

# Nolan & Megan's Family



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**Hi!** We are Nolan, Megan, Elias, and Aaliyah! We are part of a LARGE multi-racial family with lots of adoptees 🌈. In our extended family we have Spanish speakers, adoptees from China, bi-racial and caucasian adoptees and our sweet daughter is filipino/haitian ❤️

(Why do our family pics seem to always be during no shave November? 🧑🏿♀️ LOL.)

## Our Family Story:

We both grew up in Christian homes where education and connection was valued. Both of us come from families who fostered for years and we both have multiple adopted siblings. We have a lifetime of experience in the world of fostering as well as adoption! Nolan and I met in college and we married only 8 months after our first date. We have been married for 9.5 years. Megan is the deep thinker and nurturing type and Nolan is spontaneous and outgoing. There is a lot of energy and personality in this family!

It wasn't long after we married when Megan became pregnant with our son. We had always planned to foster and adopt since we grew up seeing our parents serve in this way. We knew how important it was and made it our plan A! When our son was about three we decided it was time to pursue fostering.

We helped babysit foster kids, fostered kids ourselves and even had a set of siblings for two whole years that we were able to help reconcile with their parents. While we were fostering we had also been helping a friend with rides to church. She messaged us all of a sudden and asked if we would adopt her baby that she was 5 months pregnant with. And everything else just fell into place better than we could have possibly planned. We have a good relationship with our daughters biological mom still and couldn't imagine life without our daughter in it!







Megan took care of our daughter from the moment she was born! We continued to foster until our last set of foster kids reconciled with their parents. Then we relocated to Texas where we are now settled.





(Recent camping trip!)

## **Careers**

Nolan is a police officer in an affluent city in the metro-plex of Dallas. It is a low crime area and he has really good rapport with those he comes in contact with. He is a public servant who really cares for the community and focuses on the most important aspects of helping keeping the community safe. He has won life saving awards, kindness awards, and is a purple heart recipient as well (that was from when he worked in a less safe area years ago.)

Megan is a registered nurse who works a very flexible schedule. She has a job she loves but her priorities are mainly at home with our family for now. One of us is always home with the kids when they're very little! Right now Aaliyah is in preschool a few days a week and Elias is in second grade.



### **A Day In Our Life:**

We tend to wake up early here! While one of us is fixing some breakfast for the kids, our son usually feeds our dog and our daughter is usually snuggling her Teddy bear (and one of us) as she wakes up. Megan will drive the kids to school, see some patients, then pick them up when



school is over. Then it's home for play and dinner and maybe soccer practice depending on the season! We live very close to our elementary school! Our neighborhood is full of kids!



