you once again for finding my husband's birthfamily.

I don't know if you remember my husband, but he was the one who said he "didn't care whether you found his birthmom or not."

Well, since then, the reunion has been going positively. It is not a storybook reunion in that his birthmom is still struggling with many painful memories and issues. But she sent him a Christmas card that said how blessed she felt to have been found.

She was also able to give us enough information to find his birthfather. He at first said he did not want a reunion, but gave us medical background. Since then, (September) he has written twice. So his situation is progressing slowly, but positively.

I too, feel blessed to have hired you. The counseling session you gave us for my husband's birthmom - and the help you gave me about what to say to the birthfather made all the difference in the world.

That's what unique about you, Chris. You don't just "find" for people. You care enough to follow up with the counseling session telling people what to expect, what to say, etc.

I can't tell you how positively finding my husband's birthparents has been to his life. His whole attitude toward life has just been moved up a notch. And I have you to thank for that!

BS NYS

Hi Chris,

Hope you are having a wonderful holiday. T is going through some tough times. We had an incredible one day meeting with his birthmother and now she is telling us that she never had a son. Its so hard. The good news is that he has connected with his Uncle in Indiana and speaks with him on a weekly basis. Seems like his birthmother has not had much contact with most of her family. In anycase, its so good to have the truth at last. T keeps talking about calling you. I'm sure he will soon. Take care.

Thanks again.

ML Calif



Thank you! I wish you the same! I know you are curious. I have not yet contacted my birthson, preferring to wait until after the Holidays are over and there is less intensity for everyone. I want to be calm and collected and focused when I make my approach. My objective is to create connection and happiness, not to cause unnecessary pain for anyone. It has been hard to wait, knowing where he is and how to get in touch with him, but I think it will turn out to have been wise. As soon as I make contact, I will let you know how it went. We can celebrate or commiserate together! Keep up your very good and worthy work.

MT - NC



Chris,

This is letting you know that I owe you my life! I met my daughter yesterday, and everything went GREAT! She is beautiful! I also a healthy Grandson! The first thing he did was smile at me! He is such a happy kid!

As for my daughter, she told me she had been looking for me too. She had been to Social Services, wrote them letters and they wouldn't tell her a thing! She asked me lots of questions about how I found her, and I was honest! I told her about you and she is grateful.

I stayed down at her house until around 6pm lastnight, and she wants me back down there

around lunch today! Guess that's where I'll be heading around that time! Question- At this point is there such a thing as "wearing out your welcome"? \*smile\*

I sure hope not! At this point I'm just being that "Mom" figure that I've never been! I will write more later..... just wanted to say thanks for now!

"THANKS CHRIS. You have made my DREAM come true! I love you!!

\*Smile\*  
LM NC



Dear Chris,

I have good news, I sent the a-mom a xmas present, she in turn sent me a thankful note & gave me the biggest surprise of my life. She & I are going to tell my daughter about me. I'm so happy & I pray everything will turnout good.

Also she is letting me send a birthday present for her birthday on Jan.14. C will be 39. I went overboard on gifts, but I know you can understand why. C is doing better now again & I have sent them medical history of our family. Her adoptive mother promised me that I would be able to see C this summer as long as I have a meeting with her before I see C, naturally I told her yes.

Again I want to thank you, finding my daughter on Aug.10, 99 made 99 a very special year. My (2) other children also are beginning to accept C and my family is just thrilled for both of us. You are my angel, thank you again.

May God bless & keep you and your loving family safe. I will keep you in my prayers & I'm sure you will do the same.

AS NYS

Dear KI,

Happy New Year to you. I'm sorry I haven't dropped you a line--but wanted you to know that all has worked out well in finding my birth mother.

She was very receptive when I phoned her and we are making plans to meet.

Thanks again to Kinsolving for making this find possible. I never would have found her on my own--Thanks and God Bless--

LM - NYS



Hello Chris & co...

Happy New Year to all of you too!

I thought I'd let you know that you've done a fair amount toward making my year a good one. My reunion w/birthmom has been a wonderfully positive and healing experience for both of us. We're in the process of building a relationship that we believe will last for the remainder of our lives. I've also gained two half-brothers and a grandfather on the maternal side.

With bmom's help, I've also found and been in contact with the family of my birthfather. I was sad to learn that he'd passed away eight years ago, but the good news is that he had a close family and four other children who had been looking for me since they learned of my existence shortly after his death.

We are planning to meet this week for the first time, and they sound as excited as I am.

Thank you, Chris. You've contributed toward making this a marvellous year.

