



Hello We Are...



Eric & Brighdin

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Our Hopes & Dreams

We are a loving and joyful couple who care deeply about others, our environment, and animals. We believe in being the best people we can be and in investing in those around us. Our family is made up of blood relatives, those connected through marriage, and our chosen family, which includes friends, neighbors, and those we have met along the way. It's this passion and empathy that led us to adoption. We are excited to expand our family and share the love, joy, and caring relationships that define our lives.

Ever since I (Brighdin) was in elementary school, I knew I wanted to adopt a child. A story I saw on TV about adoption sparked this dream in me. After years of experiencing infertility, both before and after we welcomed our daughter, Eric and I knew it was time to make that dream a reality. We envision providing a child with a warm, safe, and loving home, free from worry, where he or she can simply enjoy the joys of childhood.

We want our children's every waking moment to be care-free, filled with laughter, curiosity, excitement, and pure joy. We will provide a home where they can sleep soundly and wake up welcoming the sunlight and potential each day brings; an exciting life packed with big and small adventures; an environment where they can grow into whatever amazing human beings they choose; a curious wonder where their minds are always nurtured; and a respectful home where they are taught how to be kind human beings.

Eric and I admire any parent who protects their family's best interest, even when it means making an adoption plan. It is the most selfless decision anyone can make and takes the bravest of people to do so. We believe those making this decision are truly loving parents and we want you to feel peace in your decision.

We would like you to know you are not alone in this journey. If you choose, we are here to be a source of support and love for you too and want you to be in your child's life. While we might not understand your specific pain, we understand a different type of loss and grief very well. We hope we can provide comfort for you along this journey, and if you choose us, you will always be thought of as a part of our family.

With deep respect,

Eric & Brighdin

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Our Values & Beliefs as Parents

IT TAKES A VILLAGE - "It takes a village to raise a child" is a saying that underscores the importance of a community in a child's upbringing. In our lives, this village is vast and diverse, including grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, friends, and co-workers who all play a crucial role in supporting our children. We've built strong, meaningful connections with people who have become family, even if they started as people we barely knew. Every Monday, we gather with neighbors whom our daughter lovingly sees as another set of grandparents. Co-workers, too, contribute to this village, showering our daughter with love, attention, and her favorite tamales. We're committed to ensuring that your child grows up surrounded by this same large and loving village, where they will always feel safe, supported, and cherished.

CARING FOR OTHERS - We believe in connecting with people through acts of kindness and love, driven by a sincere desire to brighten someone's day. Whether it's providing home-cooked meals to employees who are unwell, delivering Christmas cookies to a local equestrian facility that offers therapeutic riding lessons, or bringing holiday cheer to a friend's grandmother who was alone, we find joy in making a difference. We are committed to teaching our children the importance of charity, encouraging them to donate their gently used toys and clothes they have grown out of to help others in need.

THE ENVIRONMENT - We believe the way we manage our farm is a strong example of our commitment to the environment. Managing 10 acres of gardens and animals is not always easy, especially when we avoid using certain lawn and garden treatments, chemicals, and sprays that are harmful to the environment and the animals on our property. Recently, our county advised residents to stop watering gardens and exterior plants. While many people choose to ignore these directions, we adhere to them by using only the rainwater we've collected to care for our plants and animals. We will teach our children to care for the environment by encouraging them to pick and enjoy strawberries and raspberries from our garden, knowing they are safe. They will also learn the value of sustainability by collecting eggs from our chickens to cook for breakfast.

EDUCATION - Our parents always placed a strong emphasis on education, making financial sacrifices so that we could attend some of the top-ranked schools. We intend to take the same approach with our children, focusing on both formal education and learning outside the classroom. We will expose our children to a wide range of activities, from competitive sports and art to piano lessons and practical skills like woodworking and auto mechanics, which Eric's parents taught him. These experiences will help them become well-rounded individuals. Additionally, we have already established an education fund to ensure that our children can pursue higher education without the burden of financial obligations or debt.

ENJOYING LIFE - We believe it's essential to stay silly and have fun throughout life, no matter the age. Encouraging people, both young and old, to be themselves is something we hold dear. Eric and I often dance when no one's watching—and even when they are! We support each other in being authentic, not worrying about how others perceive us. As we grow older, we're committed to holding on to this value. We'll teach our children to find happiness and joy through family dance parties, sharing jokes, cooking together, and making fun a part of everyday life.



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Our Home

We live on this amazing property, where we wish we had grown up. We have 10 acres of land (about the size of 8 football fields), in the heart of it all. There is nothing better than turning off the main road, driving down a tree-lined road, and having the world melt away. There are gorgeous forest and garden views, a stream passing through the front of our property, and plenty of space for kids to play. Yet, it is also only a 10-minute drive to stores, parks, pools, and restaurants.

