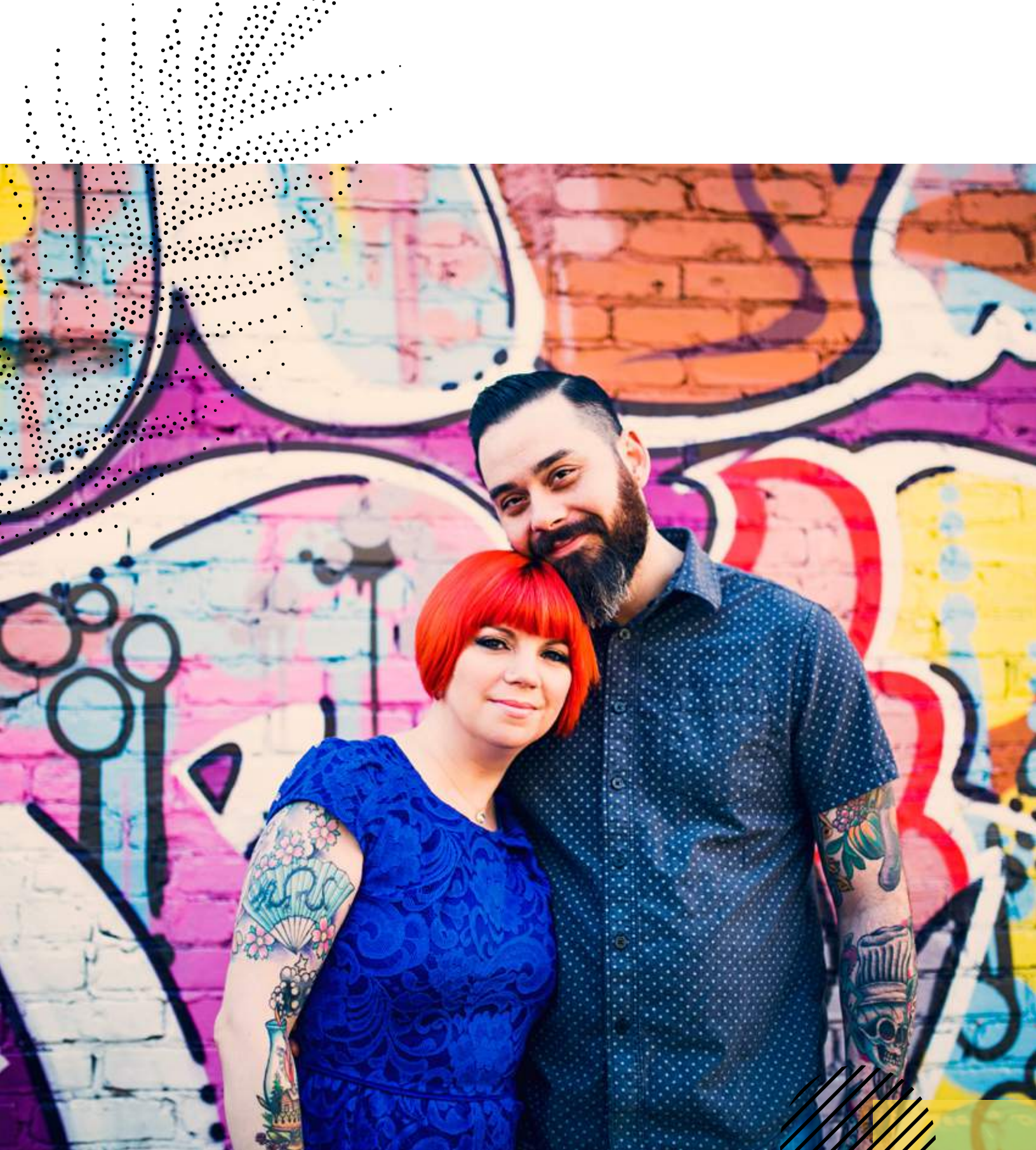


RÉMI + JESSICA





OUR NOTE TO YOU



HELLO THERE

We wanted to take time to introduce ourselves and give you a chance to get to know us. So... hi! We're Jessica and Rémi. We know you're in a tough situation right now and understand that you are taking time to review all of your options. You taking the time to educate yourself speaks volumes about who you are and the decision you're making for your child. **You're very brave and selfless and we know you are in the middle of making a life changing moment.** Thank you for taking the time to get to know us and we just want you to know that we support you.