DD NYC

reunited w/birthmom by phone 9/10/00

reunited in person 11/4/00

welcomed by deceased bdad's kids 12/23/00

Dear Kinsolving,

Thank you for your New Year wishes. I have been meaning to write to you and let you know what has happened since you found my "birthson". It has turned out to be everything I could have wished for. We have been in touch almost on a weekly basis, mostly through email, but have written and spoken on the phone as well. He has been completely receptive to wanting to have a relationship with both (his birthfather) and myself. As you may know, his birthfather and I have been reunited since last February and have plans to be married late this year. It just makes the entire scenario that much more special. My birthson and I plan to meet for the first time in a couple of weeks. I will be in Atlanta for a business meeting and will stay over for a few days so we can get together. His plans are to drive to Atlanta.

Needless to say I am at a loss for words to describe my feelings about this.

We have exchanged pictures and he looks just like both of us and a little like my father as well. Interesting to note that his wife is also adopted and was very interested in how I found. This has now prompted her to want to know more about her birthparents. I did tell them that Kinsolving was the organization that helped me find and I hope that was the appropriate thing to do.

I realize not all cases turn out as happy as this one has so far. It is with much appreciation and gratitude I have for you for making this dream a reality. I will be more than happy to keep you posted on the continuation of this reunion. I have been truly blessed and I thank you.

CS - GA

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Chris,

Thank you for the New Year well wishes! We had the most incredible holidays (Thanksgiving Day and Dec. 23rd) with my birthson and his entire family. It was so beautiful. I feel so blessed to have them in my life.

His a-mom is a great woman and she has totally accepted me in his life. We talk via email all the time.

I trust that your holidays have been joyous and you are very busy finding "lost" persons. I have started a long article about my search and reunion but haven't had time to complete it for you - but I will.

God bless you and the work you do,  
JF - PA



Dont know if I told you or not, but I found my birth father just by coincidence a few months ago. We met in NY in Nov. This has definitely been a whirlwind experience for me..thanks to you!

Sincerely,  
JM - TX - NYC



Dear Kinsolving,

Just a line to let you know a contact was made between my birthdaughter and I and all is well. I've met her, her family, etc.

She did indicate that she looked for my through the New York State registry and we were never connected.

Thanks so much for everything and I finally have peace in my heart and she's thankful to know that I was looking for her. HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OF YOU.

CS - NYS

Dear Chris,

Happy New year to you.... I can't believe it's been 14 months now since I found mom.

So much has happened in this past year..

Mom and I are pretty close,, except for the part of her trying to play mother,, I'm enjoying it. But,, she preaches to me in a gentle way and it's somehow comforting. She got me a beautiful necklace with the mother and child on it for Christmas.. I swear I'll never take it off.. My adoptive mother and I have called it total Quits.. She made it perfectly clear around Thanksgiving time that she really didn't want anything to do with me any longer. Bmom thinks it's because of my childhood and she's running from the truth that might come back to haunt her.

I lost one of my best friends this past Sept due to Kidney cancer,, and I have recently decided to end my Ten year marriage... Alot of life altering experiences have been going on for me... But,, I'm feeling so much more like I really know what I want in this world. And I am no longer wondering what makes me happy.. My inner being is at peace finally... I guess maybe you would say the soul has found happiness...

I hope this year brings you many happy moments and you bring together a ton of people who need to be reunited more than they know...

Thanks again Chris,, you will always be an angel to me,

DS - NY



Dear Chris,

My relationship with my birth mother has been an interesting one to say the least. We get along very nicely and I happen to like her very much. However she has still not told her husband about me and probably never will. She is absolutely petrified of this and I am respecting her privacy regarding him.

Because of this we only speak when she is at work. She initiates calls as often as I do, and she seems to be a warm caring person, however to date she still refers to herself by her name when she calls me, and although she asks about my wife and kids

she has never made any attempt to get to know them. In fact she has never spoken to the children at all. I find that pathetic as they are her grandchildren and we are her only living blood relatives.

We are planning to go out to California in April for a vacation and we will be spending some time with her, how much is uncertain as she will continue her deception from her husband.

It's alot better than not knowing, and progress is being made but there is obviouly a very long way to go.

She has given me information about my biological father, there is a good chance that he is deceased, I would however like to find him if alive or his sons who would be my half brothers. I will be contacting you hopefully in the near future though to pursue that search.

Best regards and a Happy and Healthy New Year to you and your family.

BS - NYC

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All is well with me (and my birthmom). I spent Christmas day with her and her brother's and sister's family (my new Aunt & Uncle). Despite never having spent Christmas with them in 30 years, I felt like a natural part of the clan. They continue to welcome me and my fiancee in all things family-related. Thank you so much for giving me the gift of a lifetime. It is because I found my birth Mom that I've been able to feel more centered in my life and capable of saying "I do" this June.

