



◀ COLBY AND CLEARY ▶



OUR STORY

Hello, or as Colby would say, "Hey y'all!" We are Colby and Cleary. We are excited to be at this point in the adoption process. Thank you for reading our profile.

We believe, how we met, was an epic love story. We knew about each other long before we actually met. Cleary's brother went to grad school with Colby. He had been telling the two of us about each other, as we were both preparing to move to the same area in New York. We officially met during a young adult Bible study, that Colby was running, and sparks flew! We both distinctly remember the moment we knew our marriage was part of God's plan for us.



In Cleary's hometown, on the water



Feeding the cows in Kansas

Cleary has known since college that having healthy children naturally would be incredibly complicated. Cleary comes from a family blessed with children who are adopted. She knew adoption would be her path to growing her family. Since high school, Colby has spent many summers in Haiti at an orphanage. It was in Haiti that God opened his heart to adoption. We know God has been preparing us for this journey and we can't wait to become a family of three.



GO HUSKERS!



In the Bahamas, visiting family

ABOUT CLEARY

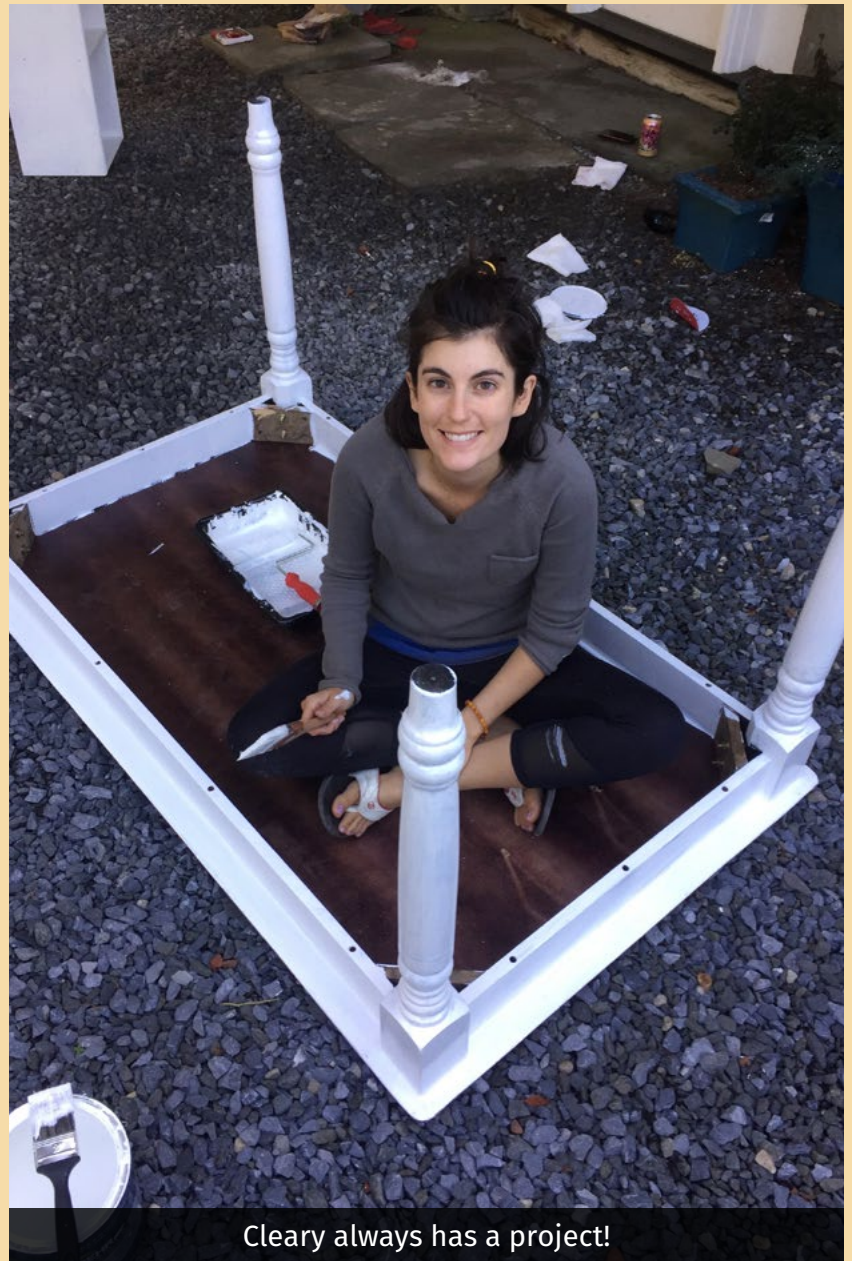
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BY COLBY

I fell for Cleary's drive and personality when we first met. She grew up in New York in a tight-knit and loving family who helped lay the foundation of the strong, smart, and passionate woman that she is today. Cleary has a strong conviction for managing health. She is a health coach who works with people struggling with chronic illness. Cleary has a gift of effectively and lovingly, guiding others to this conviction as well.

