# Hello we are... Ryan & Liz







# Our Hopes and Dreams...

First, we want you to know we are thinking of you, we believe you have strength, courage and are selfless, to even be considering adoption for your child. It is not lost on us the true sacrifice and the trust you must have to make an adoption plan. If, after learning more about us, you select us to parent your child, we welcome an open relationship so that you can have a relationship with your child and see him or her thrive.

We have been together for 14 years, and married for eleven years. We grew up in families with strong values and close relationships. We had great childhoods, took fun family vacations, and participated in extracurricular activities and team sports.

We had always wanted to be parents. From a large family, I have always seen myself as a mom. In fact, even my group of friends called me the "mom" of the group. I always find ways to make sure every around us has what they need. When we became the age to drink, I was always the designated driver to ensure everyone got home safe. And for Ryan, he had always wanted to share his life with a family. He looked forward to teaching a child to ride a bike, swim, and how to read.

Once married, we took our time to build our careers, develop a solid financial foundation, and purchased a home to provide a comfortable place to raise a family. When it came time for us to start our family, we realized we couldn't carry a child to term. With adoption already a part of our family's story, we realized adoption was the path for us. We already had many children and adults in our family that were adopted or had adopted.

We dream of comfortable life filled with love and joy. We look forward to eating dinner at the table as a family. We dream of watching the wonder on our child's face as he or she discovers new things. And everything is new! The first time they feel grass under their feet, or see a mountain, or first time they throw food off their tray and discover the dog is there, but the food is gone. We look forward to the simple activities of picking up our child from school, playing at the park and watching movies together.

If you select us, we hope that the comfort of knowing that your child will be raised in a loving home will allow you to focus on your own hopes and dreams.

Respectfully,

Ryan & Liz



We focus on what matters to make every adoption a beautiful experience.









## Our values and beliefs as parents...

**God** - We believe in God and our faith is one of the platforms we model our lives around. We believe in treating everyone with love and compassion. We also believe that God has a plan for everyone, regardless of how you feel or what you think. We are members of our Catholic Church and will raise our child to treat others the way he or she would like to be treated. We show love to others through grace, forgiveness, and helping others.

**Family** - Our family is the one group of people that are always there for us no matter what we need or what we are going through. We credit who we are today because of the love, support, and silly personalities of our immediate and extended families. Our family casts a wide network, and we always have fun together. We make it a point to spend time sharing holidays, birthdays, and random outings. We look forward to our child spending time with aunts, uncles, cousins and always knowing that he or she can come to anyone in our family with whatever they have and they will find support, reliance, and a network to catch them. Our child will never feel alone, there are at least six other people in our family who are adopted or have adopted.

**Compassion** - We know it's impossible to understand what other people go through in life and we choose to be compassionate and kind to others. We donate our time and money to those less fortunate through food banks, the church, and fundraisers. Our objective is to help others rather than judge them. We will teach our child to show kindness to other children, to stand up for others, and the importance of helping others through volunteering, and simple acts of thoughtfulness.

**Determination** - We learned from a young age that we control our own destiny. We've worked hard for all the things we hold dear, and value what we have because of this work. Since we were young we learned responsibility and determinations through paper routes, baby sitting, and mowing lawns. We both have jobs we enjoy, and think it is important for people to find work they value. We will teach our child the importance of hard work and responsibility from a young age by picking up his or her toys, or feeding and caring for a pet.

**Education** - We believe learning occurs in and outside the classroom. We will send our children to the best schools available and encourage them to attend college, trade school or follow a passion after high school graduation. We will be there to help and support them with homework and big projects. We will urge our child to try extracurricular and team activities to learn social and motor skills with the hope they will find something they enjoy. We will attend all their activities, cheering them on from the sideline just like our parents did when we were growing up.

**Joy** - It is important to find joy and happiness in everyday life, whether it is through hobbies and interests, quiet time, or at work. We appreciate the beauty in everything, have a fondness for traveling, especially to the mountains, and have jobs that bring us joy on a daily basis. We will teach our child that life is a balance between responsibilities and joy and this balance helps determine the person they will become. We will have fun daily playing games, reading, discovering new things such as animals at the zoo, and climbing at the park.

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#### · Both non-smokers

#### Hobbies:

#### Adoptive Mother:

Reading, crocheting, photography, hiking, bike riding, watching movies, playing with our dogs, spending time with family and friends

#### Adoptive Father:

Hiking, Frisbee golf, bike riding, playing basketball, fishing, watching movies, watching sports, playing with our dogs, spending time with family and friends

#### Professions:

Adoptive Mother: Certified Pharmacy Technician Adoptive Father: Produce Manager

#### Education Level:

Adoptive Mother: Some College Adoptive Father: Some College

### Our home...

We live in a family-centric town, the sort of place where you know most people and everyone is friendly, and neighbors watch out for each other. Our neighborhood is still relatively young with many couples just starting to grow their families.

