



KATE *and* JON



LOVE RECOGNIZES
NO BARRIERS.
IT JUMPS HURDLES,
LEAPS FENCES,
PENETRATES WALLS
TO ARRIVE AT
ITS DESTINATION
full of hope.

-MAYA ANGELOU





HELLO TO YOU!

THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO GET TO
KNOW MORE ABOUT US AS A FAMILY.

Though this book is a small glimpse into our lives, we hope that it gives you an idea of who we are, what we find meaningful, and how important our family and friends are to us. Some of our favorite things are slow mornings with blueberry pancakes and backyard game nights with our friends and neighbors. We love the life we have built and can't wait to share it with a child.

While welcoming your baby to our family would be a dream come true, we understand that you are in the process of making a huge decision. *We want you to know that no matter what you decide, we send you courage, strength, and peace on your journey.*

ALL OUR LOVE,

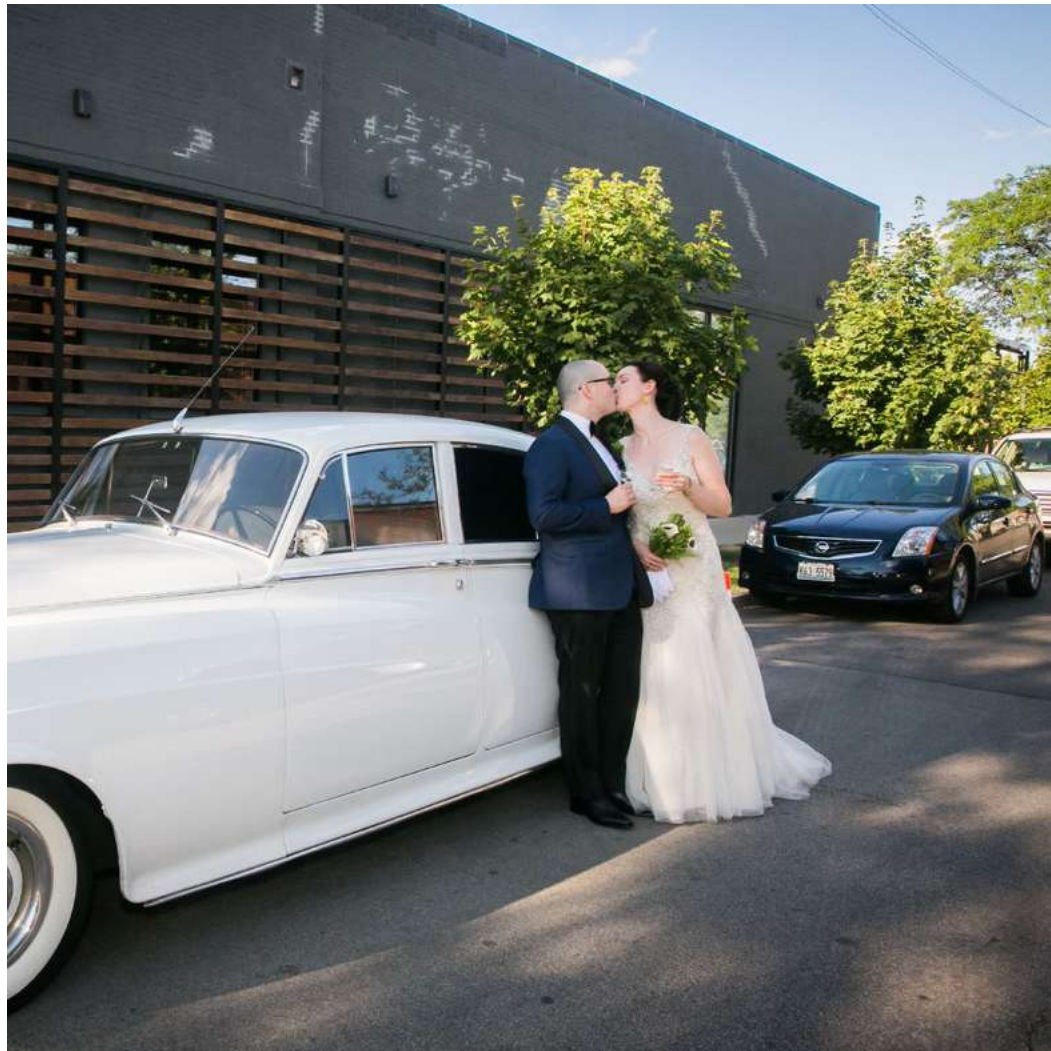
KATE *and* JON



our STORY

WE DON'T JUST LOVE EACH OTHER,
WE LIKE EACH OTHER. A LOT.

Right after our first date in a Chicago Italian restaurant during a January blizzard, we both cancelled our online dating accounts. We knew we had met our match. We first bonded over the fact that we were both finishing degrees. Then we realized we have so much more in common. We love concerts, travel, and museums, and we're both foodies.



Our wedding was in 2017 and was the most epic party we've ever thrown! We served tacos, cake, and ice cream and danced the night away with our families and friends.



CHOOSING *adoption*

Soon after we met, we knew that this was it for us, we were going to be together. We always envisioned our home with children in it. After Kate had finished her science program and started her new career track, we thought it was the perfect time to start our family. Adoption always seemed like one of the most beautiful ways to grow a family. After failed infertility treatments, we knew that adoption had always been the answer we were looking for.

We embrace the idea of open adoption because we understand the benefits for everyone involved, especially your child. If an open adoption is what you think is best and you decide you want to have a presence in your child's life as they grow, we are open and committed to communicating with you in whatever form you choose. We will work with you to schedule visits if that's something you want.