We are truly excited to start a family. We both live very vibrant lives and we know a child would be the perfect addition to our little family. I (Jessica) am 42, and a project manager. You know what that means... I'm always making lists and am a super organizer. I tend to be the one to organize outings for us and all of our friends. I've always wanted to have a child and I'm excited for one to join us on our life journey. I (Rémi), am 36, and I'm a chef, originally from France. I became a U.S. citizen early last year and love cooking for Jessica and am really looking forward to learning to make some fancy baby food and teaching a child how to speak French! Together, we spend our weekends exploring the city and attending local music festivals, plays, arts and crafts festivals, and local markets. **We look forward to bringing a child along with us on those journeys and discovering new favorite things to do together as well!** There's lots of love in our household and it's our dream to share that with a child. We've been thrown many curve balls in our path, but we are super excited for our next step.

Thank you for taking the time to learn about us! We are cheering for you.

RÉMI + JESSICA





OUR STORY

WE GREW UP ON DIFFERENT CONTINENTS, BUT THE WORLD HAD A PLAN FOR US AND STEP-BY-STEP, IT BROUGHT US TOGETHER.

I (Jessica) am from Atlanta, Georgia, where I've lived all of my life. I (Rémi) am from France, where I grew up in a small town south of Paris. I call it "castle and wine country," because the city I am from has beautiful huge castles and vineyards.

What drew us to each other? Well, obviously, I (Jessica) was drawn to Rémi's french accent. (Haha!) He says he was drawn to my colorfulness, and when we met, my bright hair and tattoos were the first things he noticed. After dating for a year and a half, he proposed to me on my favorite day of the year -- Christmas! I (Rémi) proposed on Christmas morning, while Jessica was making hashbrown casserole and we were in our pajamas. She was so surprised, but immediately said "DUH! of course I will!" We got married six months later, and we've now celebrated four and a half years of marriage. We live happily with our dog, Walter, and our cat, Miss Skillet.



WE WANT TO WELCOME A CHILD INTO OUR FUN
& VIBRANT LIVES OF LIVE MUSIC, ART FESTIVALS,
FARMERS MARKETS, COOKING, ENTERTAINING
FRIENDS, AND PLAYFULNESS.

WHY WE ARE ADOPTING

We have both always dreamed of being parents. We have lots of families and friends around us with adoptive families, so it's always been something we've thought about! Since being married, we have tried having a baby, and have come to the crossroads of deciding to try IVF or adoption. We both immediately thought of adoption. One of the things we are really looking forward to is introducing our child to Rémi's culture and teaching them how to speak French. We've already purchased several French baby books (we are big readers in this house), so that we can start them learning early! We love spending time with the children in our lives, and are really excited about having a baby.





WE DREAM OF RAISING A CHILD THAT CAN BE AS CREATIVE AS THEY WANT TO BE. READING, MUSIC, SPORTS, ACADEMICS, WHATEVER THEY ARE INTERESTED IN WE WILL ENCOURAGE! EVERY CHILD HAS DIFFERENT TALENTS, IT'S JUST FINDING WHAT THEY ARE!



OUR LIFE TOGETHER

We are usually entertaining people or spending time with friends. I (Remi) am a little on the quieter side, and Jessica is more outgoing, which is a great balance! We spend many weekends attending things like arts festivals, farmers markets, friends backyard bbqs, music festivals, anything social! We are a welcoming couple.

A nonprofit that we deeply care about and are involved in is Songs for Kids Foundation, which provides music lessons for children with special needs and brings music to the hospitals to visit terminally ill children. Jessica is their photographer and attends a lot of the hospital visits to capture the moment, and Rémi is involved with a food festival that they put on every year to fundraise.



CHRISTMAS AND HALLOWEEN ARE TWO BIG HOLIDAYS IN OUR FAMILY. WE SPEND CHRISTMAS WITH JESSICA'S FAMILY AND HAVE BREAKFAST, OPEN PRESENTS, AND THEN LOUNGE AROUND SPENDING TIME TOGETHER AS A FAMILY. ON HALLOWEEN WE ALWAYS DRESS UP.

WE LOVE THEMED PARTIES AND ANY OPPORTUNITY FOR A COSTUME, EVEN IF IT'S NOT HALLOWEEN!





