



Amanda

# From My Heart to Yours

I am so grateful you've chosen to read my book. I hope the following stories and photos give you a glimpse of the type of mother I will be to my future child and the support system that will be surrounding us.

I wish I could sit down for cup of coffee with you, hear your story and share mine, and walk this journey with you. But, the only way I know how walk along side you at the moment is through prayer. I cannot imagine the emotions racing through your mind during this time, and pray that the Lord will guide you and your family and give you a sense of peace and comfort. The amount of love you have for your child is beyond anything I can imagine as you consider their future and deliver them into this world.



Amanda



At my favorite  
coffee shop

# Thank you!

Date night with a  
friend's daughter



# My Story



I am the youngest of two children and have one older brother. I was fortunate to have strong, stable relationships with my entire family. Despite being 7 years apart, my brother and I have a great relationship. My dad was my hero, and my mom is my best friend. I could not have gotten to where I am today without their love and support. They taught me to value my family and faith in God, as well as the meaning of love and marriage, serving the community, and the importance of education and hard work. Because of the examples they set, I believe I have become a compassionate and dependable woman who loves God, family, and serving others.

## Adoption

My dream has always been to become a mother through adoption. I always thought I would be married and start the journey together with my husband but the Lord had other plans. I have prayerfully considered adoption and what it means to adopt as a single mother, and I am mentally, physically, emotionally, and financially prepared to have and raise a child. I have surrounded myself with a strong and diverse support system of family and friends, who are committed to walking this journey with me and encouraging and mentoring my future child their entire life.

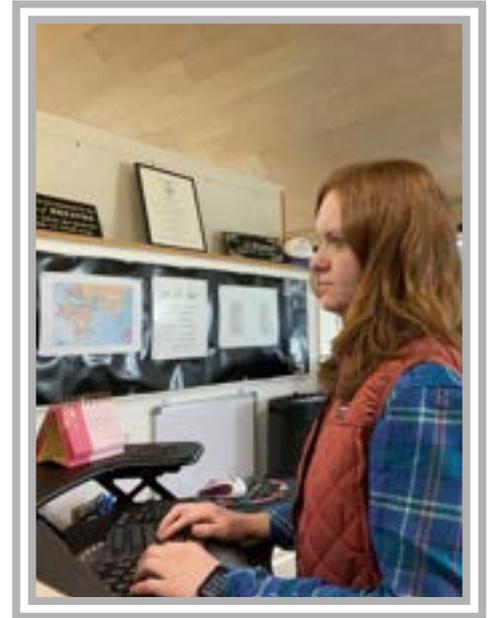
While I cannot wait to be a mother, I know I will never be able to replace my future child's mother nor her family. I promise I will honor my future child's mother and her family and promise to be the best representation of her love. As a birth parent, I want her to know that I fully believe love multiplies, not divides, and she will always be welcome in my family and spoken of with the highest regard.

# My Career

Occupation: Senior Accountant

Education: Bachelor's Degree

I work at a local corporate office as a senior accountant. I have been employed with the same company for over 15 years. The company is focused on establishing a great family and work life balance and offers a flexible work schedule. I work from home one and a half days, and I am off every Friday afternoon.



## My Favorites

Hobby - Crocheting

Food - Pasta and Pizza

Place - Mackinac Island, MI

Childhood Memory - Dance Recitals

Animal - my dog, Charlie Boy

Summer Activity - Picnics

Holiday - Christmas



# Meet the Family



**My Mom**

**Favorite Song:** Perfect by Ed Sheeran  
**Favorite Show:** Gunsmoke & I Love Lucy

My mom is the best Nana! Now that she has retired from teaching, she dreams about babysitting a new grandbaby! She is full of laughter, loves traveling, and gives the best hugs! Soon, she will be catching fireflies, making mud pies, reading stories, and creating so many more memories with her future grandchild.

\*My dad, her high school sweetheart, passed away a couple years ago.

**Favorite Family Activity:** Christmas Scavenger Hunts for Our Presents

**Favorite Family Recipe:** Nana's Oreo Balls

My older brother and his wife have blessed our family with three beautiful children--one girl and two boys. They are my pride and joy and the first children to grab a piece of my heart. I have loved creating memories with my niece and nephews over the years and watching them grow into the amazing young adults they are today.



**My brother's family**



**My "niece"**

**Favorite Game:** Jenga & Pie in the Face  
**Favorite Food:** Chick-fil-A Nuggets

A few years ago, I was blessed with another "niece." A close family friend adopted her daughter domestically at birth and her daughter has grown up calling me Aunt Mandy and my parents, Nana and Pop. I enjoy spending time with her and cannot believe how fast she is growing.

