

# *Our Story*

*Rachel & Ben*

# About Us

We met in 2014 and have been married since 2017. We have a loving marriage and are strong in our communication with each other. We genuinely enjoy spending time with each other watching movies, playing music, riding bikes, or going on vacations. We are both musicians. Rachel plays several instruments, including string bass and piano. Ben plays the trumpet. We often play in music groups together. As much as we love spending time together, we also have individual hobbies and encourage each other in these hobbies. Ben plays soccer and also enjoys playing video games with friends. Rachel likes to read and go to concerts. Rachel is a social worker and has a flexible schedule. Ben is an IT business analyst and is able to work from home a few days per week. We both enjoy our work, but always make sure that we have time for fun.



## *Our Home & Pet*

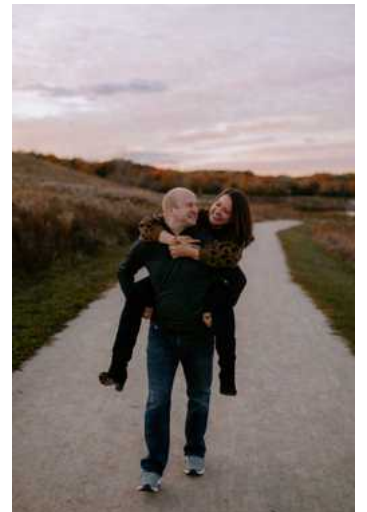
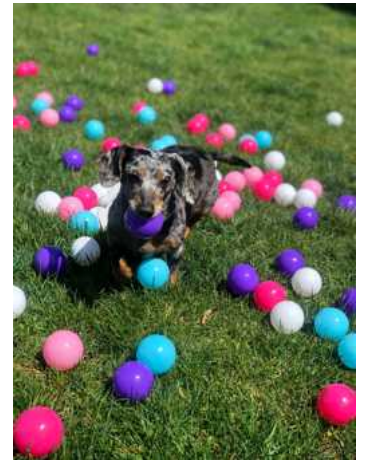
We live in Illinois and recently moved into a new home with plenty of space for our future family. We live in a four-bedroom, two-bathroom home in a wonderful neighborhood. Our neighborhood is friendly, with many families with children. We live down the street from a park with a playground, basketball hoops, soccer nets, and baseball diamonds. We live near two large forest preserves with trails perfect for walking or bike riding. We are also in an excellent school district with many opportunities. Our area has several park districts with plenty of extra activities for kids and families. We have an eleven-year-old miniature dachshund named Molly. Molly loves cuddling, taking naps, and playing fetch.



## *What Led Us To Adoption*

We have always talked about the possibility of adoption. Our goal is to be parents, in whatever way is possible for us. After a journey with infertility, we decided to start the adoption process. We have full support from both sides of our families and many friends. We have extended family members who have been able to adopt children, which encouraged us to start our own adoption process. We are thrilled to be on this journey and are looking forward to sharing our life with your child.





# Get To Know Us

Ben



Rachel



**OCCUPATION:** IT Business Analyst  
**EDUCATION:** Bachelor's Degree  
**RACE:** Caucasian  
**RELIGION:** None  
**FAVORITE FOOD:** Pizza  
**FAVORITE TRADITION:** Watching Halloween Movies  
**MUSICAL GROUP:** Foo Fighters  
**FAVORITE MOVIE:** Marvel Comic Movies  
**FAVORITE HOLIDAY:** Halloween  
**FAVORITE TV SHOW:** Jeopardy!  
**FAVORITE SUBJECT IN SCHOOL:** History  
**FAVORITE BOOK:** The Time Machine

**OCCUPATION:** Social Worker  
**EDUCATION:** Master's Degree  
**RACE:** Caucasian  
**RELIGION:** None  
**FAVORITE FOOD:** Peanut Butter M&Ms  
**FAVORITE TRADITION:** Decorating for Christmas  
**MUSICAL GROUP:** All Time Low  
**FAVORITE MOVIE:** Burn After Reading  
**FAVORITE HOLIDAY:** Christmas  
**FAVORITE TV SHOW:** This Is Us  
**FAVORITE SUBJECT IN SCHOOL:** English/Literature  
**FAVORITE BOOK:** The Giver

## *Our Extended Family*

**We live close to both sides of our family and see them all regularly. Rachel's parents and brother live a fifteen-minute drive away. Ben's parents, as well as his aunt and uncle, are less than ten minutes away. Ben's brother and his fiance live five minutes away from us. Living so close to both sides of our family allows us to see everyone on holidays and birthdays throughout the year. We are also fortunate to be able to have both sides of our family attend many holiday celebrations together. We love getting together with our families for dinner, barbeques, movie nights, game nights, and concerts.**

**We both have grandmothers in their 90s who live out of state. We communicate with them via phone and visit about once a year. We also have aunts, uncles, and cousins who live in other states, including Washington, Tennessee, Texas, Arizona, and Ohio.**

**We have close friends, both in the area and out of state, who we also consider to be our extended family. We see friends in the area as much as we can and make sure to coordinate with our friends out of state for video chats or long weekend vacations.**



## *Dear Expectant Mother*

**We are incredibly thankful and grateful you are taking the time to get to know us. We are in awe of your strength as you manage what must be such a difficult process. We imagine that you are experiencing many different feelings right now and we hope that you are being kind to yourself during this time. Our hearts go out to you, and we want you to know we are thinking of you and your baby. We support you in whatever decision you make and know it will be the best decision for you and your baby.**

**We are grateful to you for considering us to raise your baby. We are so excited about the idea of being able to raise your child. We plan to raise your baby in a loving, supportive, and open environment. We plan to give your baby any and every opportunity possible. We will love them no matter what. We are surrounded by a network of family and friends who are looking forward to loving your baby as well.**

**We are comfortable with any level of openness in adoption and are ready to follow your lead. We understand that your needs in terms of openness may change from time to time and we are willing to go with the flow. We plan to support your baby in maintaining a connection to you throughout their life and making sure that they know how strong and brave their birth mom is.**

*With Love and Admiration,*

*Rachel & Ben*

