

*Brent & Brianne*



# Our Story

Hi! We are Brent and Brianne. We are partners, athletes, animal lovers, and professionals; and we are ready to add "mom" and "dad" to that list! We have a happy home, a wonderful family, and so much love to share with a child. Plus, Brent has been practicing his "dad jokes" (#ready)!



In Europe for a friend's wedding.



Our first date was a Miami Hurricanes football game.

Our story began seventeen years ago at the University of Miami. It was 2005, and we were both freshmen on the rowing team. We met before classes started while we were both on campus early for training. For Brent, it was love at first sight, and he quickly asked Bri out on a date. She said no! Brent was persistent though (+very handsome!), and he kept asking until she said yes (eight times to be exact!). Our first date was a football game (#GoCanes!), and the rest is, as they say, history.



Brent proposed in 2009, and we were engaged for a couple of years while Bri finished law school. We were married in September 2011 in the same church where Bri's grandparents celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. It's also where Bri went to Sunday masses with them many weekends growing up. This church holds a special place in our hearts, and we are looking forward to having our child baptized into the Catholic faith at this same church one day.

# Why Adoption

**W**e always knew that we wanted to be parents, and we decided that it was time to start trying to grow our family after we settled into our careers. After a couple years of trying and a couple of miscarriages along the way, we learned from doctors that naturally conceiving and carrying a child to full term would be difficult for us due to, among other things, the shape of Bri's uterus.

While our journey to parenthood has not been an easy one, we are so thankful for it because it led us straight to you. We have witnessed the blessing of adoption through two of our closest friends who were adopted and know that this is how we are meant to become parents. We hope that this is the beginning of a cherished relationship and cannot wait to get to know you!





# About Brianne

Hi! I'm Brianne, but most people call me "Bri," and my parents call me "Frog." I can't wait to add "Mom" to the list! You are probably wondering why my parents call me "Frog." It started because I used to sleep like a frog when I was a baby. It stuck because I was always jumping and bouncing around as a kid.



Surf's up!

I was naturally athletic and loved all things sports from a young age, but surfing was certainly my first love and my first teacher. It taught me the most important things that I know – patience, presence, and how to turn failures into success. The most important lesson though – enjoy the ride. I still love to catch some waves when I can, and I cannot wait to get our child out on the water!

Sports were an integral part of growing up for me and fitness is still a big part of my life. I truly believe that movement is medicine. I will teach our child the fundamentals of fitness and wellness so that they develop a deep appreciation and respect for their body and the tools to take care of it.

For work, I am a tax attorney and CPA. I love my firm and its culture. I will be able to take maternity leave following the adoption, and I am really looking forward to this time with the baby. After that concludes, I will work from home most days, which will allow me to spend more time with our child!



Crossfit is one of my favorite workouts.



Working in the law library.

## *More About Brianne*

**Age:** 35

**Career:** Tax Attorney

**Favorite Food:** Cheeseburgers, S'Mores

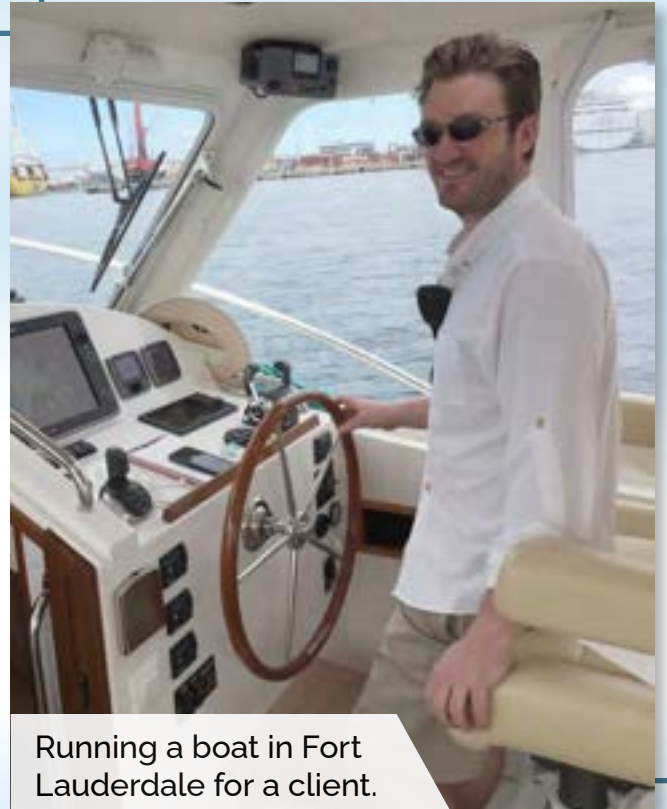
**Hates:** Roller Coasters

**Hobbies:** Fitness, Surfing and Paddle Boarding

# About Brent

Hi, I'm Brent! A lot of my friends call me "Brentski" though. I am excited to add "Dad" to the list!

After almost 20 years of living in South Florida with Bri, I am a Floridian, but I was born and raised in a small town in Massachusetts and am still a New Englander at heart. Growing up, I went apple picking with my mom in the fall, skiing with my dad in Vermont in the winter, and spent summers boating and



Running a boat in Fort Lauderdale for a client.



Many aspects of South American culture became part of me while I was living in Argentina, especially the language and the food.

at the beach in Connecticut. One of the things I most look forward to is being able to share these extraordinary experiences with a child one day. I look forward to sharing the family beach house, playing sports on the beach, sailing camp, diving, and boating with our child.