MEET JESSICA

I grew up in Marietta, Georgia, right outside of Atlanta. Most people who live in Atlanta are transplants, but I'm one of the rare people you find who is from here, and so is my family. **Growing up, I was very close with my mom and always knew I wanted a child so that I could be just as close to them as I am with my mom.**

I am an expressive person and love having bright colored, ever-changing hair. I spend free time entertaining friends at the house, listening to podcasts, cooking, decorating, doing photography, going to concerts, and would describe myself as a foodie -- so trying fun places to eat is a must for Rémi and me! I am a project manager for a corporate events company, which in turn, means I'm super organized and love making lists. I also do photography on the side and can't wait to take photos of our child one day!

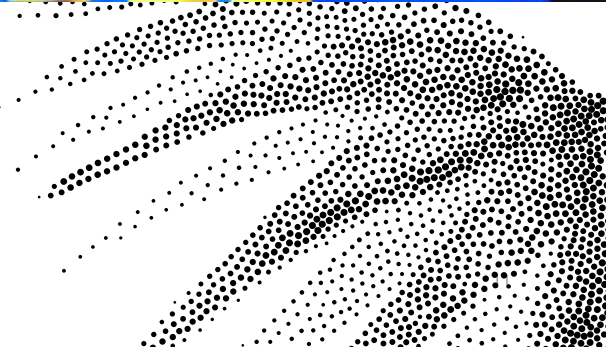
In our friend group, I'm the one who is always planning things for all of us, making dinner reservations, cooking dinner for everyone, etc... In fact, we even have a friend who calls me "mom," as I'm always helping her with things and doing things with her. I can't wait to apply this even more to Rémi's and my life and take care of our child together. **I've always wanted a child and to help them learn and grow, while encouraging them to explore anything that they dream about conquering.**



FAVORITE BOOK: "WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE"
BY MAURICE SENDAK (I EVEN HAVE A TATTOO OF
IT ON MY LEG)

I'M INSPIRED BY: MUSIC AND BEING SURROUNDED
BY CREATIVE PEOPLE

FAVORITE PLACE: ON THE COUCH WITH WALTER
AND RÉMI, OR ON JOST VAN DYKE
(AN ISLAND IN THE VIRGIN ISLANDS)





MEET RÉMI

I grew up near my grandparents' farm in Blois, a small town an hour and a half south of Paris. My grandparents grew and raised everything they ate, which is the root of my inspiration for becoming a Chef! I am passionate about cooking, and love to cook French food (of course) with an American modern twist. **The biggest challenge** that I have overcome in life so far is moving to the U.S. 11 years ago for work, without knowing English.

I have always wanted to be a parent, and enjoy spending time with the children in our lives, especially my one-year-old nephew, Antonin. I want to be a parent so I can teach our child how to cook and teach them all about European football (soccer). I am also really excited about the opportunity to make our own baby food and trying to have them eat as organic as possible, to pass on my grandparents' tradition!



FAVORITE BOOK: "FRENCH FEAST" (MY FAVORITE COOKBOOK!)

FAVORITE PLACE: THE KITCHEN, ALWAYS!