BG - NY



Kinsolving,

Well, you asked so I'll have to say "not good." I wrote to my birth mother twice since receiving information about her. I received no reply. Since she's in a nursing home in North Carolina, or was, and I'm in California, it is hard to imagine how to make contact.

I have no idea how to make it happen.

Thanks,

NG - NC



Hi Chris,

Well I wish there was something to report but I haven't decided on whether I wish to attempt any contact. I have the number but for some reason I find it troublesome to make the call. If the situation were reversed, meaning a call would be made to me, I would find it much easier to accept. If anything changes I will let you know.

HB - SC



Dear Chris,

Thank you so much for everything. Things are going very well on my end. I have been corresponding via e-mail with my birthfamily for the past few months and we are getting to know each other and all about each other's pasts, important people in our lives, etc. It has been a truly wonderful experience and worth all of the time I put into this through the years and what you all did, most especially!

I feel we are getting to be good friends and it's like it was always supposed to be this way.

CW - NY

Chris,

It has been about 15 months since you provided me with the identity of my birth Mother.

This past year my adoptive Father died and I had to place my adoptive Mother in a nursing home.

I contacted my birthmother back in May, the call was short. I was very nervous and talked very fast. Even though I identified myself I am not certain that she made the connection. Since that day I have not had the "courage" to contact her again. I think of her every day and get very close to contacting her again but can not pick up the phone.

Grateful for your help,

JP - GA



Chris---

You found my birth father for me early last summer. I'm 51 years old.

My birth father, still lives in Ohio and I was living in Florida. He and his family were in Florida on vacation in July. So my husband and I met him, his wife, and their daughter at a restaurant halfway between his vacation spot and my home.

It was a good experience, mostly because I feel like a great mystery has been solved. I no longer wonder about all the questions that have passed through my mind over the last 51 years.

The big disappointment was when I asked him if he had ever thought about me over the last 51 years or even wondered if I was a girl or a boy. He replied, "No, not really." At least he was honest! But that was disappointing.

His wife is very nice. And his daughter is wonderful (she's about 27).

Both were so warm and welcomed me as part of their family! And his mother is still living. He told her about me, and I have since talked to her on the phone. Her Christmas card to me was signed "Your Other Grandmother in Ohio."

So...we're not a "family" but, then, that's not what I was looking for.

I was always afraid that if I ever did decide to look for my birth father, I'd discover that I'd waited too long and find he'd passed away. Or maybe that he'd been looking for me all these years and we'd wasted time not knowing each other.

Anyway, this isn't exactly made-for-TV movie material, but I'm pleased.

CK - OH



Kinsolving,

Your service was wonderful in finding my birthmother so quickly as I had no information hardly to go by. Your cost was VERY resonable and fair in your practices of collecting the money. Your data was so thorough I couldn't believe all of the kinfolk you found besides my birthmother.

I, with the help of my husband to make the initial call, have not been able to reach her. I believe she works odd hours and we are trying at the wrong time. I want to contact her when my 2 kiddos are not around. I think I may now try writing her a letter. If I could ask for your advice as how to best going about contacting her. However since we are having trouble catching her at home, i was thinking of writing a letter myself. In all of your experience with this step what can you recommend for me?

When you first located her I was going thru some difficult times which I have now resolved thru counseling. Some of my problems had to do with finding her and filling in a big hole I felt. I am now at a point where I can emotionally face whatever comes out of this good or bad, because I don't know how she feels,who she's told...on and on.

I want her to know, I want nothing from her but to make contact and say HI! make sure she knows I'm not looking for a replacement Mom just some connection if she wants it. If she dosen't want to face this or deal with it...I'm emotionally prepared.

I feel good with just the information I got from ya'll. Ya'll provide such a wonderful and helpful service for those like me and for Birthmothers looking for their children I say, hats off to you and your organization for all you do for people searching. It's very hard to do it yourself...I tried before finding you. You were God sent and I thank Him for that.

I'll report more when we actually do make contact. Again, thank you from the bottom of my heart. Just finding out she was still living and all of the information you supplied me with made a large portion of that missing and wondering go away. I tell anyone I know who is in the same situation about your service and will continue to. Thank you again. I can't express my gratitude.

Sincerely,  
AJ - LA

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Chris,

Things are going beautifully! I have the best birthmother you could ask for, so even with the disappointing birthfather news (DOD 1983), I'm still very lucky. I became pregnant with twins this year also, so knowing my birthmother at this time has been such a "circular" experience, as that is when she last knew me. As you know she never married, so for her to come into this "instant family" with grandchildren has been a real miracle for her. And for me to. I'll keep you posted on contacting the half-sister that I have in Rhode Island. Any pointers on that would be helpful.