# Fun Times Together

On vacation with my uncle, aunt, and mom



My family has always been close knit. My entire family lives within an hour of each other and sees one another on a regular basis. We love being together!! There is always something going on -- whether it be family dinners, game nights, family road trips, or extended vacations.

We love to laugh, have fun, and are big huggers. Our favorite time of the year is Christmas! We get together for our annual Gingerbread House Decorating Contest, fill shoeboxes for the National Operation Christmas Shoebox Campaign, serve with a local ministry, go a look at Christmas lights on Christmas Eve, and enjoy our potluck brunch Christmas morning!

With my mom and sister-in-law serving at a local Christmas event



Gingerbread House Decorating with my mom

**"The love in our family flows strong and deep, leaving us memories to treasure and keep."**

**- Unknown**



Playdough fun with my 2nd cousin



My nephews love to tease me about my height!  
I am 5'2"



With my uncle, aunt, and cousin at a family member's wedding



Unplugged Family Game Night with my nephew and sister in law  
(All electronics off)



Celebrating my 2nd cousin's 1st birthday

# There's no place like home.

My home is a comfortable, three bedroom two bath house and is the perfect size for myself and my future child. It has always been a dream to become a mother and I could not wait to decorate the nursery and children's spare bedroom for not only my future child but also for the little ones in my life.

The nursery is ready!



One last hug after Bible Study

I really enjoy hosting Bible studies, family game nights, and holiday gatherings. The children in my life love playing in our fort under the dining room table, playing in the back yard, and playing catch with my dog, Charlie.



Camping out with a friend's daughter under the table

**Favorite Food:** Chicken

**Favorite Toy:** Stuffed Ladybug

My dog, Charlie, is a spoiled, cocker spaniel poodle mix. He is great around children, loves to play, and has the best personality of any dog I have ever owned. I know he is going to be a great playmate for my future child.



Charlie

Mother Daughter Dinner with friends from church



# My Friends

My friends are committed to loving and encouraging my future child throughout their life. I am blessed to be surrounded by a support system that includes single moms, adoptive moms, foster care parents, teachers, and Christian leaders who will provide advice and emotional support throughout each stage of being a new parent.

Serving children in my hometown with friends from church



Outdoor concert with a friend



My co-workers and I love to visit escape rooms on the weekends!



Visiting a nearby zoo with my 2nd cousin



Always take time for a photo with the team's mascot

# My Community

My hometown is a safe, family-oriented, and diverse city. There are two great school districts with award winning schools, two private school settings, local sports teams and activities for all abilities and ages, and is within 100 miles to a few of the best children's hospitals. There are several local parks, lakes, nature trails, and caves to explore in my hometown. I also live within an hour or two of a couple zoos, orchards, theaters, ice rinks, museums, pools, sports arenas, and children's science museums.

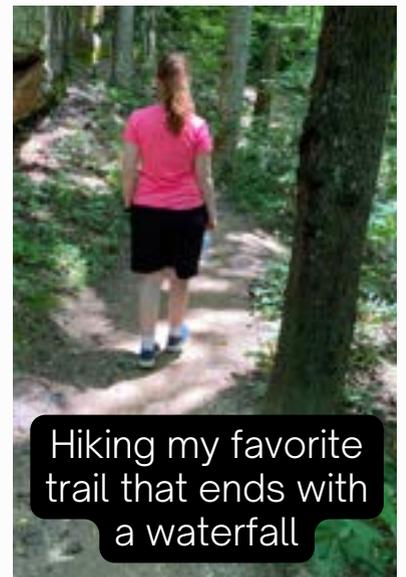
The Super Cider Slider at our favorite orchard (Mom loves this more than me!)



At the local ice skating rink



With my mom for Western Night at the Orchestra



Hiking my favorite trail that ends with a waterfall

# My Promises

I will pray for you, your family, and your child.

I will provide your child with a safe, healthy, and nurturing home where we will share love, laughter, and cherished memories.

I will give your child my attention, spend lots of quality time together, and set aside time for family date nights.

I will strive to live a Godly life and set a good example for your child.

I will surround your child with a village of love, support, and encouragement throughout his or her life.

I will ensure someone is always there to welcome your child home from school, even if I cannot be there.

I will make sure your child has educational opportunities and the chance to participate in activities within the community where their individual talents may flourish.

I will encourage your child to dream big and be one of their biggest fans.

I will join a local adoption support group at my church where my family and your child will have an opportunity to build relationships with other families who have adopted.

There will be open communication – no questions will ever be off limits. Your child will know their adoption story and how loved they always have been and will be by you and your family.

I promise to honor you and your family and to be the best representation of your love that I can be to your child.

*Thank you!*



I hope whatever path you choose is full of support and love in the days and months ahead, and I hope you know you have my support and prayers.

Regardless of your decision, I will hold you close in my heart and wish you all the best. Thank you for allowing me to share a piece of my heart and for considering my family.