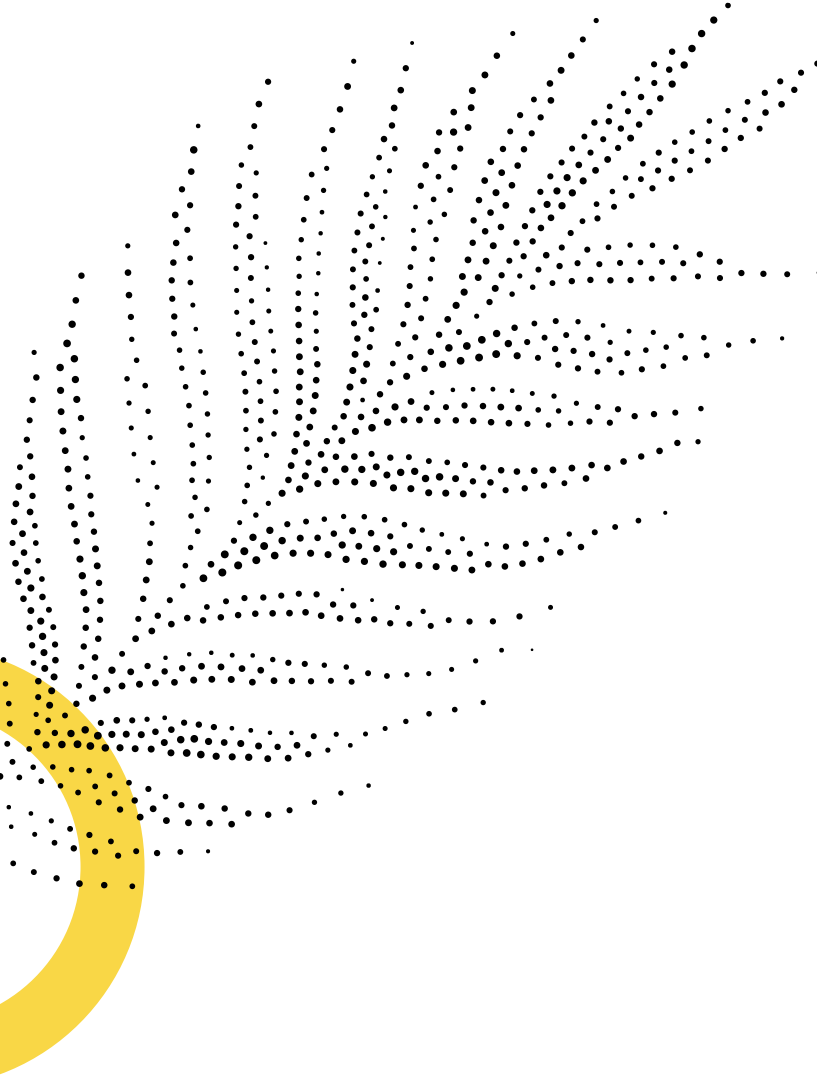
IF I COULD TRAVEL ANYWHERE: AUSTRALIA TO SEE MY SISTER
OR FRANCE TO SEE MY PARENTS



JESSICA

IN RÉMI'S WORDS

“ I LOVE JESSICA BECAUSE SHE IS KIND.
SHE WILL BE AN AWESOME MOTHER
BECAUSE SHE LIKES TO TAKE CARE OF
ME AND ALL OF OUR FRIENDS & FAMILY. ”



RÉMI

IN JESSICA'S WORDS

“ RÉMI WILL BE AN AMAZING FATHER
BECAUSE HE'S GOT A SWEET SOUL
AND IS SO PASSIONATE ABOUT
EVERYTHING HE DOES. HE IS SO
EXCITED ABOUT TEACHING A
CHILD HOW TO COOK AND HOW
TO SPEAK FRENCH. ”



OUR HOME

WE CAN DESCRIBE OUR HOME IN TWO WORDS --VERY CHEERFUL.