I spent 13 months abroad as a foreign exchange student in Argentina during high school. This was one of the most transformational experiences of my life.



I became fluent in Spanish, learned how to cook Argentine food, and made friends with people from 18 different countries along the way.

For the past 15 years I have worked in the maritime industry, both running and selling boats. Along the way, I have built a side business in event production and event technology. I am an entrepreneur at heart, so I am looking forward to supporting and encouraging our child's natural curiosities. I am equally excited for the teachable moments and opportunities to share some of the basic life lessons and "dadvice" – like home improvement, how to change a tire (whether I have a son or a daughter!), and how to drive stick shift.



At the Japan Boat Show.

## *More About Brent*

**Age:** 35

**Career:** Maritime / Small Business Owner

**Favorite Food:** Ice Cream

**Hates:** Cilantro

**Hobbies:** Cooking, Music, Building Things

# Our Home

We built our “forever” home this year with our family in mind! It has the perfect room for a baby, plus space for a playroom downstairs right next to Bri’s office! She works from home most of the time and is looking forward to being able to be at home with the baby most days. Brent also has a flexible work schedule and is looking forward to spending time at home and cooking for the family in his new dream kitchen!

Our neighborhood is gated and surrounded by natural conservation land and waterways with miles of trails for walking, running, and biking. There is also a working farm nearby where we can get fresh produce for Brent to cook with!



We broke ground on our “forever” home last year!



Freshly-picked tomatoes for dinner.

The beach is only 15 minutes away, so it's easy to take the dog to the beach for some exercise or grab the surfboards and catch some waves! We love being outside and being connected to nature and cannot wait to share this lifestyle with our child.

One of the best parts about living here in South Florida is that it is in the same area where Bri grew up. We are looking forward to having Bri's family nearby and being able to send our child to the same private school that Bri attended. The campus is welcoming and is a top school in the state, based on its academic curriculum, music and fine arts programs, and competitive athletics. Education is something that we value, and we are so excited to be able to enroll our child at this school!



Sophie's first time swimming in the pool when she was a puppy!



Christmas time!

# Meet The Family

**B**ri's mom and dad live nearby. Her mom is a Pre-K teacher and specializes in teaching reading. She cannot wait to read lots of books with her grandchild! Bri's dad owns a "doggie daycare" and cannot wait to teach his grandchild all about dogs! Bri's dad used to take her to the rodeo every year for her birthday when she was growing up, and we still go with Bri's parents every year in October for her birthday!



Bri with her mom and dad before a Miami Hurricanes football game.



Brent and his mom at the beach in Connecticut last summer.

Brent's mom lives in Connecticut, but she visits us a lot in Florida, especially in the winter! We spend July 4th with Brent's mom at the same beach house where Brent used to spend his summers growing up! Brent and his mom are so excited to do all of the things that he loved as a child with our child – like looking for horseshoe crabs in the tidal pools at low tide, sailing, and ice cream at the beach! Brent's dad lives in New York City, and we love visiting him in the city. Our favorite time to visit is Christmas time!



Lunch with Brent's dad in NY.

We cannot wait to share all the things that we love about the city with our child – like walks through Central Park, ice skating, the Christmas tree at Rockefeller Center, and, of course, the pizza!

The love of our immediate family is amplified by the love of cousins who are like siblings and friends who have become family. There are a lot of free hands and love in our family and around our house! Your baby will be constantly cuddled and loved and will make our family truly complete.



Our pets are part of the family too!  
Sophie riding shotgun in Brent's truck.



Our pets are part of the family too! Bagels and cream cheese with Chadwick the cat!

# Hobbies & Interests



There's always time to catch some waves!

Surfing, paddle boarding, hiking, walking the dog, riding bikes – anything outdoors and active is fun for us.

We love spending time at home and home-cooked meals (Brent is the BEST chef!). He cooks dinner most nights and makes healthy prepared lunches on Sundays for Bri to eat during the workweek. We also love Benihana and eat WAY too much ice cream!



We love Benihana!





Swimming in a fresh water spring in Mexico.

We have had a lot of fun over the years traveling and exploring new places and cultures together. Brent is really good at planning trips and putting together itineraries. Bri is an animal lover and manages to find random animals wherever we go, regardless of the planned itinerary.

We cannot wait to share our interests, experiences, and favorite places with a child. We are also looking forward to exploring new places together as a family and integrating our child's interests into our days and experiences.



Brent in his favorite place - cooking in the kitchen.



Bri had to feed the birds in Italy, and it escalated!

*Thank You!*

It is hard to know exactly where to start or what to say to the person who we have never met, and yet who has the potential to change our lives forever. So maybe the best place to start is -- **"thank you."**



**Thank you** for your strength and unconditional love for your child. We do not know the journey that you have been on or fully understand how you are feeling, but we know that it takes both of these things to get here. You will always be deeply respected in our house, and your child will always know how strong you are and how much you love them.

**Thank you** for taking some time to get to know us. Without you, our parenthood journey would not be possible. Your consideration means the absolute world to us, and we are so happy that you are part of our journey.

They say that children need two things: roots and wings. You are giving your child both. A part of you will become a part of our family when you choose us to parent your child. We promise to give them the love, acceptance, education, and experience that they need to grow and strengthen their wings.

Family is a team sport.  
Together, we will give our child  
everything that they need to fly.

With Love,

*Brent and Bri*