Happy New Year to you and all the best in 2001.

MO NY

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Dear Chris and everyone at Kinsolving,

A very happy New Year to you too. I did send you a Christmas card that kind of updates my reunion but I will fill you in on the latest. This time last year I had just received the information about my birthmother but had not gotten up the nerve to call her yet. Last year you gave me the most wonderful Christmas present...the information about my birthmother and some of her family.

This Christmas I got to say Merry Christmas to her via the phone. This has been the most amazing year of my life. I called my birthmother, at 11am on Feb 17, 1999. I used your wonderful phone script. When I asked her if it was a good time to talk, she said

"no." Her mother was on the phone. I panicked for a moment. That would be my grandmother! I followed your words of advise and asked when a good time to call back would be. She wanted to know what this had to do with and I said that it was personal and when a good time to call her back would be. She said that I had to give her a hint, that I couldn't say that I had something personal to talk about and then hang up. Well... how could I give her a "hint" about what I was going to tell her? I didn't know what to do at that point. I started to hang up but my guardian angel gave me a bug push from behind and told me that if I didn't tell her right then, I would never call her back. I repeated my name and where I was calling from and then gave my birth name, where and when I was born. She paused for a long time and asked me to hold on. She hung up on her Mother and changed phones. She said, "If you are my child...this is the most wonderful..." Well we talked for hours.

After we hung up, my husband came home. While I was telling him everything my grandmother called!! met my birth mother 2 weeks later and then went to her house in April. I met my half sister, her daughter, 3 younger half brothers, their wives and children, a half uncle and his daughters and my grandmother. I still have more to meet, but this has been so much to absorb. In June, N found out that my birth father had passed away 2 years ago. He had 3 other daughters and 2 sons. I have not made contact with them yet, but my birthmom has. Here is another funny story:

She was in the local Walmart in August and noticed that the person behind her had lots of cold medicine. Being a retired nurse, she asked if someone was sick or if they were getting ready for the winter. The young woman said that the pharmacy in her town had closed and that she was stocking up. She asked where she was from. She was from the town that my grandmother lives in. So she asked her who her family was. She told her and well that is my birth father. This was my youngest half sister. My birthmom asked if she could call her later and she called her that night. She had no idea about me. We have not contacted each other, but 2001 it will happen.

The daughter of my oldest half brother is attending the same university that I graduated from. She is majoring in music, like I did; she plays the flute, like I do; and she is taking from the same flute teacher that I had in grad school. Now is that a strange, small world? She and I have become pretty close through the wonder of email and instant messages. Her father, my half brother, plays the tuba and her younger sister also plays the tuba and their mother plays the flute.

My birth mother played the clarinet. I love knowing where my musical talent came from.

I talk to her at least once a month. She and her new husband have welcomed my husband and me into their family with open arms. We are so lucky that we all get

along. She loves to video tape events and so she has been sending me lots of tapes of family events. We have been sending tapes to each other. I am waiting for her tape of Thanksgiving and Christmas. My 3 half brothers are clowns and I can't wait to see what they had to say on Christmas day. I talked to my birthmom 3 times on Christmas. We are both talkers. Her mother says that she and I are the most alike of all the children. It is so strange to hear that I am like anyone. Well how can I ever thank you enough for making this all happen. My grandmother and my birth mother have suffered for many years.

I feel that they are beginning to heal. None of this would have happened without you. Thank you so much. So here's to a wonderful 2001. May you reunite many more people. Wishing you happiness, joy and many blessings. -

JD - VA



Hope you had a great holiday and have a wonderful year!

Thanks again for your quick service in finding my birth relatives.

:)

CD - NC



Kinsolving,

Thank you for your e-mail. Unfortunately, I have not met my bson as he has refused to have anything to do with me (by way of the Ontario's Adoption Disclosure Registry). They were going to tell him a few personal items about me like my first name but he refused even that information.

I have by way of suggestions of my Parent Finders found the home where he lived most of his life and walked around and figured out which high school he attended. I have last month found a high school picture of him, and found he looks like me.

At least I now know what he looked like in high school.

Thanks you for your concern.

I will e-mail you a picture of him and then one of me you might see that we look alike.

EA, Canada



Chris,

Things are wonderful! I have a wonderful relationship w/my birthmom. After our reunion, she called me every day for for about 4 months. We now talk once a week. She has been to visit me 2 times and I have been to Florida 2 times as well,. She is married to my birthfather and I have 2 younger brothers. It has been quite an experience. She came here first (2 weeks after I made the call) to meet me, my husband and 2 children. Then she flew me to Florida a few months later to meet my brothers and Father. He works in China and was home for the holidays. A few months later, she flew my whole family to Florida to have my brothers meet my husband and my children. My Father had already returned to China, and was not able to meet them then.