Families play at the playgrounds, enjoy the state parks, and celebrate at the festivals. The largest festival is every Fall, there are carnival rides and games, traditional fair food like cotton candy and corndogs, mud volleyball, a classic car show, lip sync contests, and a parade for all the children. The state park is a place that has many memories for everyone in our town and attracts people from all over the state with its rolling streams and waterfalls we can run through. There is a college nearby so we attend football or basketball games, and lakes nearby for boating and fishing. We look forward to our child experiencing all the great things we got to do as children in our home town.

We have a large fenced-in back yard and a nice sized patio with a grill and lots of seating. We spend as much time as we can outside, enjoying bonfires, s'mores, and playing yard games. We have been known to break out the yard games and a volleyball net when people stop by for a visit. We look forward to our child playing with the dogs in the yard, pushing our child on a swing set and shooting basketball hoops in the large driveway.

Friends and family describe our home as cozy, warm, and welcoming. We have comfortable furniture, warm paint colors, family photos on the walls, and bookcases filled with keepsakes and photo albums of the life we have enjoyed. One of our favorite memories of our home is our first Christmas. It was right after we moved in. We put our tree up, but only put a few important ornaments and the angel on it. We hadn't finished unpacking yet, but we enjoyed cinnamon rolls for breakfast and spent the day putting our home together.

Our favorite time of the day is right after we both get home from work. This gives us the opportunity to talk about our day. We let the dogs out while we start dinner and simply relish in each other's company. We like to make breakfast - pancakes, sausage or bacon, and eggs - since we don't have a lot of time in the morning during the week. We also enjoy fish on the grill! We look forward to our child helping make breakfast and dinner - measuring and mixing ingredients, cracking eggs, and flipping pancakes with us.

We look forward to watching and playing with our child to make memories as a family. We will spend a lot of time together, having fun dance parties in the living room, and making art and craft projects at the kitchen table. We will embrace their imagination by building forts, story time, making up fun games, movie night with tubs of popcorn and M&Ms, and learning to ride a bike in the driveway. We are excited for every moment from waking up in the morning to have breakfast as a family, and winding down with snuggles and reading books before bed.



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We grew up in the same town in similar fun-loving families. We had a few classes together and were friends in high school. We started dating after Ryan graduated from high school, when we both started working at the same grocery store. We dated for four years before we got married. It's like we grew up together.

Liz is very nurturing, kind, a good listener, empathetic, and always willing to help a friend. Ryan is kind, strong, hard-working, and has a great sense of humor. As a couple, we work really well together, and since we've known each other for so long, we tend to know what the other is thinking without a word being said. We know how to have a good time and simply love spending time together.

We like to go to movies, and concerts. We like to spend time outdoors hiking and riding our bikes. We are close to a very nice bike path that stretches many towns. Ryan likes to play disc golf, while Liz takes photos of the disc golf park. We like to travel and are very fond of the mountains. We love the beauty, fresh air, and relaxation of the endless skies of the Rocky Mountain and the Appalachian Mountain ranges. We enjoy biking, horseback riding, hiking the trails, and seeing the vast land beneath us. There is a



special town in the Rocky Mountains, Estes Park, we enjoy with its quaint main street. Even in the early summer months we can find snow for a spur of the moment snowball fight. We look forward to adding a bike trailer to pull our child, then a bike seat to ride with us, and then for him or her to ride their own bike alongside with us during bike rides. We are excited to share our love for the mountains, as well.

Liz's side of the family has family reunions each year, and a large one every two years. It is a very large extended family - sometimes with over a hundred people. One of our family gatherings takes place at the state park right outside of town. We play games, eat a big meal, and reconnect. We all went to Gatlinburg, TN to the Great Smoky Mountains a few years ago. We had 15 people staying in one big cabin. We hiked the Appalachian Trail, roasted marshmallows, had movie night with all the kids, played pool and games like Uno. We had a great time.

Ryan's family loves to give each other a hard time and play tricks on one another. He grew up watching his mom's sister-in-law pull pranks, like moving things around his mom's house when no one is watching. It's always funny to see his mom's reaction when she realizes something is out of place. Liz's family loves being around each other, just being in the same room and talking is enough for them.

We look forward to continuing these family traditions and building on them for our family. We look forward to kicking off the summer with a day of hiking and playing in the water. We will continue the tradition of waking up on Christmas morning, having cinnamon rolls, and anticipate our child's excitement while openning presents. We will spend the rest of the day watching Christmas movies, hanging out at home, and playing with the games and toys Santa brought our child. Later in the day, we will visit grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins to celebrate, eat dinner, and open more presents.



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