



KEVIN &  
*Matt*



Hi! We are Kevin & Matt, and we are so thankful you are taking the time to get to know us. Choosing a family for your child is one of the most difficult decisions imaginable, and we admire your courage, and do not take lightly the trust you are placing in the hands of adoptive parents.

We would be honored to earn the gift of parenting your child. Our vow to you is to love and nurture your child and to honor the sacrifice you would be making in placing them in our home. As the parent of our child, you would be a part of our family, too.

We are a young couple living in the suburbs of Chicago with our dog, Angel. We have been together since 2014 and got married in 2017. We both have a passion for experiencing new cultures and traditions, and we are blessed to be able to travel frequently and learn about the world.

We deeply love each other and the life we have built together, but we know our family isn't quite complete without a child to share in our adventures. We chose to pursue adoption because we both have close family members who were adopted. So your child would be welcomed with open arms and loved unconditionally by a family that has been built - not through blood - but through love.

After the baby comes, Matt will have six weeks off from work, and Kevin will have eight weeks off. So we will both be at home with the baby in the beginning, and we can't wait!

We hope this book helps you to get to know us, what we value, and the kind of life your child would have with us. We are thrilled to show you this glimpse into our life, and we hope to get to meet you someday!

*Kevin & Matt*

# OUR *story*

We met while we were attending graduate school at the same university in 2014. While we first met online, little did we know that our two academic department buildings were right next to each other, and Matt lived in the same building as one of Kevin's best friends. So, in all likelihood our paths had crossed many times and didn't know it!

Our first date was at a Thai restaurant. We hit it off immediately and were so deep in our conversation, that we were there until the restaurant closed. We even forgot our leftovers on the table! It was a perfect first date, and we've been together ever since.

We have been married for 8 years and are excited to be starting our family through adoption!





# about us



## OUR VALUES:

- **RESPECT:** We believe in treating everyone with dignity and understanding, no matter where they come from or what they believe.
- **KINDNESS:** Whether it's a smile or helping someone out, we try to spread positivity wherever we go.
- **GENEROSITY:** Giving is at the heart of who we are. We love sharing our time, resources, and love with others.
- **HONESTY:** We value openness and truth, even when it's tough.
- **CARING FOR PEOPLE IN NEED:** Whether it's lending a hand or simply being there, we believe in showing up for those who need it most.



**KEVIN** is going to make a great parent because he is **KIND**, **PATIENT**, and gives his whole **HEART** to those he loves."

*Matt*

**MATT** is going to make a great dad because he is **LOYAL** to his family and friends, and he is very **GENTLE** and **CARING**."

*Kevin*

# Adventurous, Reliable & Honest

## ABOUT ME:

- I'm a bit of a science nerd—studied audiology (the study of hearing & balance!) and now work in scientific marketing for a hearing aid company.
- When I'm not working, you'll probably find me in the kitchen cooking or baking something delicious, planning my next travel adventure, or behind the camera capturing moments.
- I also love diving into new languages and cultures—there's so much to learn from them! Fun Fact: I speak German!

## WHY I CAN'T WAIT TO BE A DAD:

I'm so excited to watch our little one grow, learn, and explore the world. There's something truly magical about seeing them discover new things. I can't wait to help and share in those little "aha!" moments!

## FAVORITES:

FOOD:	Sushi
CLASSIC MOVIE:	Willy Wonka
MUSIC:	The Shins
CANDY:	ALL - I have a sweet tooth!
GAME:	Skip Bo
TV SHOW:	Arrested Development



KEVIN



Matt with our close friend's newborn son

## ABOUT ME:

- I studied chemistry and Spanish (quite a combo!) and work in Quality Assurance for a global pharmaceutical company.
- When I'm off the clock, you can find me dreaming about travel or whipping up something new in the kitchen. I also play both the piano and saxophone, and love tackling 3D puzzles and building models—bring on the complexity!
- I lived in Spain for six months during college and was fluent in Spanish. I can hold my own, but I'm a bit rusty now!

