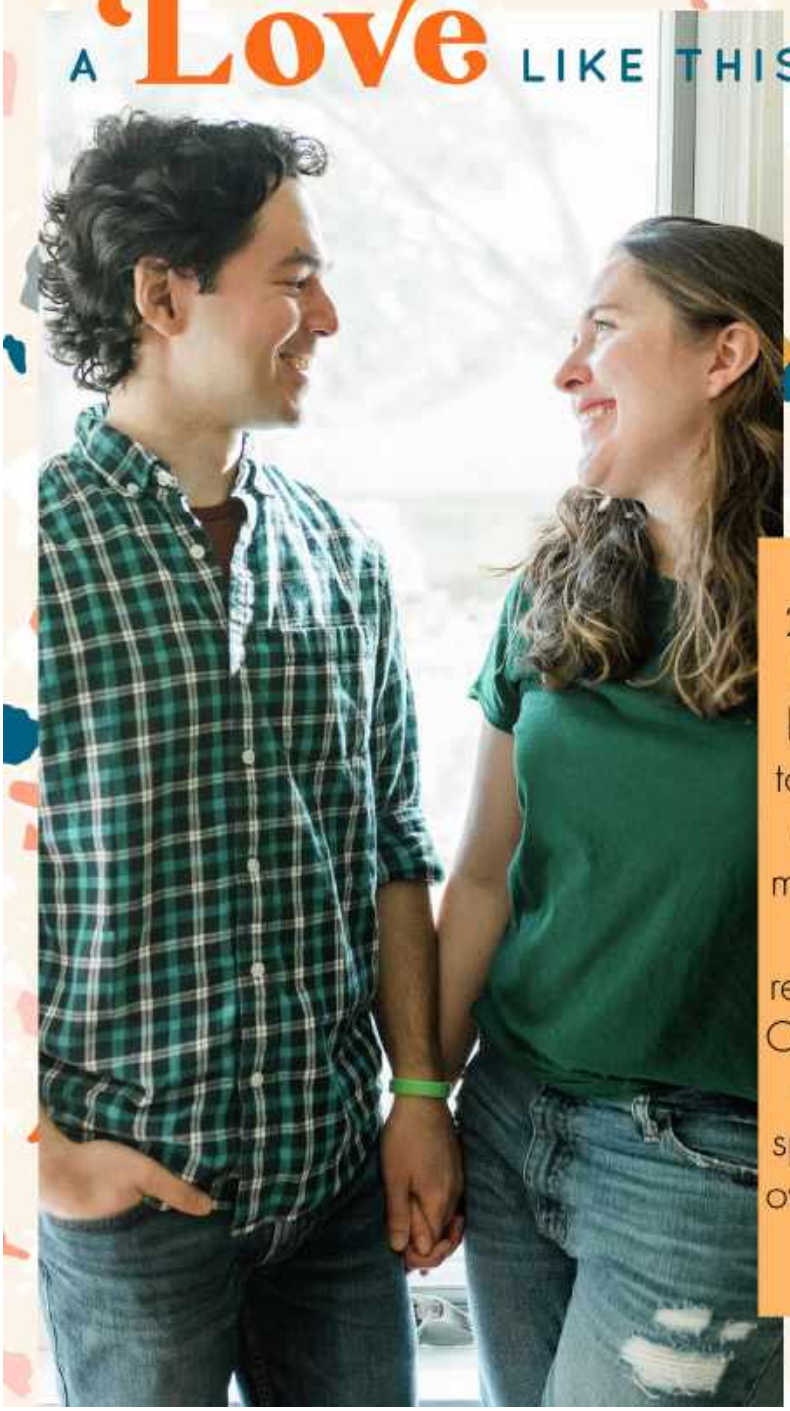
hello

Thank you for taking the time to learn about our family. We are two married goofballs living in the Pacific Northwest with our biological son, Linden, and our two cats. We deeply respect you and understand that this is a very challenging time for you. It is our sincere hope that this book will give you a good picture of the life we share together so you can decide if we are the right family for your important choice. We wish you the very best.

A Love LIKE THIS



We met through friends in the fall of 2010 and began dating in January of 2011. By the end of that year, Kellie knew she wanted to get married but it took Evan another year to propose. On a cold day in April of 2013, we got married in the mountains in Washington state. We have built our entire relationship on mutual respect and care. One of our core principles is that we are on the same team, always. We love spending time together but maintain our own hobbies. We are so happy to have found each other.

MEET KELLIE

I have a big heart and I have a lot of fun in life. I love being a mom and my biggest accomplishment so far has been our son Linden. I am an extrovert and love spending time with friends and family, but also very much enjoy curling up with a good book. I am a creative and nurturing person and I am so very excited to add another little one to our family. I used to be a high school science teacher but I am currently working my most challenging job to date: stay-at-home mom. That being said, we are rarely at home as I love activity and spending time with friends.