Trick or treating with our neighbors! We know all the kids on the block 😊

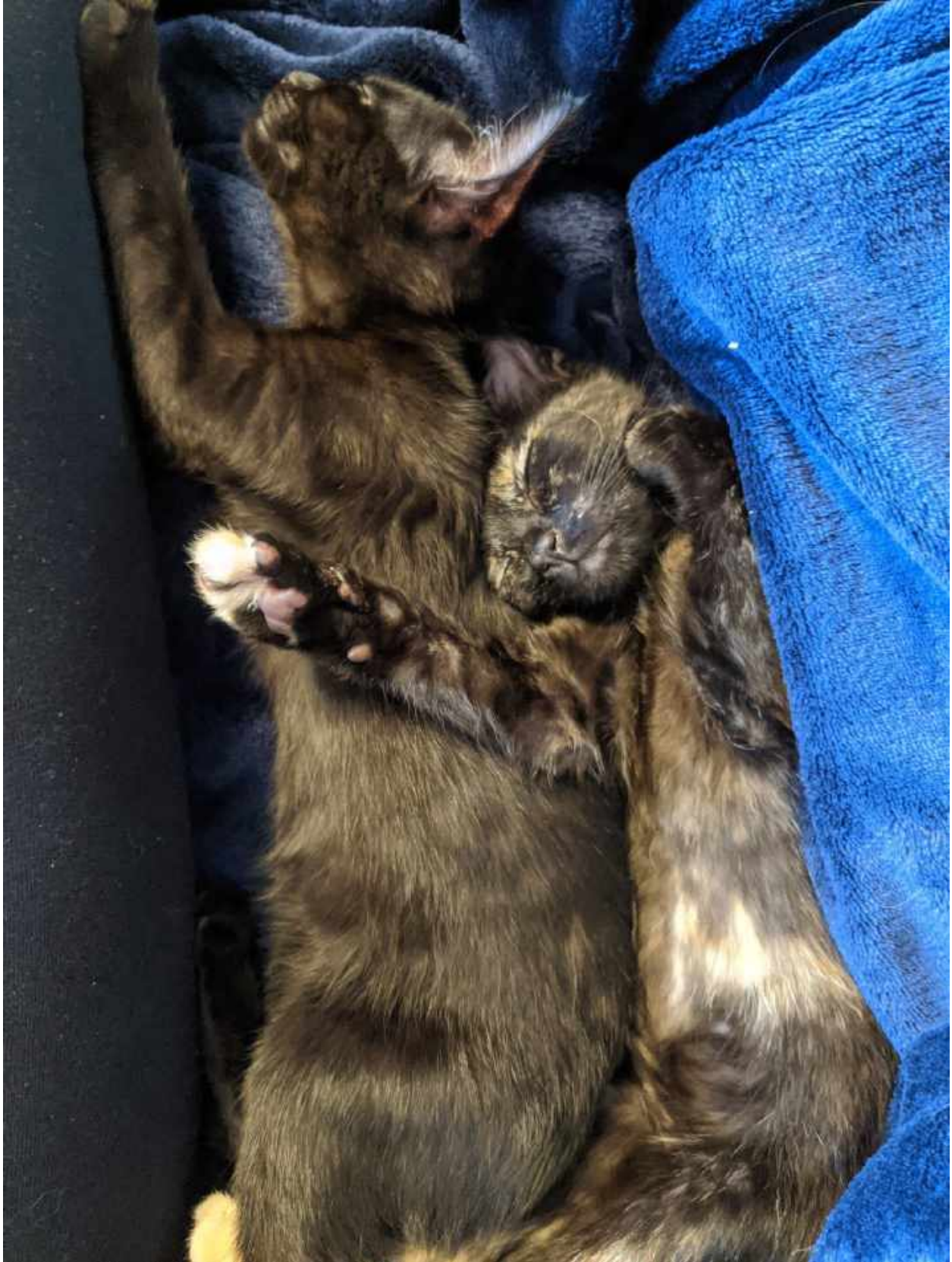


Megan and the kids are major animal lovers. We have Ringo, Mew Mew, Mouse & Flea!