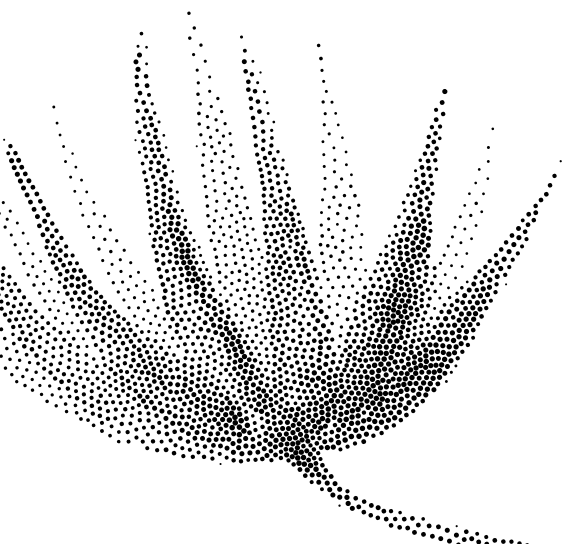
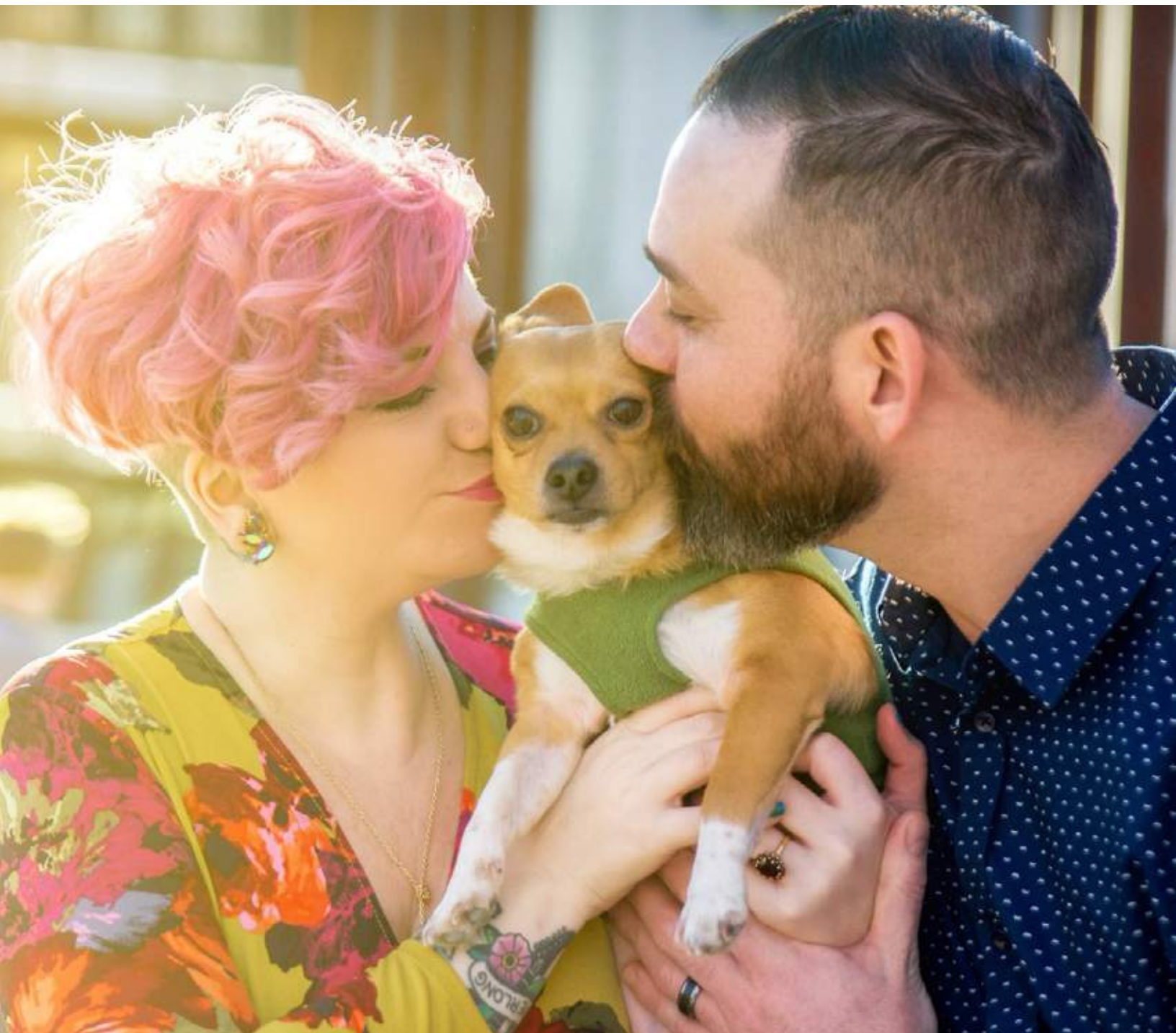
Our home is mid century modern, with lots of bright colors going on. It's cozy and comfy, while still being stylish. Our home has three bedrooms, two baths, and a large basement. We are excited to begin working on the nursery, which is a huge room for the baby. Much like the rest of the house (and us), **it will likely be very vibrant!**

Our home supports the activities we love, which are cooking together, playing with the dog, watching movies, playing board/card games, and entertaining friends.

We are very close to the elementary school (two blocks away), and less than a mile from the middle school and high school. Our neighbors are a little older than us, but everyone is close. We always reach out when we see anything suspicious and share information! **Our neighborhood is extremely diverse.**







OUR PETS

We rescued Walter, a five-year-old half chihuahua/half corgi about three years ago. He is a little snuggler. He likes to sleep about 23 hours a day (just kidding, but it's definitely a lot) and is great with kids! He just always likes to be in someone's lap, keeping you warm.



Miss Skillet, our cat, is about 15 years old. Since she's a little older, she doesn't come out of hiding much, but has always been friendly with kids and is one of the prettiest tuxedo cats you've ever seen.

