



Alexis

a note to you



Hello, I'd just like to say I respect and admire you. The decision you are considering for you and your baby is extremely brave and selfless. I can imagine your head is spinning as this is one of the most important decisions you'll ever have to make. This isn't easy and I thank you for taking the time to get to know a bit about me.

I've always known without a doubt I am to be a mom. I just didn't expect it to be on my own; but God is good and blessed me through the adoption of my son, Cohen, in July 2019. Being introduced to adoption at a young age, the desire to adopt had always been near to my heart and it's something I knew would be a part of my life one day. When marriage and motherhood didn't happen naturally for me, I decided to pursue motherhood on my own, but not without the love and support of many friends and family.

Through the years my definition of "family" has expanded to include not only those who are relatives, but also those who are not. Through Cohen's adoption our family has grown in many positive ways through relationships with his birth family and it is wonderful. I would hope the same for you and your family, if you'd choose me to parent. Adoption is really hard and beautiful all at the same time, but my promise and hope is to walk through the highs and lows with you and your child as they come. We are in this together.

I love you and I have been praying for you and your baby!
Alexis

about me



I grew up in Pennsylvania and lived in the Washington, DC area after college for about 13 years. That's where I lived when I brought Cohen home in July 2019, but as you know kids change everything and when given the opportunity to move with my company in 2020, we moved back to Pennsylvania to be near family. I am the youngest of three girls and a proud aunt to four (3 nephews and a niece). We live in the same town as my parents, sister, brother-in-law, niece and nephews. I am extraverted and love being around people. I stay pretty active, but COVID helped me learn to love and appreciate downtime.

My friends and family are very important to me so weekends are usually spent with them. We love exploring new places to eat, parks, live music, game nights, enjoying the outdoors or a good dance floor. We also enjoy sporting events of one of the nephews, amusement parks, shopping or the pool.

I love to travel. I've been to 20 countries and planned to add two more to that number in 2020 (as well as get Cohen's passport stamped), but COVID put a stop to that. I think it is important to see and understand other cultures, so when given the chance, we'll fly around the world.

Overall, I really enjoy life, but it hasn't always been easy. I'm thankful for the hard times as they have made me stronger and allowed me to appreciate all I am blessed with. Becoming Cohen's mother was the greatest thing that ever happened to me and it was such a natural transition. It felt as if he was a part of my life forever. I grew up with sisters and I know how much of a positive impact they made on my life, so I knew when I adopted him that one day I'd start the process again so he could have a sibling. His birth family supports me in this process and agrees he should have a sibling. My heart is open and I'm excited to welcome another child in our life, and so are those close to us.

Cohen



This kid! He is the definition of JOY. He brings joy not only to my life, but to everyone he meets. He's quick to wave across the room, give a hug out of the blue and will try and do anything to make you laugh. He is funny, cute, inquisitive, smart, ornery, helpful, charming, and caring. I told him from day one we were going to have a lot of fun, but we'd probably butt heads at times. So far we've had a lot of fun and we butt heads occasionally (haha). I loved him way before he entered the world and my love for him continues to grow. I ask him if he wants a baby brother or sister and he excitedly shakes his head YES! I can already tell he'll be a very helpful, protective and sweet big brother.



Family

my support system: my parents

My parents are high school sweethearts and have been married 45 years. Growing up I couldn't have asked for more supportive parents. They allowed us to spread our wings, but directed and guided us when we needed it. They encouraged my sisters and I to be involved in many different activities and supported us through all of them. Whether it was being at performances or volunteering to coach they were involved and continue to be as involved as possible even in my adult life. Most importantly they raised us to love God and to always put and seek Him first. They have set a very high standard for how to parent well and I give them all the credit (after God) to be where I am today. Cohen is SO IN LOVE with his Nana and Papa. He daily calls their names, which means he wants to go visit, Facetime or have them come over.