I have no doubt Cleary will be an amazing mother. She will raise a child with her fullest devotion, and share her drive for success. Cleary will encourage a child's life calling. Cleary deeply loves her friends and family and goes to great measures to ensure they are valued and loved. When Cleary doesn't immediately know something, she will not stop until she finds a satisfactory answer—whether it's a recipe she's experimenting with or an anomaly with one of her clients.

Cleary enjoys snuggling on the couch with a cup of coffee, sneaking in a quick workout, hanging out with her family at their pool, and Face-Timing her friends from all over the country. Cleary's first love is athletics, but she also enjoys being creative. Her grandma (we call her Boo), taught her how to weave on a loom. She can't wait to share her love of art with a child.



Cleary always has a project!



Tired after Planksgiving challenge



Yum! Bacon roses...



ABOUT COLBY

BY CLEARY

When people ask me what Colby is like I say, the Jolly Green Giant. Physically, Colby is a giant, but he is also goofy, happy and compassionate. As a husband, I could not have asked God for a better man. Colby is constantly surprising me with the amount of grace, love, and kindness he gives me. I know he will extend this same grace to a child.

Everyone loves Colby the moment they meet him. If he is taking extra long at the grocery store, I know he has met a new friend or catching up with an old friend. Colby is a Kansas boy living in a New York world; it is hard to ignore how warm and caring he is. Colby loves being a cowboy, he even bought me my first pair of cowboy boots!

Colby is a pastor, and although his job can be taxing, he makes sure I am a priority. He does a great job of keeping boundaries between our family and the church. Colby is goofy, loves coffee, football, working out (but loves eating more), and going on adventures together.



Bacon roses for Valentine's Day





Preaching in Israel



Summer clamming





OUR FAMILY



We come from very different backgrounds, but equally amazing families! Cleary was born and raised on Long Island to a large Irish-Italian family. She has one brother, who is a student. Cleary's parents do not have grandchildren yet. We are fortunate to be only 20 minutes down the road from most of her family. We see them at least once a week. Cleary has three children in her family who are adopted, from all over the world. Everyone is excited to guide us through the journey of adoption.

Colby's family lives in Kansas. Although the distance can be difficult, it gives us an excuse to travel to the Midwest a few times a year. Colby has two older brothers. The oldest brother is an ER doctor. His other brother and his wife have a 3-year-old son, Bentley, and another child on the way. Colby loves going back to soak in the small-town charm of Kansas and getting dirty while helping out on the farm.



Cleary's Family



Colby's Family



Dressing up as puppies in Kansas



Cleary's extended family at Thanksgiving



Cleary with her cousins



Colby in our dining room

OUR HOME

We live in a house called “a manse”. It is provided to us by the church, where Colby is the pastor. Our community is diverse which reflects Colby’s congregation. We are involved with our local YMCA (gym and swimming) and we’re a short walk from both the village and the local beach.

We have plenty of room for our growing family. Every morning we sit in our cozy chairs, in the kitchen, and enjoy a cup of coffee together.

We spend a lot of time in our backyard. We enjoy cooking and eating on our back porch. We have flexible schedules, which means we get to spend amazing quality time together, and with a child when they arrive. We will be fortunate to not have to use daycare, and we have a very eager grandma down the road.



Coffee nook in our kitchen!



Our family room

◀ THINGS WE LOVE ▶

We love spending our summers on Long Island; both Cleary's parents and her grandma (we call her Boo), live on the water. Boo's pool is a family gathering place for Cleary's family. We grill out, swim, and fish. We typically swim with our Godsons, Remy, and Leo. We joke we are part fish, because whenever we can we like to be on or near water. Two of our absolute favorite places to go are the beach down the road in the evenings and Boo's pool on our days off.

We spend Christmas day with our church, but the week after Christmas we visit Colby's family for "Big Christmas". Colby's family loves Christmas. His mother's house turns into the North Pole, filled with Christmas cookies, a lot of family members, and a Christmas tree in every room!

We also have a passion for food! We love learning how to make new recipes and giving them a healthy twist. We like bringing home a vegetable we have never seen before so we can learn how to cook it. We like to source our food locally, as much as possible. We enjoy gathering family recipes that have been in our family for generations.



Boo's dock, where we got married



Dress up fun for Christmas in Kansas



Christmas adventures in Kansas



We love our cowboy boots

We asked Colby's grandfather when he knew he was ready to be a father, and he responded with, "I don't know if you are ever ready, but you fill your home with love. You do the best you can and ask the good Lord when you can't."

We can't sit here and promise you we will be the perfect parents because that's not reality, but we can promise we will do our best. We will love our child unconditionally, and handle them with grace. We will do our best to raise our child to be proud of their culture and where they came from. We will always remind our child that you are an important part of their story. We promise to always advocate for our child.

We are grateful to share who we are with you! This is only the beginning of our paths crossing, and we feel every step is significant to our child's story. We have been praying for this moment from the beginning of our marriage, and we feel at peace knowing God has a plan for all of us. You are always in our prayers.