↑ Ringo

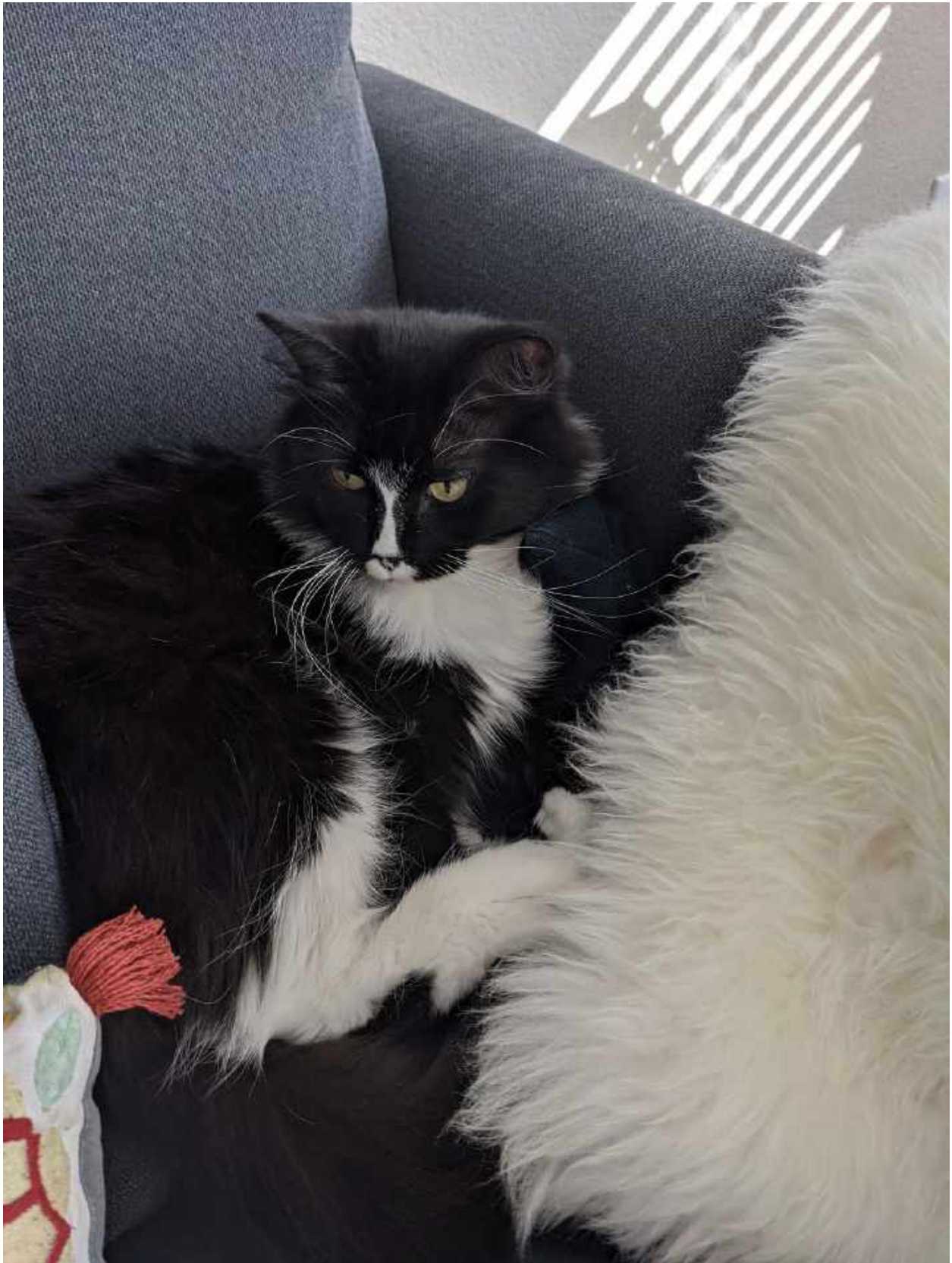






↑ Mouse and Flea - aka "the twins"





### ↑ MewMew

We are a very active family. We keep things nice and tidy in our home and are often outside playing somewhere! We have a fenced in yard for the kids to play in. We have a lot of neighborhood kids who like to come play in our front yard so one of us adults will hang out there with them so they can play together safely! They can ride bikes back and forth on the sidewalk in front of our house and sometimes we take family walks. When it's time to start cooking we bring our kids inside. If the weather isn't good, then we will put in a movie or show for them to watch while we cook. It gets pretty hot in Texas so we set up the sprinkler for the kids to run through and visit splash pads a lot when it's hot. Depending on the season - our son might have soccer or swimming practice during the week. Our daughter likes to do ballet. We eat home cooked meals together just about every evening. Bedtime always includes snuggles, reading time, and a song of choice for each child. Sometimes we watch an episode of something family friendly together if we have extra time before bed.







Our weekends often include soccer games, random community events, library events, get togethers with family friends, and church on Sundays. We like to go to parks and walking trails and have some really great ones even in our small town! Megan helps with toddler classes and events at the church as well as provide meals for those in need of support. Nolan helps provide security at church. We have a lot of close friends from church and our kids have lots of friends

there as well. There is always something to do around here if we want to get out but we love lazy Saturdays too!



Holidays are so much fun for our families because we come from loving and also large extended families! We travel to Tennessee and Missouri often to visit extended family and they come to us as well.

### **(Annual Cowboy Santa in our town)**

### **Parenting Goals/Philosophy:**

Both of us believe in preparing our kiddos for real life so we each teach them basic life skills all the time. We often call the kids to the kitchen to help with some simple parts of meal preparation and they each have ways they help with small chores. Nolan engages them in his projects around the house and yard as well and helps them learn how to use simple tools. He is so patient when teaching them new things. We both spend time talking with them about right and wrong, help them navigate conflicts, read a lot to them, and help them maintain healthy routines. We teach Christian values.



We pay attention to our kids natural personalities and talents and help them build on those things especially. We have started education funds for both of them and aim to help them choose a solid career path that will suit them well so they are likely to be successful. If we get to

bring home another baby we will start their education fund then and do the same for them as well.



These two are super close buddies! Elias is sweet, smart, creative, and especially nurturing for a boy. Aaliyah is fearless, fun, and has a wonderful imagination. They both get along well with other children and can't wait to have another sibling!

Nolan is such a great dad! He can get the kids laughing and giggling like no one else can and is great with kids in general. He is silly and playful!













↑ ONE side of Nolan's Family!



We hope we've given you a glimpse of what it is like to be part of our family and that you can see how the support, stability and love our family has. Our connection runs very deep. If we didn't cover something that you're wondering about - just let us know. We're very open and glad to discuss whatever questions you might have or even just talking to get to know our personalities a little better. If you're reading this then you can know that we prayed for you and your entire situation before we sent this to you. We think it takes a great amount of strength to do what you are doing and hope you and your baby have the best possible outcome for your unique circumstances. We are excited but we respect that adoption is a bittersweet situation. We are here for you.

Love,

The Murray's ❤️❤️