Andy, is my dad and he is a retired fireman. He graduated college with a administration in justice degree, but decided firefighting was his passion. He would work full-time at the fire department and part time to use his degree on his days off. He retired as Assistant Chief and worked as a city bus driver for years after. He is fully retired now, except for all the home improvement projects on his list and mine. He is very handy (Handy Andy) and uses that gift to help many others. One word to describe my dad is provider. He grew up with two sisters and his mother after his father passed away when he was young and took on the role of man of the house. That role continued when he and my mom had my sisters and I. He is caring, thoughtful, organized and extremely dedicated to all he does. He makes me very proud and I aspire to have his same work ethic.

Janice, is my mom and she is retired from providing childcare within the home. She stayed at home and raised us girls until I was in fourth grade. Having that flexibility, she used her time to get involved with a lot of our activities, serve at church and volunteer. It was through her volunteering with a crisis pregnancy center that I first was introduced to adoption. When I was in fourth grade she became a special education teacher assistant until my oldest nephew was born when she left the school district to care for him. Now that she is retired, she has flexibility to help care for her grandkids. I've learned a lot of life skills from my mom, but my favorite is how to shop and never pay full price. She is fun, always there to talk or listen, detail oriented, musically talented and protective. Loving and caring for children is one of the things she does best. Cohen, my niece, and nephews are lucky to have her as their Nana, and she's excited to have another grandbaby.



my support system: Alicia, Andrea and Todd

Alicia (Aunt Lisha) is my middle sister. We used to live near each other in Virginia and have been in the same phase of life together for a while. We share friend groups, go to concerts, travel together when we can. We both are in medical sales, but this is after she spent 8 years as the Executive Director of an anti-sex trafficking non-profit she started. She followed her heart and the need to help young victims escape and rebuild their lives. With a social work background and strong leadership skills she successfully built an organization that has helped hundreds of young girls. Alicia is passionate and will use her strengths to protect, support and encourage others and especially her loved ones. She's excited to have another niece or nephew and ready to help!





Andrea (Auntie) is my oldest sister. She's been married to Todd for 19 years and is the mother to my three nephews and niece. In 9th grade she decided she wanted to be a doctor and she followed her dreams. She is a pediatrician and as she says, she's always on call for us. We are very close and live less than 10 minutes from each other. She spearheads the planning for all our family vacations and I assist when she needs to consult someone. She manages to balance running a household, excelling in her career and supporting her kids in everything, while making it look easy. She's a great example to learn from and is always there to help me and Cohen.

Todd (Uncle T), my brother in law, has been in my life longer than he hasn't. I knew he was cool when he came to my 16th birthday party shortly after he and Andrea started dating and gave me a card with \$20. He's laid back, reserved, dedicated and has a great sense of humor. Although he is a man of few words, when he has something to say I listen as his opinion means a lot to me. He loves his wife, kids, country and football. He coached the boys football teams for the past 9 years and is willing to coach Cohen's team one day if he chooses to play. I'm repeatedly impressed by his ability to keep calm when coaching or watching a game for a sport he is so passionate about. Cohen loves his Uncle T and listens to him the first time he tells him to do something.

niece and nephews...

These kids are so special and all in different ways. They stepped into the "big cousin" role so naturally with Cohen. They stole my heart years ago and it's been a joy to see Cohen steal their hearts. I love being their Aunt Lexi and I am so proud of them.



Brayden, 17



Manny, 18



Caleb, 11



Micah, 14



Ivy, 10

“ Alexis has always been a kind, strong woman with unquestionable character. Alexis is fun, outgoing, and has a huge love for life and adventure. She brings so much joy to all those who love her.

We are especially proud of Alexis in the way she has so smoothly transitioned into a caring and loving mother upon the arrival of her son, Cohen. She is a natural mother and it has been a pleasure to watch her in that role. We have full confidence that in her adopting another child to expand her family and provide Cohen with a sibling, she will do just as well in this new parenthood adventure. The love she has for Cohen will only be doubled when she is blessed with another child. We as her family cannot wait to welcome another child to our family to our family, love them, and support Alexis.”