OUR FAMILIES

RÉMI'S FAMILY:

Rémi is super close with his parents, even though they live far away in France. We facetime with them at least once a week to keep in touch. They also come to visit us once or twice a year, which will probably be even more often once we have a baby!





JESSICA'S FAMILY:

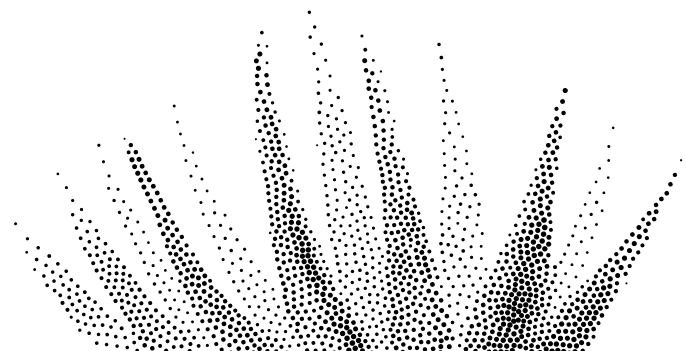
I am very close to my mother and stepfather (I call them both my parents), and they live about 45 minutes away from us. **They are excited to be very involved with the baby!** We see each other about once or twice a month, but my mom is about to retire, so we will probably see each other more often. I don't have any nieces or nephews, as my sister hasn't had any children, but hopefully one day! When we see my parents, we spend time cooking together, grilling, shopping, or just spending time together laughing!



IN OUR FAMILY...

**WE LIVE LIFE LOUD.
WE SURROUND OURSELVES
WITH COLORFUL AND KIND SOULS,
ENERGETIC EXPERIENCES,
& INNOVATIVE FOOD.**

**WE ARE ALWAYS LISTENING TO MUSIC. IT'S AN
INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE! EVERYONE LOVES
TO LISTEN TO MUSIC AND DANCE.**

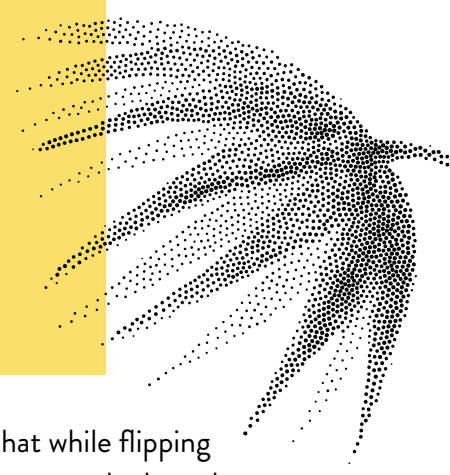


**WE ALWAYS COOK TOGETHER AND
TURN DINNER TIME INTO
TOGETHER TIME.**

**WE LOVE DRESSING UP FOR
HALLOWEEN, CHRISTMAS, OR
ANY OTHER EXCUSE
FOR A THEME PARTY
OR COSTUME!**



BEFORE YOU GO WE WANT YOU TO KNOW



We wanted to thank you again for taking the time to get to know us. We hope that while flipping through the pages of our book, you got some good insight into who we are and can see the love that we share, popping from the colorful pages of our book. We can't wait to share that with an addition to our family. If you choose to move forward with an adoption plan and select us, here is what we strive to commit to as parents to a child:

- We will encourage our child to pursue their passion. Whether that's music, sports, academics, arts, dance, martial arts, or whatever our child is interested, we will help support and motivate them in finding their passion.
- We will get them to try new things, especially when it comes to food! In our household, we will try anything once, so we would encourage our child to do the same.
- We will teach them the value of hard work. We have both always worked hard and had a very strong work ethic. This is something we will strive to instill in our child.
- We are committed to honoring where our child came from and who they are. We will do everything we can to encourage our child to ask questions and learn more about their heritage.
- We will be using multiple languages in our house, as Rémi's native language is French. We will encourage our child to learn as many languages as they'd like!
- We will encourage our child to be as imaginative as they want to be! In our family we like to act silly, play dress up, and be our own people.

We know you have a lot of tough choices to make. When we face something hard, we like to remind ourselves of one of the lyrics from our favorite movie, *The Greatest Showman*, “**I am brave, I am proof. I am who I'm meant to be, this is me.**” We hope you know that we believe in you and support you in whatever decision you make. Thanks again for taking the time to read our book!



RÉMI + JESSICA