## WHY I CAN'T WAIT TO BE A DAD:

I'm excited to see our little one grow, explore the world, and discover their own passions. I can't wait to help them chase after whatever they dream of becoming.

## FAVORITES:

- |                |                                       |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|
| FOOD:          | My great grandfather's ravioli recipe |
| CLASSIC MOVIE: | The Wizard of Oz                      |
| MUSIC:         | Ben Folds, Taylor Swift               |
| CANDY:         | Anything chocolate!                   |
| GAME:          | Settlers of Catan                     |
| TV SHOW:       | The Big Bang Theory                   |



Passionate, Kind,  
Adventurous



## OUR FAVE THINGS TO DO:

- Traveling, staying active, and exploring new places
- Cooking and baking up a storm in the kitchen
- Surprising each other with our favorite homemade dinners
- Trivia night at our favorite restaurant in town (we might not always win, but we sure have fun!)
- Hanging out at the park with our sweet dog, Angel, who's always up for an adventure.

## THINGS WE CAN'T WAIT TO DO WITH A CHILD:

- We're beyond excited for all the memories we'll make—vacations, baking together, and spending time outdoors, just the 3 (or 4) of us!
- KEVIN grew up camping, kayaking, and fishing with his dad and can't wait to share those special moments with a little one.
- MATT is already planning trips downtown to explore museums or take in plays, creating unforgettable experiences with a child.



# WE LOVE



# Travel



Our 7<sup>th</sup> anniversary and Kevin's birthday trip to Paris



Our first vacation together to Greece



## OUR FAVE PLACES:

We're big fans of exploring new countries, especially in Europe. Some of our favorite spots are Barcelona, Spain (Matt's top pick) and Vienna, Austria (Kevin's all-time favorite). Both cities have a unique vibe, and we love soaking in the culture, food, and history every time we visit.

## BUCKET LIST:

Next on our travel list? Argentina, Japan, and Australia! We can't wait to introduce our little one to the world and share the joy of exploring new places. We want them to grow up experiencing different languages, cuisines, and cultures—because the world is full of so much to discover!

Our 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary trip to Portugal







Kevin is from a small, close-knit family from Indiana. His parents, LaDonna and Steve, can't wait to be grandparents and are just a quick car-ride away. We make sure to visit with them every couple of months, and catch up with the extended crew a few times a year – family reunions are always a good time.

Kevin has one sister, Olivia, who calls Denver home. They try to get together about once a year, making the most of their time when they can. Kevin is also fortunate to have his grandfather ("Grandpa").

Family gatherings are all about good food, tons of storytelling, and plenty of laughs. Kevin's dad is one of five siblings, and now several of Kevin's cousins are having children of their own, making the family larger and livelier with every passing year.

Kevin's family is very excited about the future – in fact, they ask us often when the next family member will arrive!



KEVIN'S  
FAMILY

# Matt's family



Matt is all about family. His younger sister, Lindsey, calls Chicago home, and his dad, Gary, is just a short two-hour drive away in Milwaukee. His mom, Nancy, and stepdad, Gregg, live in sunny Tampa, where his grandmother also resides. Even though they're spread out, Matt makes it a point to visit his family a few times a year – it's always a blast when they get together.

Matt also has two stepbrothers and a growing crew of little ones – six nieces and nephews under the age of seven! The holiday gatherings are always full of laughter, games, and catching up with the whole gang.

Matt has extended family both nearby and across the country. One of his cousins has a seven-year-old son, Parker, and Matt is his godfather. That bond is incredibly special to him. Matt is also fortunate to still have his Grandma, as well.

When the family comes together, you can count on great meals, tons of fun games, and lots of love!



# OUR HOME



## OUR HOME:

We live in a cozy 3-bedroom house with a big backyard—perfect for a little one to run and play! The kitchen is the heart of our home, open and right in the center, where we spend lots of time hanging out.