Fun facts written by Evan:

Kellie read 45 books last year!

Adores owls and gnomes.

Loves a good story, whether it's in a movie, podcast, or book.

Makes unexpected life-long friends wherever she goes.

I love to travel with my family. I have been to many cool places with Evan and we are planning on raising our children to travel. Linden has already been to New Zealand and Canada.

Providing a solid loving foundation for my children is I believe my greatest gift and challenge in being a mom. I am fun, love nature, movies, and animals.

MEET EVAN

I'm all about: family and friends, outdoor adventures, and music. I love learning random facts & useful skills. Lately, I've been learning how to make better coffee at home.

One of my greatest joys is sharing my favorite activities with friends & family. As Linden has gotten older, I love when he asks to go for a bike ride or when he asks to help me cook.

I tend to be a bit introverted, so it takes me a little time to get to know people before I show my relaxed, goofy side.

Fun facts written by Kellie:

Evan bikes around 18 miles a day...just for his commute!

Evan can tell you the make and model of any car just by glancing at it.

Once Evan hiked up a mountain in a thrift-store suit and skied down, just for fun.

I love getting into the outdoors, whether I'm cycling, camping, or backcountry skiing. Last year we went camping a few times with Linden and he absolutely loved sleeping in a tent.

Growing up, I was all about music: piano, and violin in orchestra. I still play from time to time, and look forward to the day where we can ask Linden if he wants to take music lessons.

MEET LINDEN

Linden was born in September 2017 and is a very healthy and happy child. He is our biological child.

Linden is very excited to be a big brother. He attends preschool (with mama) two days a week and also likes music class.

He is very interested in learning to read, which scares us because then how will we spell I-C-E C-R-E-A-M without him knowing?

Linden is a curious, kind, goofy boy who is both social and focused.

He enjoys animals but his favorite animals are his cats and the squirrels that live in our yard. His first animal sound was a crow "caw!"

Interests:
Reading and the alphabet, toy cars, dinosaurs, artwork, friends, hanging out with his grandparents, Duplo blocks, riding his bike, bird watching, and treats.

Linden said his first word (mama) in New Zealand on vacation. His six stuffed animal best friends sleep with him every night.

OUR PARENTING

As parents we choose our family as our #1 priority. Our job is to provide a loving and respectful environment for our children where they can learn to be wonderful people. We would describe ourselves as fun-loving, nurturing, firm yet kind, and dedicated.

OUR HOME AND LIFE

Farrah and Leo

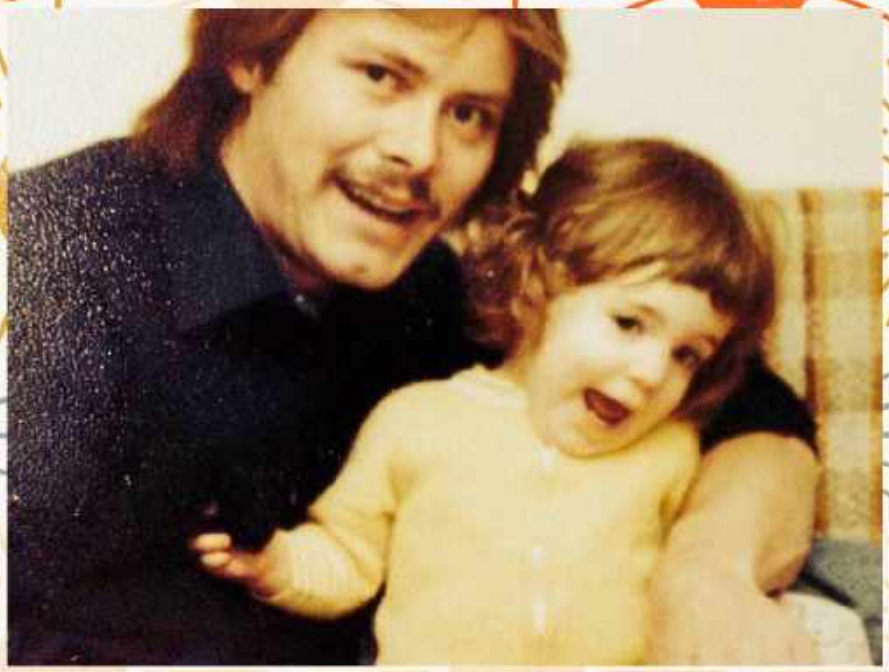
Our home is located in an established, friendly, tree-filled neighborhood with lots of families, dogs, and kids. We like to bike and play at the elementary school a few blocks away, and we often see our family and friends that live nearby.

TRADITIONS

We love holidays and traditions but are not religious. We celebrate Christmas to the MAX including trips to see Santa and decorating the whole house. We love birthday parties for both adults and childen in our family, and enjoy decorating cookies, halloween and fall apple picking. As Linden gets older we find ourselves adding in more and more fun traditions.