We want to give your child everything we can, and that includes the opportunity to know you and understand their roots. ***We are excited and ready to move forward with growing our family through adoption.***

meet KATE

AS TOLD BY JON

"KATE IS MY FAVORITE HUMAN IN
THE ENTIRE WORLD!"



Kate and her twin brothers were raised by their parents in the suburbs of Chicago. Some of her happiest memories were made with her cousins, and those strong family bonds continue to be an important part of her life today. One of the ways she keeps those traditions alive is through cooking. She makes her mom's mac-n-cheese, her grandma's Christmas Thumbprint cookies, and my Family's black-eyed peas and greens for New Years.

Kate feels most at peace when surrounded by nature, whether she's on a walk, a hike, or visiting the botanic gardens. Through her, I've learned to embrace things outside my comfort zone, like hot yoga and taking time for self-care. She is one of the most creative, caring, and selfless people I know, always showing up for anyone who needs her.

Kate's patience, compassion, and empathy shine in everything she does. She's incredibly nurturing, and I have no doubt she'll be an extraordinary mom!



meet JON AS TOLD BY KATE

"JON IS THE DEFINITION OF
DEPENDABILITY AND KINDNESS."

Jon moved from Memphis to Chicago 14 years ago to pursue his master's degree at DePaul, but it wasn't just academics that brought him here—his love for The Blues Brothers was a huge motivator too. Beyond his passion for music and movies, Jon has an impressive talent for trivia, puzzles, and crosswords, and he plays the guitar beautifully. He has a gift for making an instant connection with every pet he meets, and they all seem to adore him right away.

Before we were even engaged, Jon blended into my family as though he had always been a part of it. In fact, he's my dad's favorite son-in-law! He has this uncanny ability to say exactly what I'm thinking, just when I'm thinking it, and he always knows how to make me laugh, though it's not because of his dad jokes (he has a ton of them, and they are *the worst*).

More than anything, Jon is one of the most genuine people I know, and I have no doubt he will be an incredibly loving, playful, and understanding dad. I can't wait to watch him embrace that role!