In May my Mother came once again for her grandchildren's birthday and to meet my in-laws for the 1st time. Then, finally.....this December....on his way home to Florida from China, by birthfather stopped to meet my husband and his grandchildren for the first time. It has been quite an overwhelming year!

It also turns out that my parents know 3 couples here that were old friends of theirs. In fact one couple that has lived here for the past 20 years had my birthmother as the maid of honor in their wedding. In fact, my parents almost sent one of my brothers here to live w/them and attend college here. (the very same college that I graduated from!!!!) If they had sent him...I would have been attending the same college at the same time!!!! WOW!

Anyway, I have a great relationship with my birthmom. My Dad and I have a good relationship too...it is just a little harder to get to know him since he is so far away. He does write poetry and sends me poems that he has written for me.

I am slowly getting to know the older of my 2 brothers, He is very quiet, and we are slowly making progress. The younger brother (my baby brother!) and I bonded from the 1st time we saw each other. We look like twins....it is really scary!!! It has been really

hard to say goodbye to him both of the times we have been together. We have both cried. But from that 1st time we met...we joked around and gave each other a hard time and felt as though we had grown up together!!!

I could go on forever....there are so many strange but wonderful things that have happened to me this past year. For example: my wedding anniversary is Dec 3 and my parents is Dec. 9. Well, last December (1 month after our reunion) I bought an anniversary card to send to them. Right after I put my card in the mail (the same day) I received an anniversary card sent by my birthmom. She had sent me the exact same card that I had sent to her!

Isn't that strange?

Anyway, just want to say thank you Kinsolving for helping me and changing my life forever.

SC - TX



Chris,

We have contact with our birthdaughter on an infrequent basis as we leave it up to her to decide how much contact to have. She is contacting us more and has asked to meet us. We are planning to try to set that meeting up in late January or Feb We are pleased with the pace of trying to develop a relationship and are thankful for your services.

T L - NC



Reunion of Dec.'98

Hey Chris!

I hope you've had a happy holiday.



Although I have talked w/my birthmother off and on since Dec'98 I have not met her in person. She seems to go from hot to cold. . .sort of a Dr.Jekle and Mr. Hyde. . .I haven't participated in any adoptee support discussion so I don't really know how to put all of her behavior into perspective, i.e., I wonder how much of her behavior is typical birthmother and how much is her regular personality.

Some days she says she loves me but then I'll get a letter from her indicating that she wishes I would go away. I want to contact my half brothers (sons of my birthfather) but that's a real sticky situation and I don't know how to go about doing that. I don't want to reveal a secret my birthmother's fought 41 years to keep hidden... but I want to be sure my brothers are truly ignorant of the situation before I give up on writing or calling them.

Do you have any ideas/suggestions/techniques on how to discreetly find out if they already know I exist? Their father was married to their mother when I was born.

Thanks for your great service!

JM - NC



Hi

Just a note to let you know that things turned out wonderful with both of my birthparents. My birthmother has visited me in three times since our first meeting. I have met all my half brothers and sister and their families. I flew to Ohio and visited my birthfather, his wife, and their four girls about a month ago, and again things could not have gone better.

Icing on the cake is that my husband and I are now adopting. We are involved in the open adoption process so that our child will not have to go through what I did simply to find out her family roots. In fact last night we had dinner with the birthmother and her boyfriend.

Thanks again for your role in helping to unite me and my family,

Sincerely,  
S W - CA

Hi Chris,

Just to refresh your memory (I know you work on sooo many cases) you found my husband's birth mom in Canada last August. Well, I have some new news and wanted to update you. As I told you before, he made contact by phone with her last October. They only spoke for about 8 minutes. She was very uncomfortable talking to him and was pretty cold. I had sent her a letter telling her about him and sent her pictures from infancy to the present.

We hadn't heard a word from her until 3 weeks ago when she sent a Christmas card with a 2 page letter. She signed it "Love"... You were right! She winters in Florida. Well, in her letter she told us the dates she'd be in Florida, her phone number and her address. It just so happens that we already had a trip planned to Florida on Jan. 17 to visit an aunt and uncle.

We will only be 80 miles from her. We wrote her back and told her and asked if she'd want to meet. She wrote back and said she'd love to meet.

Chris, you have filled a void and given us such a huge gift! I will never be able to thank you enough. Even if it isn't a great reunion, at least now we know. Thank you for the work that you do. We are truly grateful! If you'd like, I'll keep you posted.