-Janice, Andy, Alicia, Andrea, Todd and kids



top 10 things

Food: Peanut butter, popcorn and donuts

Favorite Season: Fall

Favorite Sport to watch: Football (Go Steelers and Penn State)

Music Artist: Coldplay, Elton John, Justin Bieber, Hillsong, Beyoncé, Taylor Swift, Red Hot Chili Peppers, etc. I love music!

Color: Green

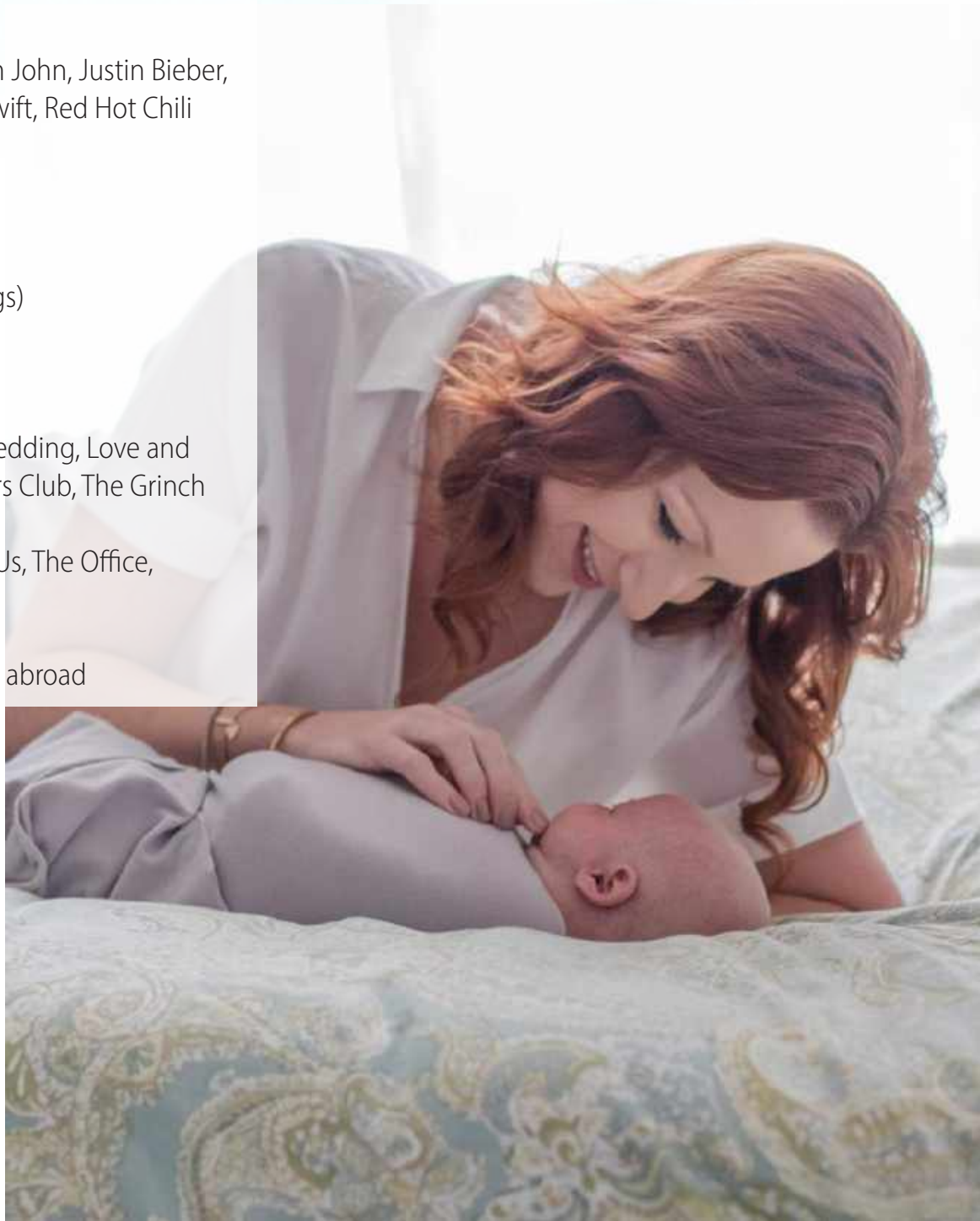
Animal: Elephants (and dogs)