We are fortunate to have a decent-sized playground right in our backyard, complete with a slide, swing, and a small rock wall. In addition, we have a variety of outdoor toys and activities, including a baby pool, water/sand table, and soccer nets. Our child is lucky to have neighbors with ponds where they often go fishing, and the older kids enjoy riding in paddle boats.

Our house is a unique mix of California modern and Scandinavian farmhouse design, thoughtfully created to blend the outside with the inside. One side of the house features a three-season room with floor-to-ceiling, wall-to-wall windows, offering a seamless view of our Japanese shade garden. On the other side, we enjoy stunning views of the forest and streams that surround our property. Inside, the large living space has vaulted timber ceilings, wood floors, and a vibrant mix of colors and character, with pictures, paintings, and cherished items like the copper pans we bought in a culinary shop in France.

We often have friends and family visiting because we have a home where people love to spend time at. They immediately feel cozy and welcomed. Our home is distinctly ours, with personal touches like a wall of photographs from our favorite travels, a large community table we built from a reclaimed barn door, and extremely comfortable furniture. It's a well-lived-in home, full of warmth and life. In the winter, the wood stove adds to the cozy atmosphere with a welcoming fire.

When the weather permits, we spend most of the time outside of the house walking, playing lawn games like horseshoes or relaxing in the Adirondack chairs on the hill. If we aren't outside, then we most certainly are cooking in the kitchen. We have a kitchen with a very large center island with ample seating which opens into a small living room area. We dream of our children coming home from school, sitting at the kitchen counter while we talk to them about their day and make them a snack before preparing dinner.

The nursery is a whimsical and magical space, decorated with gender-neutral decor. It's located in a large room in the corner of our house, adjacent to the main bedroom's sitting area. A large, floor-to-ceiling navy bookshelf holds children's books, family photos, and cherished trinkets from our own childhoods. A beautiful gas fireplace, lined with stone carvings of a sun, moon, and horses, adds warmth to the room. Above the crib, you'll find photographs of baby woodland creatures, including a deer, bear, and rabbit, bringing a touch of nature inside. There's also a large couch, a cozy rocking chair, and a soothing water fountain behind it. The entire room is designed to evoke a sense of whimsy, making every moment spent there feel a bit more magical.

HOBBIES:

Adoptive Mother: Running, hiking, cooking, music & going to concerts, gardening, playing sports (ice hockey, field hockey, softball), traveling, exploring, scuba diving, reading, writing, finding great restaurants, visiting museums, watching movies, eating ice cream

Adoptive Father: Cooking, baking, traveling, triathlons, building things, fixing things, eating ice cream, bee keeping, chicken farming, music concerts, eating out, cookouts, gardening, mountain biking, snowboarding

PROFESSIONS:

Adoptive Mother: Head Kitchen Manager

Adoptive Father: Senior Executive Chef

EDUCATION LEVEL:

Adoptive Mother: Bachelor's Degree

Adoptive Father: Bachelor's Degree

PLUS:

- Family dogs, cats and chickens
- Both non-smokers

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Our Family

We met at the Culinary Institute of America where we were both studying to be chefs. Our first date was in March 2009, and we have been together ever since.

Our greatest strength is how we capitalize on our differences and work as a team to tackle more than any one person could handle on their own. We know how to communicate effectively and anticipate each other's needs. Our superhero strength is wanting to make each other and our family happy. We are on a good path because this has been the motivation behind our decisions, actions, and sometimes sacrifices.

We have one daughter, a bit of a firecracker, who is two years old. She is an incredible silly child and we often wonder if she is going to become the class clown. She loves playing hide-and-go-seek, standing on her head, and blowing raspberries. We are excited to see our daughter, Murphy, transition into a big sister. She is extremely nurturing and enjoys taking care of her dolls and her pets. We are confident she will be a great big sister.

Prior to having a child, we traveled the world and ate our way through cities. Since expanding our family, our adventures have slightly changed. We have greatly enjoyed going to the beach for vacations and weekend getaways. There we play in the sand and ocean, go for boardwalk bike rides, and visit the small amusement park. Recently, we began spending the July 4th weekend at the beach. This has become a new tradition. There's something magical about walking to the beach, spreading out a blanket, and watching fireworks while listening to the sound of the ocean.

Our home tends to be "the place to be" for weekly dinners, weekend stays, and holidays. We cherish these times, as they allow our family to spend quality time with their cousins, aunts, uncles, and grandparents, creating cherished memories and deepening family bonds.

Christmas is especially dear to us. Every year, we go all out with decorations and enjoy the classic TV specials we grew up with, like Charlie Brown and the Grinch. Our home becomes a hub for both sides of the family during our town's Christmas weekend celebration. Together, we attend the Christmas tree lighting, sip hot chocolate while singing carols, and enjoy two different parades. We also host a large Christmas dinner, extending our table to friends and co-workers who may not have family nearby, ensuring that everyone has a place to feel at home during the holiday season.

These experiences are ones we look forward to sharing with our children, building memories that will last a lifetime.



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