Happy New Year,  
KK - NE



Chris,

I have met with my daughter 3 times since I made contact. We have exchanged pictures and some medical history. Our initial meeting was at a diner near me, the second meeting was for lunch at her house. My niece went with me and they hit it off real well. The third meeting was for her daughter's First Holy Communion and friend's and family were invited back to the house.

Originally she wanted some of my family to be there but then changed her mind and asked me to only bring my neice.

That was the last I saw her but have spoken to her recently on the phone.

Her adoptive mother is now in a nursing home with Alzheimer's Disease and last year at this time she lost her adoptive sister to Cancer.

My hope is that our relationship will become closer and stronger but that will take time.

Best wishes to you for a wonderful New Year and thank you for finding my daughter.

M.E. - NY



Thanks so much, Chris. We had a serious family medical emergency which has turned out OK, and I'm trying to catch up on other emails. I didn't get a chance to send holiday greetings, but I want you to know that finding my birthmother was one of the greatest blessings of my whole life, so you are responsible for the best thing that happened in 2000 to me.

We continue to communicate by email, several times a week. Her children don't know, but I think she is growing more used to that idea and I think she'll tell them, or at least one of them, before too long. She's not ready for a personal meeting, but I'm content. I've seen pictures of my half-sibs and the oldest daughter looks so much like me, it's amazing.

Chris, there's nothing I could ever say that would be adequate to thank you from the bottom of my heart. I want to sing your praises to the world.

If you have a suggestion about what to do, please let me know.

God bless you and your work this year. May you make many more people as happy as you have made me.

JB - DC

Hi Ms. Lee,

This past November was one year of finding my birthmother, which was done through your services.

I have seen her twice and she still has the old fear of "the sin" that she committed and has yet to tell her close-family. But we have a good relationship and working on getting to know each other better. She gave me my birthgrandmothers diamond ring as a token of our relationship. That made me somewhat assured that she has accepted our new-found relationship.

My birthfather died in 1979 and I have met my birth-aunt (on his side). I have seen her twice also and her oldest daughter looks just like me!!!!

Neither my birthmother nor my birthfather had any other children in their lives. Both married another. My father did not wish to take part in my existence when he found out that my mother was pregnant. I think it was harder to call my birth-aunt and tell her that her brother had a daughter, than it was to call my own birthmother. But pictures did confirm that I look very much like him and of course the picture of her daughter and me look very much alike.

My birth-aunt named 2 of her children the same names of myself and my adopted brother. How weird is that!!!

I am trying to convince my adopted brother to get a hold of you and use your services. I have been tempted to fax you my brothers adoption papers, because they were done by the same agency that did my papers, 2 years prior-1956.

I could go on and tell you more, but I know you are busy. Thank you so very much for the new beginning in my life and I hope my brother will have the same opportunity.

SS - NY

Dear Chris,

After your deligent find, I spoke with my son only twice in 1999. In the year 2000, I have neither spoken to or seen him. I don't know what I can do to change this to a more positive note, but if you have any suggestions, please feel free to pass them on. I do know that he's a very angry young man, and I'd dearly love to turn that around.

Thanks for the wishes...and I hope you continue to prosper in your searches for others.

CS - FL



Aloha from Hawaii. I have moved to the Big Island and love the warm weather and water.

When I received the information from you about my b-daughter, I was totally amazed that when she was about 3 years old, after her father had died, she and her Mother moved to San Diego from Toronto Canada. I still can't believe she lived so close to me all those years. She still lives in California - where my husband and I traveled from San Diego to check out where she lived and possibly that we could see her without her knowing who we were. Since she lives in a gated community we were not able to see her. I gave her a call but could not reach her, so I left a message for her to return my call at the Hotel.

She had a friend call to find out who I was. I talked to her friend for quite a while and saw her the next day to give my birthdaughter my address and e-mail. She was too shocked to call me back that day. After I was home I received the first e-mail from her. She expressed her fear of her mother finding out that we were in contact with each other. She still feels that way after talking to her by e-mail and phone for over one year and last year in March I saw her for the first time when we went back to Calif. She brought her friend with her when we met and then my husband was with us, so I never got to talk to her alone. Which I wish I had done. We still e-mail to each other once or twice a month. She is not married and has no children and lives close to her Mother. I started out wanting to find her, to see if she was well and happy, which I did. I am glad I found her again to know she is all right.

What is so ironic is that I gave her up to make sure she has a father and mother and then her father dies when she is so little.

Regards,  
CB - CD



My birthdaughter and I continue to have a wonderful relationship. In fact, she, her new husband and two children are coming to Oregon in two weeks to help celebrate another daughter's 40th birthday!

And the whole family will be together this summer for a family get-together at Sunriver in Bend, Oregon.

