



Hello We Are...



Alyssa & Jordan

Graceful 
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Our Hopes & Dreams

Whatever has made our path cross with yours, please know that words cannot adequately express the admiration we have for your selflessness and love. Even though we have not met, we already have so much love for you. To us, family means unconditional love and choosing us means that you choose to be part of our family full of love.

Adoption has always held a special place in our hearts, and we feel a strong calling to pursue adoption to grow our family. We have one daughter; her name is Nora. The pregnancy with her was difficult, which is one of the reasons that we are choosing adoption. If you select us to be part of your family, we hope and pray that your child always knows that they are loved unconditionally. To us, love is to wanting the best for others at all times. We support each other and choose to love every day--both as husband and wife and as parents. We will never stop loving.

We want to offer your child a safe and caring home. Our goal is to create a stable environment where your child's every need is met and where we can support them in navigating their emotions in a healthy way. Helping your child develop a strong, healthy mind and body will be our priority. We will share our love of nature with them and explore what this beautiful world has to offer in our own community and while on family vacations - from snorkeling in Iceland to hiking in Washington to kayaking in the Caribbean.

We want you to know that we think you are strong and making an adoption plan takes such love and bravery. As a mother who struggled through a pregnancy once before, I know that being pregnant is not easy. We will respect whatever decision you make in terms of openness in our communications, including text and email updates, video chats and visits.

Thank you for taking the time to learn about our family.

Best Wishes,

Alyssa & Jordan

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Our Values & Beliefs as Parents



KINDNESS - Treating others with kindness can change the world. We should treat people the same way we want to be treated. Something that Alyssa has always worked on instilling in her students, and that we both try to instill in our daughter, is to be good, kind people. This means that we guide them to make thoughtful decisions that are best for everyone. We are not teaching others to do kind actions just because they are nice, but because they positively impact others. This also means that we bring our child back to her roots in times of struggle. "You are a good, kind person, I know you can make better choices." We don't expect children to just blindly obey or follow us, but we model kindness so that they see appropriate actions and we talk to them about choices so that they understand what making a good, kind choice means.

EMPATHY - This is important because it lets us better understand others. Thinking about others and how our words or actions affect them is a task that we are always doing. More often than not, we realize that even if we feel angry or frustrated with others, taking a step back allows us to see all of what a person may be going through. For instance, maybe that driver is rushing to get to the hospital, maybe a child at the preschool is whining a lot because they did not get enough sleep, maybe the child who keeps crying has had her dad away at work for a few days and she really misses him. When we imagine the world through other people's eyes, we can make the world a better place.

FAITH - We both grew up in Christian homes and saw the way that the church is a community of believers. This means that we get together with others to share our faith, share a meal, or volunteer together. More than that though, faith is believing in what you cannot see, like God's limitless love. It is believing in a place beyond life, but that we are also here to make the world a better place. Faith means that we believe that God made us, loves us, and gave us free will to love Him back as fully as we can. The nature of our faith is that we have no need for judging one another because we never know what truly lies in another's heart, only God can know that. We can, however, choose to see the best in people!

TIME WITH FAMILY - We prioritize family. As a parent, the days may be long but the years are short. In the evenings, we spend quality time with our daughter, moving our own interests like watching our favorite TV shows until after she goes to bed. As a couple, we are intentional about having date nights regularly so that we keep our relationship healthy in order to be the best parents for our child. We also see extended family often; they are fun people that we know will always be there to support us!

PATIENCE - Emphasizing the importance of staying calm, composed, and understanding in various situations is an important life lesson. We all have moments that aren't easy, even more so for kids as they grow and develop. We channel our inner peace to help them and ourselves navigate complex challenges. We do this by teaching our kiddo to wait with a "nice voice" and to use coping strategies when things get hard like counting to 10, taking deep breaths, talking about a challenge, taking a break, or just getting some hugs and snuggles to "reset".

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Our Home

Our home is filled with plenty of toys, laughter, music, and fun. We have a sandbox, water table, toys, bikes, kid's cars, chalk, bubbles, and a kiddie lawnmower so your child will have plenty of options to entertain them in the great outdoors. We also have a spacious back yard complete with a swing set, and many neighborhood children regularly congregate at our neighbor's house, the "cool" hangout, where kids can get popsicles all summer long if they just ask!

Nearby there are many parks, an extensive bike trail, a movie theater, restaurants, and shopping. There is also a science center, art center, swimming pools, a living history farm, and an amusement park. Multicultural events, parades, food festivals, farmer's markets, and music concerts are a regular occurrence in the area.

We enjoy spending time outside. And have a spacious deck with comfy couches, a dining table, and a basketball hoop out front. You might find us in the hammock, lounging on the couches, eating dinner on the deck, relaxing in the hot tub, or reading on the front porch. When we aren't at home, we spend time biking, taking walks, or playing at one of the parks.