Things Jon LOVES



- PLAYING GUITAR & LEARNING NEW SONGS
- MARVEL COMICS & MOVIES
- WOODWORKING CLASSES & LEARNING HOW TO MAKE FURNITURE
- WATCHING COMEDIES & DOCUMENTARIES
- READING SCIENCE-FICTION BOOKS





Things Kate LOVES



- DANCING TO ALL DIFFERENT KINDS OF MUSIC
- CRAFTING & ART MUSEUMS
- GOING TO THE LOCAL FARMERS MARKETS IN THE SUMMERTIME
- BIG FUZZY SOCKS & CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES
- SCI-FI MOVIES & TV SHOWS

home sweet HOME

OUR HOME IS BRIGHT, CHEERFUL, AND COZY.

We live in a vibrant and diverse suburban neighborhood just north of Chicago in a great school district. Our home sits on a quiet tree-lined street. We have an ever-increasing amount of house plants, a yard where we dream of putting a swing set, and we are getting ready to start our own vegetable garden.

Our block is full of great neighbors - always with lots of kids running around and riding bikes. Many of our neighbors have pets as well, and so we get to say hello as they pass our house on their evening walks.

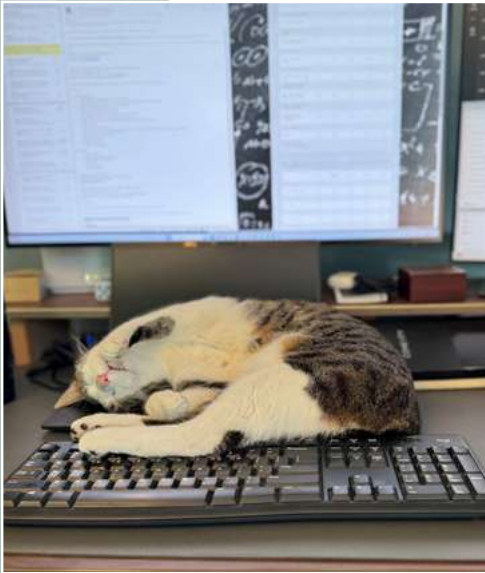




OUR COMMUNITY

Our Suburb is close to Lake Michigan and has many parks and walking trails which are perfect for a baby stroller. Our community celebrates its diversity- the town hosts Black History Month, Asian Pacific Islander History Month and Hispanic Heritage Month events. The Juneteenth Parade and the Pride Parade are so joyful, and there are arts and crafts fairs, farmers markets, and concerts for families all summer long.

Baxter and Rumpus

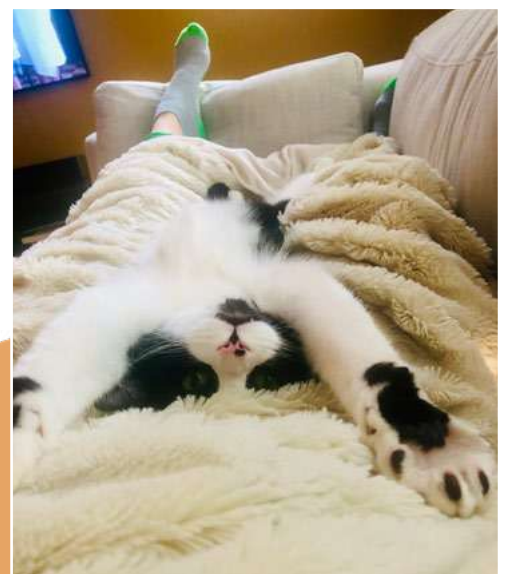


We have two playful cats named **Rumpus** and **Baxter**; they are 3-year-old brothers. They are very curious and love new people. They love to play catch, chase each other around the house, and their favorite place is snoozing in our laps or in one of their beds.



We built a "catio" on the back of the house. Each morning, they go outside and watch the birds and squirrels that run around our yard.

Baxter and Rumpus are a loving part of our family, and we know they are eager to snuggle with a new family member!