Holiday: Christmas

Movies: My Best Friend's Wedding, Love and Basketball, The Dallas Buyers Club, The Grinch

TV: Grey's Anatomy, This is Us, The Office, Scandal

Vacation: A beach, a lake or abroad







our home

Here is a glimpse into our home and neighborhood. When choosing to move to Pennsylvania, I looked around the area and found our neighborhood. It is tucked away and secluded, but still less than 7 minutes from the grocery store and Target. Our neighbors are wonderful and there to lend a helping hand. Cohen is pretty famous around the neighborhood and has made friends with all the neighborhood dogs. There is park within walking distance that has great summer programs.

The day before our house went on the market I drove by it and pointed out how much I liked the house. Two days later I put an offer on it and never looked back. I love it have really enjoyed doing projects with my dad to make it my own. I love painting and design.

We live in a city where we get the best of the city and the county. We live less than an hour from an international airport and we're a close drive to DC, Baltimore and Philadelphia.



Work

One of the best things about work is getting to form deep friendships with the people you spend a lot of your time with throughout the week. I work as a pharmaceutical sales representative, so most of my day is spent interacting with doctors' offices. And with that I have a lot of flexibility in my work hours to help.





concerts and music festivals

I love music! Growing up in a musical family, I played 3 instruments and developed a love for all genres of music. I attend concerts regularly and Cohen even went to his first concert at 2 months old. It's never too early to expose kids to the arts.



traditions

-Every year my family goes to the beach in North Carolina with our closest family friends. We also spend Christmas, Easter, and Thanksgiving with this family. Chuck and Debbie are like an Aunt and Uncle to me and their children are like cousins. They are the best and part of my support system.

-Every year I go to the lake in North Carolina with my closest friends for the fourth of July

-Growing up we had a lot of Christmas traditions with decorations, visiting Santa, church activities and waiting at the top of the steps Christmas morning until my parents said it was okay to come down and see what Santa brought. We've continued a lot of the traditions.

-I love Halloween and coming up with creative costume ideas and passing out candy. My nieces and nephews usually consult me on their costumes and I help make them.

-Hosting people at my house is one of my favorite things to do. For many years I always host a New Years Eve party and Oktoberfest in the fall.



hopes and dreams... for the future

My hopes and dreams are big, but I understand things don't always go as planned. What I can promise is that your child will be loved unconditionally, supported in all they do, taught to be respectful of others and kind. I'll encourage them to try new things and figure out what they're passionate about.

They will be raised in the Christian faith, but rather than church being something they're forced to do, it be a positive experience and enjoyed. I was raised in a Christian home and I am very thankful for the values that were instilled in me at a young age, especially as I got older and life got tough.

I will have a few months off from work after adopting, so I'll be at home with the baby. Once I go back to work, the baby will go to the WONDERFUL daycare that Cohen goes to and my sister and parents will help out as well.

I think sports and the arts are great to be a part of as they teach dedication and discipline, so if they're interested, I will encourage getting involved with extracurricular activities. All to say, I'll be supportive of whatever their interests are and be their biggest fan along the way. And we'll travel to places in the USA and around the world. After high school, I support going on to higher education whether it be college, a trade school or even serving in the military.

Most importantly your child will always know about you and their biological family. I have an open relationship with Cohen's birth family and I would desire to have an open relationship with you as well depending on what you're comfortable with. It may be something we decide what that would look like now or we could figure it out along the way. But always know I am open to do what is best for your child and I know that is for them to know you and understand how much YOU LOVE them.

Lastly, I promise to trust God and follow His plan as He has gotten me where I am today and He will continue to take care of us all in the future.

Thank you!

You are strong. You are brave.
You are to be admired. And I see
you loving your baby so well by
considering all your options. That
is the ultimate act of love and
whatever decision you make at
the end of the day, your child is
lucky to have you. Thank you for
getting to know me as much as
you can from a book of words
and pictures. I'm praying for you!

Love, Alexis

