

Remy & Lina



¡Hola! This letter comes to you from sunny East Oakland and from two loving women and our young daughter who would like to grow our family through a second adoption.

We are committed to an open adoption relationship and look forward to ongoing contact (with photos, letters/emails, and in-person visits) to the extent you feel comfortable.



hello

FROM OUR HEARTS

Thank you for reading this letter and being open to making an adoption plan for your child. Although we don't know you yet, we believe that **you are strong, worthy, and full of love.** We believe that you want to make the best choices for you and for your baby, out of that love. If that includes choosing us to be their parents, we will honor your special relationship and make sure that they are raised in love. We want them to know you and your family.

Please ask us anything you'd like to know.

Whatever your decision, we hope that you find the perfect loving family you seek.

Lina says:

In my life with Remy, I have gotten to know the fierce love she has in her heart. She is protective and nurturing. 5 stars -- would adopt with her again!

Remy is...

playful - witty - affectionate



Remy is a children's librarian with purple hair. Her days are usually spent tying shoes, picking up toys, handing out snacks, and singing loudly at storytime.

She knows a LOT of really good picturebooks for kids and does all the voices when reading. This is what she wants to do until she retires!

She is a constant reader, and she also loves to sing (especially songs from Broadway shows). She's learning Spanish -- with the help of Lina and Duolingo -- and can communicate at the toddler level pretty well already.

You can find Remy puttering in the garden with Elena by her side, or curled up on the couch with one of our two cats. Around the house she's known as Mama, the #1 Champion Cloth Diaper Changer.

Quarantine haircut!

LINA is...
HARD-WORKING
DEDICATED
CALM



Fixing a flat tire like a boss

Remy says:
I fell in love with Lina
because she showed me
kindness from the
moment we met.

Lina grew up in Southern California and is a native speaker of both Spanish and English. Elena hears lots of Spanish from her Adi! (Adi like Daddy, but also like Adelina.) She plays the violin and cello, she enjoys sports, and she sings all sorts of music -- from traditional Mexican folksongs to soft rock. She keeps us fed with comfort foods like caldo de pollo and smoothies. Lina looks forward to teaching our children to love the water. Lina has an attitude of peaceful confidence that makes babies fall asleep on her -- somehow they know they're safe! She is a careful teacher with endless patience, and a comforting parental presence in the night. While we have small children, we plan for her to be the primary at-home parent.



WHERE WE LIVE

Our house in Oakland is small but comfortable, and right now devoted to raising kids. We don't have a lot of fancy antiques or anything like that -- our rooms are meant to be lived in, and are ready for active and curious little hands and feet.

Oakland gets great weather most of the year, and while we've been at home more we have focused on improving our garden space. We've planted lemon and lime trees, roses, blackberries, and raspberries in front of the house. There are vegetable beds in the backyard (squash, tomatoes, lettuce, beans, and carrots) and we're looking forward to harvesting fresh healthy food season after season.

We have two indoor cats, Olivia and Gus, who are very tolerant of the "human kitten". Our neighborhood is walkable and close to libraries and a park with a playground.

We are both lifelong residents of California and don't intend to move away until retirement. We're homebodies at heart, and we love the climate and the diverse culture of the Bay Area.



BABY'S ROOM



We love settling Elena to sleep and reading stories from the child-friendly library we started collecting years ago. A new baby would join her in this soft green nursery (in a bassinet at first), and down the line one of them might move into the third bedroom.



SMILE

ADOPTION EXPERIENCE

Adoption was our first choice to grow our family. Our wait for a first adoption was about three years long, and had some bumps in the road, but it was the right path to parenthood.

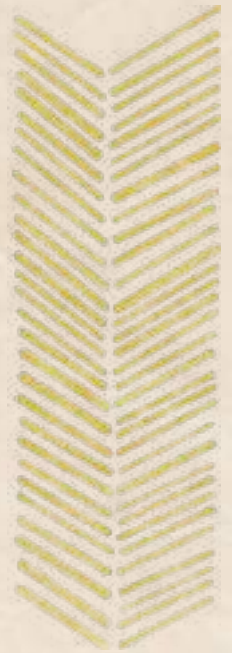


After a long wait with an adoption agency, we received a "stork drop" call -- baby already born, get to the hospital right away! Elena's mother chose a closed adoption; we have never met her, but we are grateful to her for reaching out when she needed help. We made a commitment to speak of her with respect and we tell Elena what we know of her story. If "Mami V" changes her mind one day about meeting us or knowing her daughter, we are open to establishing contact. In our minds, an adoption relationship with an open flow of information is best for the adoptee.

From top to bottom:
Playing in the garden; Exploring fire trucks at the library; Learning to eat corn on the cob at a backyard barbecue; Sacked out waiting for Santa (with her first doll, a gift from Oma).

We have people we can call on in a pinch -- like when we had to stay over at the hospital and needed someone to feed the cats -- and we return those favors when they're needed.

Our Circle of Community Support



Our close friends have seen us through a lot, both as individuals and as a couple. They support us in our decision to adopt, and look forward to spending time with our children, just like the relatives we grew up with.



Favorite traditions:
Passover, Thanksgiving
Friday, and Xmas Eve
with 20 people;
Halloween costumes;
Solstice feasts; folk music
camp; birthdays!



Whether by video call or
in person, we love to get
together in small groups
and share a meal. Friends
feed us emotionally and
physically -- we love that!



Our quarantine pod

We LOVE Being PARENTS

We waited a long time for children, and we are dedicated to providing them with plenty of time and attention. Our first year with Elena has been full of delight and discovery, and while it's not always a perfect day, parenting is so worth the challenge.

Elena has been immersed in both English and Spanish beginning from her first days with us.

¡El bilingüismo abre muchas puertas!

We believe strongly in the importance of education and will model lifelong learning for our children.

Our house is full of music, good food, books, and laughter. We don't read to Elena EVERY single day, but we ALWAYS sing. Our parenting philosophy is a little "crunchy" -- cloth diapers, babywearing -- but we believe in doing what works best for all of our family, and adjusting that as we learn. We're up to date with vaccinations, always buckle up tight (and rear-facing) in the car, and spend a lot of our time crawling around on the floor. A second child will join us in a stable, loving family.



Our job:

- inspire trust
- show lots of affection
- offer help and support
- know when to stand back
- encourage our child's interests
- be a home base and a safety net
- share our life experience
- be good role models

MUSIC



We want our children to:

- feel safe if they make mistakes
- get lots of hugs and kisses
- make a difference in the world
- play outside under trees
- come to us with questions
- be capable and independent
- express their individuality
- know that they are loved
right down to their socks

Laughter

MEMORIES

together