BOO!

Christmas Cookies



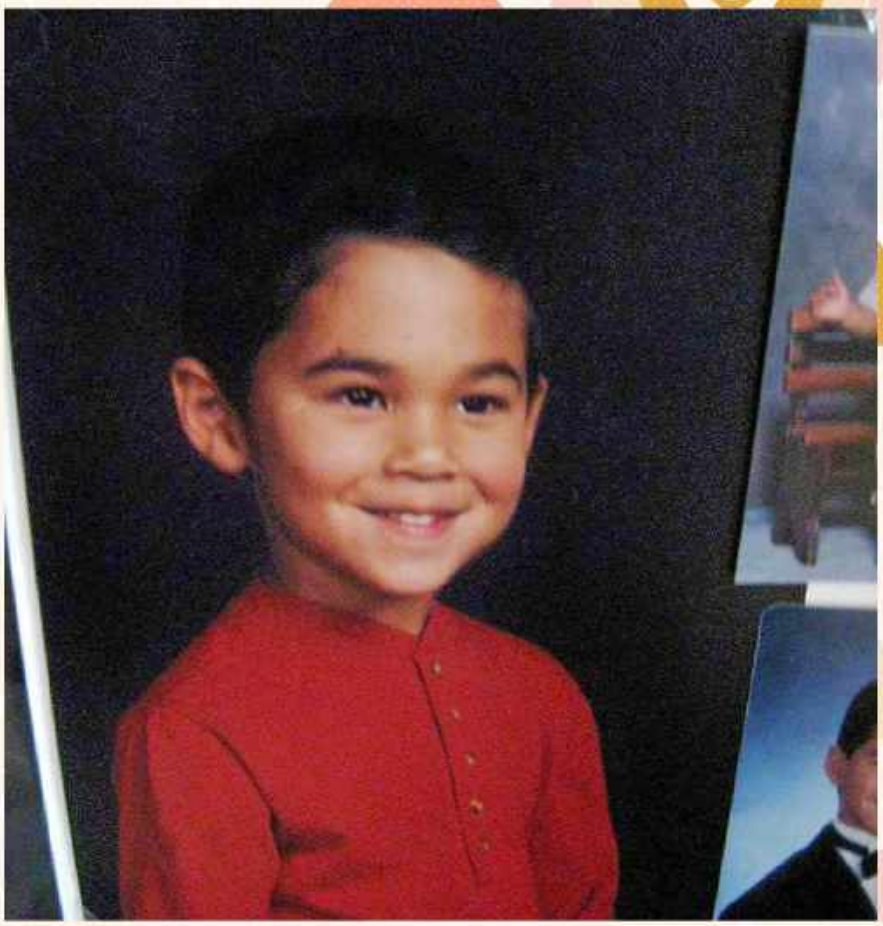
KELLIE'S STORY

Kellie grew up in Eastern Washington with her mom and dad until she was three. Her parents got a divorce and she went to live with her mom but saw her dad often. He remarried and gave Kellie two sisters and a brother. Sadly, her dad passed away when she was 13. Kellie is very close with her mom, stepdad and grandmother who live in Eastern Washington still.

Kellie went to college to get a degree in Biology and then later a Master's in teaching. She taught high school for ten years before taking a step back to become a stay-at-home mom. She intends to continue to stay home with our next child as well.

EVAN'S STORY

Evan was born in Northern California and lived with his mom, dad, and sister. His mom chose to be a stay-at-home mom and both parents were very involved in raising him and his sister, so as a result they are a close family. Evan's parents live about two miles away and his sister & brother-in-law recently moved from California to our neighborhood, just a few blocks away.



Evan's mom is Chinese and his dad is German, but as a family they were culturally Californian. He's been fortunate that growing up mixed-race never felt like a disadvantage in his community, though he is aware that's often the case. After college, Evan moved to the Pacific Northwest to work in software, saw the mountains, and never looked back.

OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Visiting the Olympics

Arizona

Japan

We have enjoyed many trips together over the years and we are excited to travel with our children. Linden has been a good travel buddy and is very curious about the world around him. We hope that more travel is in store for our family in the future.

Yosemite

Hawaii

We are looking forward to welcoming another sweet child into our family. Kellie & Evan have very different families, and Kellie comes from a blended family with many types of family relationships. Our philosophy is inclusive; we believe that including more people that love a child into our family makes a richer life, which is why we're committed to the hope of an open adoption with contact from the birth family – contact with you.

Thank you so much for taking the time to let us tell you a little bit about ourselves and our family. We hope you have a good feel for how we live together and love each other. We would love to meet you and hope that our paths cross soon. Best of luck to you as you navigate your way through this difficult time.

Evan, Kellie, and Linden