MICHIGAN



CANADA



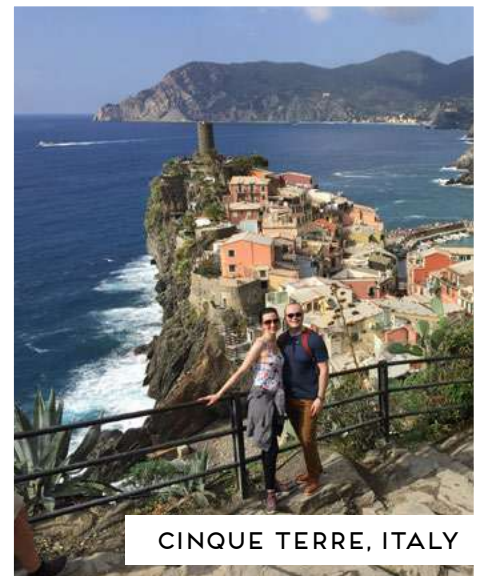
CALIFORNIA



TENNESSEE



ROME, ITALY



CINQUE TERRE, ITALY

we love ADVENTURE

We are inspired by the world at large and think that travel is one of the most powerful ways to learn and grow. When we visit a new place, we try to experience it like locals - eat the local dishes, learn some of the language, stay in apartment rentals instead of hotels, and seek out places that make a city unique beyond what you find as part of a tour group.

We have a list of dream destinations a mile long, and we've already been really lucky to visit many cities in Italy, Canada, Mexico, and Costa Rica.

We've also had a lot of amazing trips in the States.

We cannot wait to help your child explore the globe!



Ten fun FACTS



1. Our whole family loves a great cup of *coffee and homemade desserts*.



2. Kate works as a *medical scientist*, and Jon works in *Information Technology*; he works from home full-time.



3. *We love Christmastime!* Every year, we get hot chocolate before going to search for the perfect tree. We watch *Elf* and *Home Alone* while we decorate, and the cats play with the ornaments.

4. Jon's family has *owned a butcher shop* for three generations.



5. After high school, Kate was a nanny for a family with *two sets of twins!*

6. Kate was a *professional dancer* who owned her own studio and taught classes.



7. Jon is originally from Memphis; his grandfather went to *high school with Elvis!*

8. Our family enjoys staying healthy together by *being active and eating nutritious meals.*



9. We *embrace diversity and inclusion*; we welcome everyone with open minds and kindness.

10. Every year, we go to the Renaissance Faire. We love to see everyone's costumes, listen to live music, eat tasty fair food, and watch the knights joust on horseback.

It's fun for the whole family!



Ten fun
FACTS



friends and FAMILY



JON'S DAD, BROTHER, SISTER, AND MOM

Jon's Family:

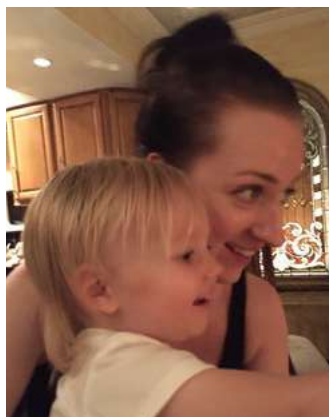
Jon has a younger brother, sister, and three stepsisters. Most of his siblings have children of their own—our eldest niece is in college now, and our youngest nephew was just born! Jon has family and friends in Tennessee, and we love visiting them.

Kate's Family:

Kate grew up with her twin younger brothers and has four step-siblings as well. She has a grown niece and a preteen nephew. We live near Kate's Dad and his Fiancé, and we fly to Colorado about once a year to spend time with her aunts, uncles, and cousins.



GRABBING LUNCH WITH ONE OF KATE'S BFFS



KATE & HER NEPHEW

We both have long-time close friends who have spread out across the country over the years. Even though we don't get to see them often in person, we stay connected through Facetime and texting. We consider them family, and they are all so excited and supportive of our decision to adopt!