Our other children have accepted her totally..... they talk on the phone, e-mail, etc.. And she and her children really appear to just love being part of our lives and vice versa!

At this point, almost two years after reunion, the relationship just seems to be getting stronger and stronger!!!! Fantastic!

And we continue to be in touch with her amother and have met and enjoyed visiting with her abrother.....her afather is deceased.

Again, thank you and your staff!

JB - PA- Oregon



Well, after I received your information regarding my birth mother, I read it and waited and waited before acting on it. After 2 months, I called and confronted her with your/my discovery. She denied it or wouldn't confirm it for most of the conversation, but finally admitted it at the end. She was married and she said her husband knew about me but they has a daughter 2 years younger than me that didn't know about me and please give her some time to let her know. I told her I would and basically did everything you told me to. I asked her when I could expect to hear from her again, and she said very soon. I said if I don't hear from you in two weeks, is it all right to call you again and she

said yes, but you will definitely hear from me by then. Well, know it has been over a year and I've never heard from her again.

I wrote her a letter telling her that I wasn't trying to intrude on her life and to please just give me some contact - even if it was to tell me that she didn't want anything to do with me -- and at the very least to please give me my medical history so I would have that for my children. No word ----- now I am getting angry and fed up and am thinking about going to her house and showing up on her doorstep. Help.....I don't know what to do. A lot of my friends tell me to stop and leave it at that, but I can't. Now that I know who she is and where she lives, it's too hard not to go and at least look at her and see what she is like. Please reply and let me know your feelings. You were on the other side and have a better perspective that I don't have and I value your opinion. Thanks a lot.

LM - VA



Dear Chris,

My pat answer is, "We are fine, but my daughter's life is a mess." It has been about a year and half since Chris found my daughter.

Yes, Chris, it is true. . I am not the same person I was before I found my daughter. I sleep better knowing where she is, and who she is. The hole in my soul is being filled. She lives in OH and I live in MI. I see her about once a month when I drive 6 hours to stay with her for our visits. S is seven years old, her son, my grandson - I love to say that. . "my grandson" is adorabale. Shortly after our reunion I bought her a computer for a very early birthday gift and we e-mail, chat via "messaging", plus make lots of phone calls. The phone calls can get pretty expensive because we can talk for hours. She looks so much like her Birth Father's family but internally seems to be hard wired just like me.

Her adoptive mother has died recently and it is very difficult for her. They had daily contact and she misses her mother. For me it is comfortable to refer to her Adoptive Mother as her mother. Some Birth Mothers have difficulty with the Adoptive Mothers. My daughter, her Adoptive Mother, and I have worked at being considerate of each others jealousy and insecurities.

I am still saddened by her passing.

Some adoptions are made in heaven and some were spawned by the devil. Unfortunately my daughter's adoption was made in hell. I am really angry with the adoption process and the agency that handled her adoption. I surrendered a perfectly healthy-normal baby and her father did everything in his power to destroy her.

So what can I do about it now? I wonder if other Birth Parents ask this question? I can and do - - love, listen and support my daughter as she works to reassemble a life for herself. This seems the most productive thing to do for her and me. I wonder what other Birth Parents do with their rage and sorrow.

Since the reunion she and I realize that there is a need for new traditions for holidays and birthdays. It is complicated and messy intergrating found loved ones into each others lives. This will be a work in progress . . a labor of love for the rest of our lives.

For 30 years I have sobbed on Mother's Day. For the past two Mother's Days I have been able to celebrate. I think about my grandmothers, my mother, my daughter, my grandson and you Chris Lee.

Thank you for doing what the courts refused to do. Thank you for making my reunion possible.

Gratefully Yours,

JP  
NY

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Chris ,

I have to thank you so much .. we talked on 1/14/01 and things went great she was just begining to look for me. in fact when I called her sister told her that it may be her son. can you believe it . So far things could not hav e gone any better, she is staying with her sister in florida until March, so we are off to meet her this week , we are leaving Wednesday.

She is so happy that I found her , thank you so much.

I'll let you know how things go  
TB, FL



Hi

You found my bmom in Australia for me a while back (her sister died in TWA 800 crash). I had sent a Christmas card to her and today I got it back with a rather nasty note about not 'calling, stalking, hounding now or in the future'. I think I was in a bit of denial about the initial call, blaming it on her being in shock. Maya Angelou has a saying 'When someone shows you who they are, believe them.' Now I know who she is. My first thought however was that now I am totally free to contact my birthfather. I am writing for advice on what to say if his wife or child answers the phone.

I do not want to get him in trouble with his wife.

Any advice? Thanks again.

