# Lara + Jack

our adoption journey







#### about us

We met 14 years ago when Lara was drawn to Jack's outspoken tendencies and musical taste during sophomore year gym class. We continued to date through college, bonding over our homework but making sure to enjoy life through intramural sports, dates for bagels at the bakery, and concerts at the local theater. Three states, five apartments, and countless shows later, we still can't pass up a good breakfast outing! Jack works as a Software Engineer, and Lara is a Product Manager at a 3D-printing startup. Outside of working hours, we experiment with new recipes together, seek out any live music or theater we can, and take on home improvement projects (the latest is building a backyard pizza oven.) But, we are never too busy for a good movie night cuddling on the couch with our cats.

#### our home and pets

After living in dorms and moving between countless apartments, we couldn't believe our luck when we found our home. Lara had watched it on the realty site for months before we were able to visit in person, making moving in even more special. Our two cats live their best life chasing squirrels from window to window, following us around the kitchen island as we cook, and eagerly cuddling under blankets with us when the weather gets colder. Our town has a criss-crossing network of walking trails that take us past open spaces, amazing schools, and a main street with cute restaurants and a weekly farmers market. From everywhere you stand, you can see the mountains on the horizon, and it's a view that never gets old.

### what led us to adoption

When we started dating, Lara already knew she wanted to adopt, and Jack was supportive and excited to go on this journey with her. He had already met several children Lara had grown to adore through babysitting, and he knew she would light up the same way as a mother, no matter how it came to be. Lara saw the same spark in Jack when he would patiently teach his younger sisters how to play Mario Kart on the Nintendo before chasing them around the living room. We have grown and evolved together and are ready to share our love, experiences, and the world with a new member of our family.







#### more about Lara

Occupation: Product Manager

Education: Master's

Race: Caucasian

**Religion:** Raised Presbyterian

**Sport:** Ice skating

Tradition: Weekly pizza night with my

extended family

Musical Group: Glass Animals

Movie: Inside Out, 12 Monkeys

**Dream Vacation:** NYC weekend with

great food and plays

Holiday: Christmas

TV Show: Gilmore Girls

Subject in School: Science

### more about Jack

Occupation: Software Engineer

Education: Bachelor's

Race: Caucasian

Religion: Raised Catholic

**Sport:** Soccer

**Tradition:** Going big for birthday celebrations

Musical Group: Great Big Sea

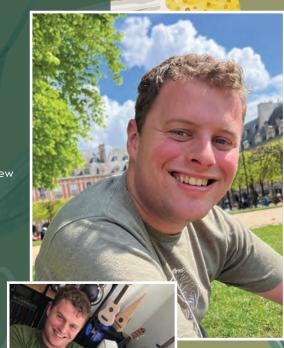
Movie: La La Land

**Dream Vacation:** Exploring anywhere new

Holiday: National Potato Day

TV Show: Pushing Daisies

Subject in School: Drama







## our family & traditions

Jack is one of five siblings, while Lara has one younger sister who loved the idea of another older sibling to antagonize. We all got along right off the bat; Jack's parents would invite Lara over for dinner even when he was out of town so she could still enjoy a good steak after her parents became vegetarian. Lara's mother regularly sends Jack care packages featuring a few comic strips, articles about weird foods, and spider toys (his favorite animal). Our younger siblings joined forces to make fun of us as we cuddled on the couch until we would pull away to play board games together.

When we moved across the country, we had to find other ways to stay in touch. Jack's sister called for virtual game nights so we could continue the Code Names tournament. Lara started playing chess by mail with her dad, including a little note in the letter about the cats' (or Jack's) latest shenanigans. We've surprised Lara's family after a business trip in the area and even planned joint trips to Europe as we are always excited to explore new countries together.





We want to take a moment to acknowledge the incredibly difficult decision you are facing. The weight of the choice you are making must be heavy, and we want you to know we admire your bravery and selflessness and are honored to be considered as potential parents.

The gift of parenthood is one we have longed for, and the idea that you could entrust us with your precious child is truly humbling. We are committed to providing them with a stable, safe, and nurturing home. We want to cheer on every milestone, to celebrate their successes, and to offer comfort when they need it. We want to give your child every opportunity to explore the world around them, to discover their passions, and to become the best version of themselves. It has been our dream to hear a child's laugh as they obsessively watch their favorite movie for the 100th time, see the smile on their face when they take their first bite of ice cream, and feel the sense of pride when they read their first sentence out loud.

As you consider your options, we want to express our deepest gratitude for you even considering the possibility of placing your child with us. We know this time is likely filled with uncertainty and fear, but we want to assure you we are sincerely committed to supporting you and the child while creating a welcoming home where your baby can thrive surrounded by warmth, laughter, and love.

With Love.

(ara + Jack