JON'S BROTHER & SISTERS



KATE & HER AUNT



JON & HIS NEPHEW



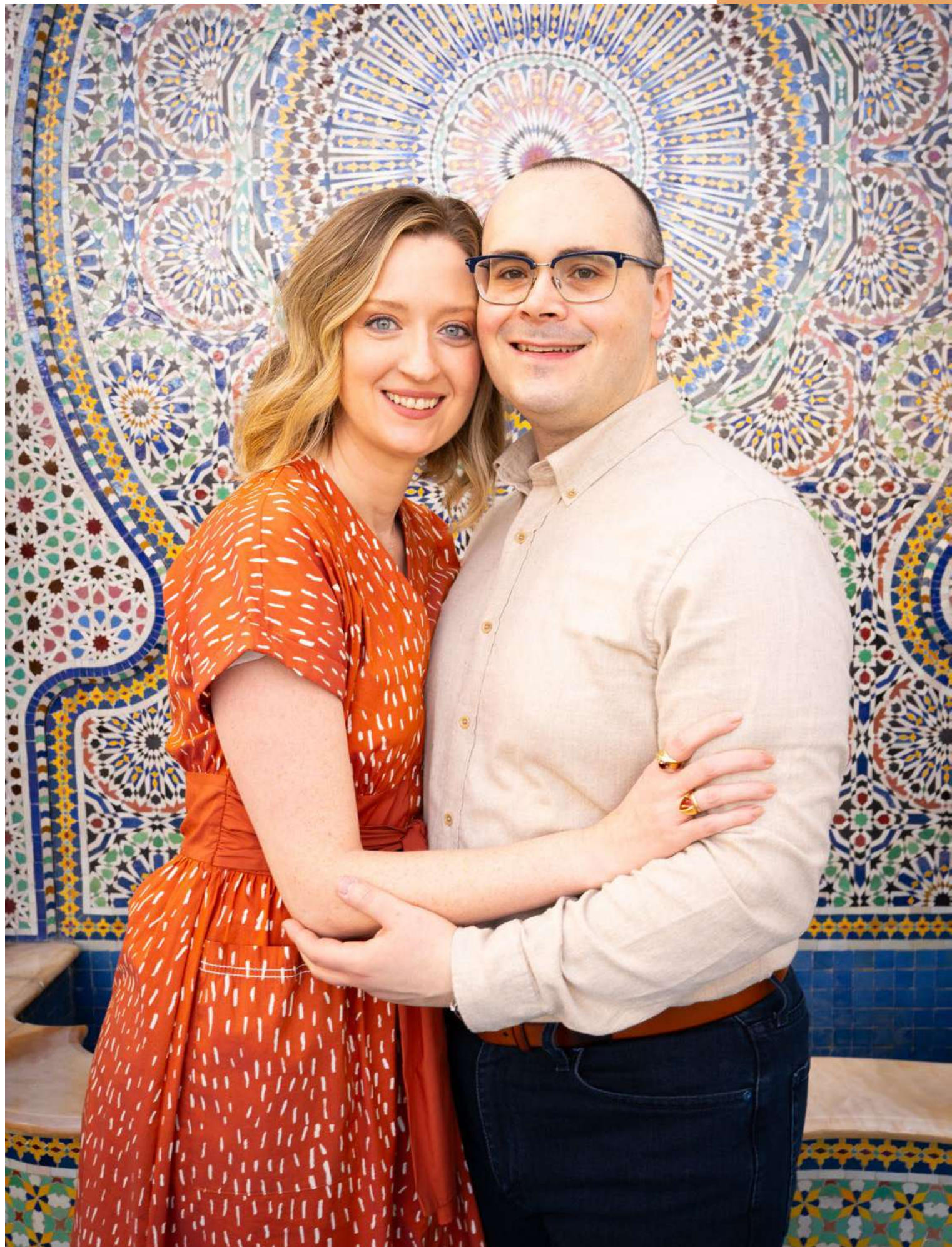
COLORADO FAMILY SKI TRIP



DINNER WITH KATE'S DAD & HIS FIANCÉ



JON & HIS BFFS FROM MEMPHIS



before you go...

