

BRINGING UP BABY

By Rod

CAST

Annabel *Young Mum*
Bob *Young Dad, married to Abigail.*
Chris *Work colleague of Ben*

Enter Abigail and Ben pushing pram/pushchair containing a baby. Chris enters from other side so they pass.

Bob Oh, hi Chris.

Chris Bob! Good to see you.

B Annabel, you remember Chris from work. You met at the office party last year.

Annabel Oh, yes. Hello Chris.

C I see you've had a baby.

B Nothing gets past you eh Chris. I told you he was razor sharp didn't I Annabel? One of the firms' top brains.

C So what's its name?

A Her name is Diana.

C Oh, very regal.

A Yes, Diana Pixie Beyoncé.

C *(Surprised)* Oh... how lovely. *(Looking into pram)* I'm glad to see she's got her mother's good looks. Although she does seem to have a touch of her father's baldness.

A That's quite usual in babies. Her hair will soon grow.

C I hope so.. *(Peering closer into pram)*

A Don't wake her up. We've only just got her off to sleep.

- C Oh dear, keeps you awake does she? Lots of sleepless nights?
- B We only got up to her twice last night.
- C I thought you were looking rather jaded, Bob. Still, you'll be able to catch up on your sleep at the office.
- A She'll soon get into a regular pattern.
- C But there will still be all those nappies to change. Poo, I don't envy you that.
- B Oh, it's easy enough what with modern disposables.
- C So you get the short straw do you?
- A We take it in turns.
- C Still I don't expect you will be able to get out much in the evenings now, what with bringing up Beyoncé here.
- B We can always get a baby-sitter for Diana.
- A Once she's a little older and more settled into a routine.
- C See what I mean, Bob. But baby-sitters are expensive these days. Will you be able to afford it?
- B I'm sure we will.
- C What with the expense of clothes for little children who grow out of them in no time. Another mouth to feed, day care costs. And before too long she'll be at school with all the expense that brings. I doubt if you'll be able to afford a holiday.
- B I think you exaggerate.
- C Then she will be wanting a car.. and the deposit for a house of her own.
- B That's all a long way off.

C And then there's the teenage years to consider. Are you ready for all the turmoil that will bring? Adolescent strops, banging doors, keeping teenage boys at bay from little Pixie. Phew, rather you than me!

A What you say may be true, Chris. Diana will mean a lot of work... but we wouldn't change things for a moment, would we Bob?

B Not one moment. We love her to bits. She means everything to us.

A That's right; because for us, Chris, she is our pride and joy.

THE END