CM  
NY

PS Hope you are well and had a nice holiday season. Hope most of the reunions are better than mine.



Hi Chris,

I am very pleased with the reunion of my son. We are very much in contact with each other and to this day he has never called me my name, it is always Mom. I see him at least monthly and talk on the phone weekly. He seems to fit right in with the whole family and it is so natural for him to be one of us, it's like he has always been with us.

Oh Yes!!! There are problems, like he doesn't work and thinks he doesn't have to and I don't cut him any slack in trying to instill some responsibility sense into him. But that is about the main problem I seem to have with him and if that's all I have to gripe about then I say I am pretty lucky! He wants to stay here to be with me but I tell him he will have to work and he even tried it once for a few weeks and speaks of trying it again because he knows that is the only way I will have it. In time, maybe I will make progress with this. One thing for sure, I will never give up on him.

I did meet with the adoptive parents and have spoken with them a few times on the phone. They are very nice to me and seem to have no reservations about him now having two families.

I do thank you from the bottom of my heart for finding my son for me and I want you to know that you have helped me to become a whole person again. I feel I am blessed to have my son back. I think the \$ was well spent (such a small price to pay for what you have added to my life) and I know I would never have found him without your help.

Sincerely,  
PR  
FL/GA



Hi Chris,

It's me - We met B's birth mother in Florida last week. She is slowly opening up but still very reserved as you thought she might be (she is 76). She still didn't tell us about her other son and it was very difficult for her to talk about her pregnancy, 47 years later. She still feels shame about it. We didn't learn all we wanted to but hopefully the door is open and we will learn more in time. The exciting news is that it was the first time in B's life that he could look at another person and see a resemblance. That was very important to him.

Thank you so much for making it happen, Chris. I've already given your name to two other people who are searching. I'll keep you posted. Thank you again.

KK  
NE



Hi Chris,

I followed your advice regarding contacting my mother. I drove by her house over the weekend before attempting any personal contact. I made my first phone call this afternoon and was received better than I ever dreamed possible.

We talked for a while this afternoon and hope to be able to meet tomorrow afternoon. Her other daughters know about me and she wants to bring them along to meet me. Thank you so much.

LN  
OR



Dear Kinsolving,

Since your investigation I have met my birth aunt, uncle and cousins. It has been a happy reunion. I can honestly say that finding my biological family has made a difference in my attitude and outlook on life. Of course people want to know how you figured out the mystery, since I got no where in 12 years.

I have passed your name on to several people. I hope they have used your services!

Sincerely,

RA  
PA



Kinsolving,

I met my daughter in march 2000 and everything is going great. she seems to be glad that we found her and has no hard feelings. life is very good now. Thanks so very much for all your help.

RL - NC

Chris,

I ran across your name on the net and it brought back memories. You helped find my birth family almost 7 years ago. It was the best thing that ever happened. I am not close to my birth mother but my Aunt, uncle, cousins and half brother are all very close to me. I was in my cousin wedding in Oct.2000 I flew down to Charlotte and my Adoptive (my only) mom was there too. They have made her feel so good and always have her for their family functions. She was 40 when she adopted me and has said she is so happy that

I will still have close family when she is no longer with us. She encouraged the search and I am glad she did...anyway thanks again after all these years.

CC - NC



Chris,

I finally got it together enough and called my birth mom yesterday and finally got an answer in the early evening (the no-answer calls were a real let down).

She was silent, but didn't deny the relationship, stayed on the phone, and did answer almost all the questions I had for her. Thank you for your help and advice in planning my first contact, and in giving me realistic expectations. It would have been truly awful if I hadn't had my intro and list of questions all written out and in front of me and a good idea of what to expect and how to proceed.

We only talked for 15 minutes (I guess I could have had a longer list of questions), but she was starting to come out of shock toward the end. She took down my address and agreed to send me a picture of herself and allowed that I could send her pictures of myself and my kids and gave me her address. When I asked her if I might call her again she said, "Oh sure, I'm almost always here". She had a stroke 9 years ago, and I gather she doesn't get around easily.

The only disappointment was that her younger daughter dropped out of her life about 5 years ago and the last few letters she sent to her were returned by the post office for incorrect address (same last name, city, and state you guys found). She sounded pretty sad and bitter about that, as one might expect.

Thanks again, and I'll keep you posted. JN - PA

Dear KI,

Just a note to thank you for the great information. You were right, I am very pleased. I called my birthmother today and she was receptive to my call. She could not believe that I had found her. She told me that none of her other children know about me so I am glad I called her first. She requested a letter and some pictures so I am mailing that today.

The information that you gave me regarding initial contact was invaluable.

I can never thank you enough.

Sincerely,

KS - NC