WE WANT TO LEAVE YOU WITH A FEW FINAL PROMISES:

We promise to always put your child first and love them unconditionally.

We promise to provide opportunities for education, adventure, creativity, and wonder.

We promise to help your child explore their interests and develop their unique talents.

We promise to teach them to be honest, kind, self-respecting, and courageous.

We promise to instill values of working hard, being resilient, and serving their community.

We promise to be patient, compassionate, and empathetic.

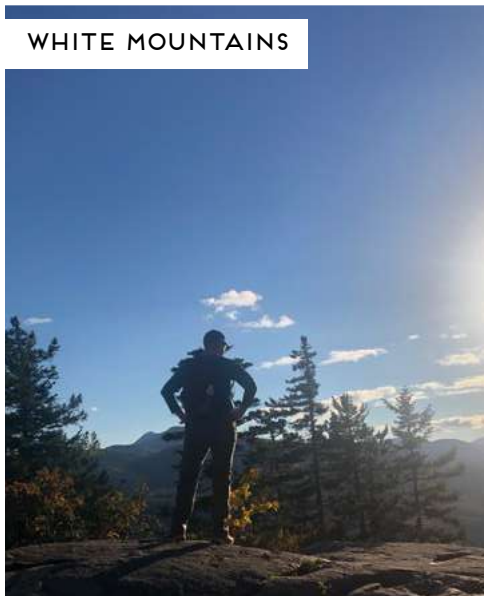
We promise to ensure they always know that you are the first page of their story. *We embrace the idea of open adoption because we understand the benefits for everyone involved, especially your child. If an open adoption is what you think is best, we are open and committed to communicating with you in whatever form you choose.*

KATE and JON

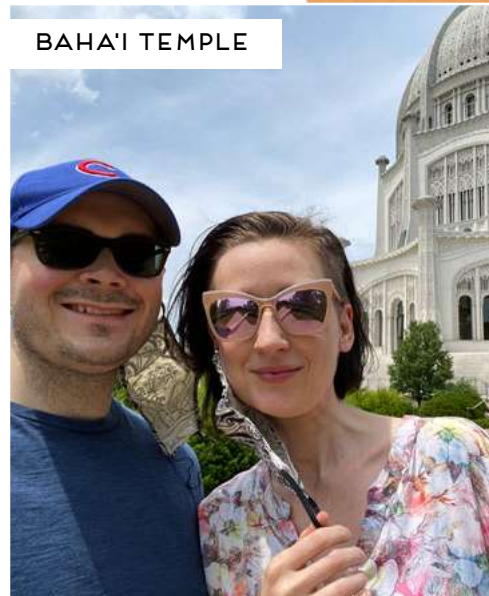
THE USS CONSTITUTION



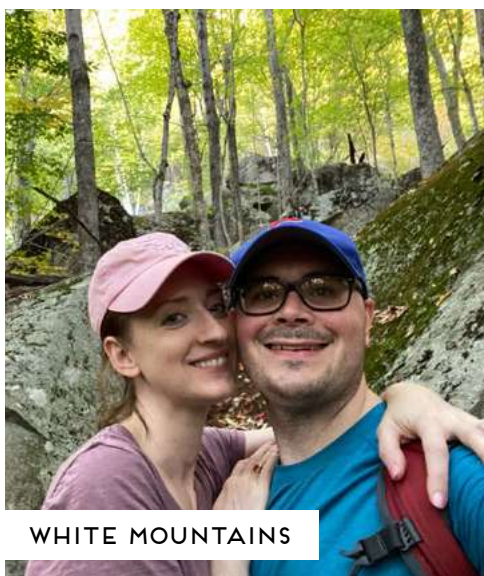
WHITE MOUNTAINS



BAHA'I TEMPLE



CASTELLO DE COMPIANO



WHITE MOUNTAINS



GETTY MUSEUM

Our best adventure is yet to come!



RED ROCKS



MONTMORENCY FALLS



ITALY



Thank you!