Our favorite meals are generally the ones that taste great while holding other meaning in our hearts. For instance, we love homemade pesto pizza, but it is even more special because kids love to help make it. Other fun bakes include cookies, cakes, and pancakes! Every night for dinner we sit down to eat at the table together. Once every so often, we may eat out if we are feeling adventurous!

Our favorite time of the day is around 6 PM when we are finished eating dinner and we get to spend quality time together. That may mean relaxing together in our hammock outside, going on a walk or bike ride, gardening, or playing with any of the many toys and games we have.

We look forward to incorporating your child into our lives, first by taking maternity and paternity leave to bond with your child. We will give your child room to grow, make mistakes, and learn in a safe space. We look forward to holding, cuddling, snuggling, and the special time after dinner playing peek-a-boo, reading books, listening to music, and singing and dancing together.

The child's room is still a work in progress. The nursery will be a calming color and will have simplistic paintings on the wall. We will finish the design with your child in mind after we have met you!

HOBBIES:

Adoptive Mother: Card making and crafting, including painting, knitting, hot gluing, building, print making, collages, doodling, writing, and even whittling! Hiking out in nature and just being outdoors in general. Gardening, going on walks or bike rides, and reading fiction in the hammock outside. Singing and dancing when the timing is right or watching my favorite tv shows like The Office, New Girl, or Superstore.

Adoptive Father: Listening to music, going to concerts, and playing the trombone and guitar. Playing video, board, and card games. Spending time outdoors hiking and exploring nature and wildlife. Watching and playing football and basketball and biking on the local trails. Watching my favorite tv shows such as The Office, Brooklyn Nine-Nine, House of the Dragon, and Breaking Bad.

PROFESSIONS:

Adoptive Mother: Teacher

Adoptive Father: Senior Data Analyst

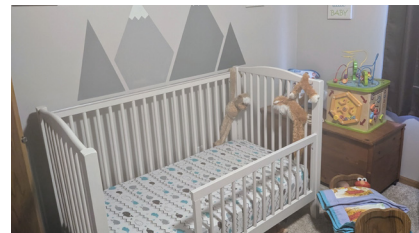
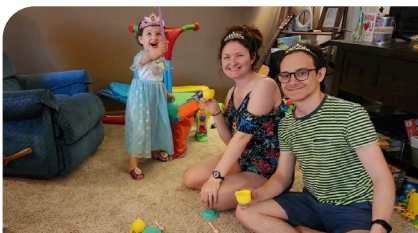
EDUCATION LEVEL:

Adoptive Mother: Bachelor's Degree

Adoptive Father: Bachelor's Degree

PLUS:

- Both non-smokers



A Beautiful Experience



Our Family

We met at church once, then again through a mutual friend. We were best friends before we started dating. Jordan was silly, funny, kind, and thoughtful. Jordan says that I was full of life, silly, fun to be around, and a giving person. With little time left together at school, I told Jordan that I had feelings for him. Jordan eventually asked me out by playing his guitar and singing to me by candlelight. We have been together more than nine years.

As a couple, we love unconditionally and communicate well. We know our love languages and love each other in the way that shows it best. As parents, we listen to evidence-based research on how best to teach and respond to children. For instance, we know the value of positive reinforcement, verbal praise, first-then statements, and how to parent in a loving, logical way.

We have a three-year-old daughter who has a strong and independent personality. She is loving and a good "mama" to her baby dolls. She loves to read, have tickle fights, sing, and dance! She is very excited to be a big sister. Of course, many children like the idea of having a brother or sister until they realize that the spotlight isn't on them anymore. We have already bought books to help her understand what it means to be a big sister and what it will be like when a new child joins our family.

Our love of music is something we enjoy individually and together. We enjoy playing songs together, singing and playing the guitar. We have a wide range of instruments in the house -guitars, trombones, a ukulele, a keyboard, a kalimba, toy drums and a toy keyboard. It is a shared interest that we all have, it is fun to play together, and it will be fun to add another person to our 'family band.'

We spend every holiday with our extended family. For Halloween, we pull out all of the stops for family costumes and creepy make-up! For Christmas, we bake cookies, open our presents on Christmas Eve, and are surprised by gifts from Santa Claus on Christmas. We go to church and then spend time together with lots of food and fun. For Easter, we dye eggs, hunt for candy-filled eggs, and enjoy Easter baskets before turkey and gravy!

We see Jordan's parents about every week and they take our daughter every so often so that we can have date nights. We are extremely grateful for this so that we can always keep dating each other and keep the spark alive in our marriage. We see Alyssa's parents monthly since they live farther away. Our children will spend about a week with their grandparents each summer so they will have special childhood memories and build a special bond and play with their grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins.

Our family members are all excited at the prospect of us having another child and adding a member to our happy family!



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