Our house is tucked away in a peaceful neighborhood, just a 10-minute walk from the elementary school. And in the fall, you can hear the high school football games. There's even a small park with a playground just down the street!



## NEIGHBORHOOD:

We live in a charming small town along the river, with a friendly vibe and neighbors who are always ready to wave hello. Our community is full of young families and kids who love to get together for playdates, BBQs, and summer festivals.

And when we're ready for a change of pace, Chicago is only 45 minutes away, so we can enjoy the best of both worlds - small-town charm and big-city fun!





- This is Angel, our adorable shepherd mix, who's been a part of our family since 2015.
- She's the sweetest dog, a total cuddle bug, and she thrives on routine—she knows exactly when it's time for dinner and walks!
- Angel is super gentle and fantastic with kiddos. We know she's going to be the best playmate and snuggle buddy for a child—she's got a heart of gold.

- She's also a big foodie (aren't we all?). Angel is always ready to "help" clean up any table scraps that might happen to fall her way. 😊
- Her favorite treats? Crunchy veggies (we know, she's fancy!), meat, and, of course, dental chews.
- And when it comes to toys, she's all about the ones that make noise—her little squeaky hedgehog is her absolute fave!



*meet Angel*





- **5 Days of Christmas:** We have a large and lively family, which means we get to celebrate Christmas at least five times between our two families!
- **Door County Fall Retreat:** Every fall, we escape to a cozy cabin in Door County, Wisconsin. A perfect spot for crisp air, scenic views, and making memories together.
- **Sunday Dinners:** Each week, we cook something nice together. And we always enjoy the process as much as the meal!
- **Halloween Costumes:** Every year, we go all out with Halloween costumes for Angel. Let's say she will be happy when we have a child to dress up! ;)
- **Christmas Decorating Throwback:** We love decorating to the holiday soundtracks of our childhoods. Matt cranks up *Beach Boys Christmas* while Kevin plays *John Denver & the Muppets*.
- **A Beef Wellington Christmas:** No holiday meal is complete without our signature dish, beef Wellington, now a tradition.
- We can't share these traditions - AND MAKE NEW ONES - with a child!



The cabin we visit in Door County every fall



Matt's sister & cousins

# HOLIDAYS & TRADITIONS

friends



## OUR COMMUNITY:

We are lucky to have an amazing group of friends who make up our little community. Some have kids, but *everyone* is beyond excited to welcome a new little one into our family and step into the role of honorary aunts and uncles!

We also have an awesome group of neighbors who make Fridays extra fun—we take turns hosting get-togethers, so there's always a friendly face and good conversation just around the corner.

## OUR CLOSEST FRIENDS:

Our best friends, Mike and Lucy, live just five minutes away and have two adorable kiddos—a 4-year-old boy and a 1-year-old girl. Kevin and Mike have known each other for 15 years, so we are like family. When we hang out, you can bet we're making pizzas (from scratch!) and enjoying each other's company.

Matt and I love spending time with their little ones, whether it's playing, reading, or just having fun together. And when mom and dad need a night off, we're always ready to watch the kiddos and give them a well-deserved break!



# before you go...

Thank you for spending time getting to know us through this book. We can't imagine how difficult this decision will be for you. If we have the honor of parenting your child, these are OUR COMMITMENTS to you and your child:

- LOVE and NURTURE your child unconditionally
- TEACH your child about where they came from and the love YOU have for them
- DECIDE TOGETHER what openness means in our SHARED adoption journey, and RESPECT that throughout our lives
- HONOR your and your child's STORY
- INCORPORATE the TRADITIONS that matter to YOU into our family's life
- TEACH your child KINDNESS, COMPASSION, and RESPECT for human dignity
- Give your child the FREEDOM to grow, make mistakes, and DISCOVER themselves
- Create OPPORTUNITIES for your child to experience everything the WORLD has to offer

We wish you peace and strength as you continue on this journey, and we know whatever decision you make will be the right one for your child.

*All our love,  
Matt & Kevin*





*We can't wait  
to meet you!*



