



amelia & kyle

Family is not  
defined by genes....

it is built and maintained  
through love

# hello

We are honored that you are considering us as adoptive parents for your child. While we cannot fully understand the thoughts and feelings you are experiencing on this journey, we know that whatever decision you make will be one made with love and wisdom. **We support you in that choice.**

We are Amelia and Kyle. We have been married for 12 years and have always wanted to have children. With Kyle being an adoptee, adoption has always been something we have been open to pursuing. After experiencing infertility, we have focused on adoption as a way to expand our family.

As we try to write this letter to you, we are filled with emotion and excitement, mostly because we have seen firsthand how much lives can change because of adoption, both through Kyle's adoption and his recent connection with his birthparents. We hope that our experience can help guide us all and assist in this process.

We, and our friends and family, look forward to sharing our love, lives, adventures, and experiences with not only our future child, but also their birth families. Our mantra when we recently met Kyle's birth parents was "love grows" and we also feel that is applicable to our own adoption journey.

**Our desire is to work with you, at your comfort level, to provide a safe, loving, and fun life for your child.**

Thank you for choosing to review our book and allowing us to share who we are with you.



## Our Story

We met through the sport of curling (yes, that sport everyone falls in love with during the winter Olympics). We played on competing curling teams at various tournaments across North Dakota and would socialize together after games. We knew each other for about three years before we started dating. Our first official date was at the Fargo-Moorhead Curling Club, where Amelia invited Kyle to help her improve her curling skills. We were both "swept" off our feet after that first date. Amelia was attracted to Kyle's smile and positive attitude whereas Kyle was drawn to Amelia's eyes, smile, and vibrant energy. We dated long distance for about six months until Kyle moved to the Fargo area to be closer to Amelia.

After about a year and half of dating, Kyle proposed in Amelia's hometown in Northern MN over the fourth of July holiday weekend. As it is a tradition in Amelia's family to celebrate that holiday "up north", we were able to surprise Amelia's extended family shortly afterwards with our engagement news and celebrate together with them.



We were married in 2010 in Fargo, ND. We had a large reception and dance, complete with a candy buffet and kids activity table. Our wedding song was "Better Together" by Jack Johnson and that has been a constant theme in our lives together.

After getting married, we continued to build our life and community in the Fargo, ND area.

In our marriage, we work as a team and support each other unconditionally. We value open communication, honesty, giving back to others, and most of all, spending time with our family and friends.

We love to be together, whether that is on a sheet of curling ice, in a boat on the lake, working on house projects together, in a car driving to our next adventure, or hosting friends and family at our home.

Some of our goals as a couple are to travel to every National Park (we currently have 8 checked off the list), to build a cabin on Lake of the Woods, and to continue to seek adventure through travel and new experiences.

We are excited for the opportunity to bring our children along on our travel adventures (experiencing new and old places through their eyes) as well as soaking up the little moments day to day at home with them. We also look forward to being able to support our children as they learn and pursue their own passions and interests.

*Find someone who  
is a home and an  
adventure all at once*



meet  
Amelia

# HEY THERE,

I was born in Northern MN and grew up just across the border in a small town in Ontario, Canada. Growing up in a rural area and with a large extended family, the sense of community and supporting others surrounded me. Hard work, prioritizing time with family and friends, and helping others were values I learned from my parents and that I hope to instill in my future children.

It is rare to find me sitting still for long. I love challenging myself to try new things and learning from those around me. I also enjoy meeting new people and learning their stories. I am a master of the "MN goodbye" and love hosting people at our home.

I adore being around children and often go out of my way to plan fun activities to do with my nieces and nephews, the neighbor kids, as well as our friends' kids. I strive to seek out the joy in each day and love celebrating every moment, big or small.

My happy place is anywhere near the water, trees or mountains. I love seeking adventure and am looking forward to the biggest adventure yet, becoming a mom.

*-Amelia*



## CAREER

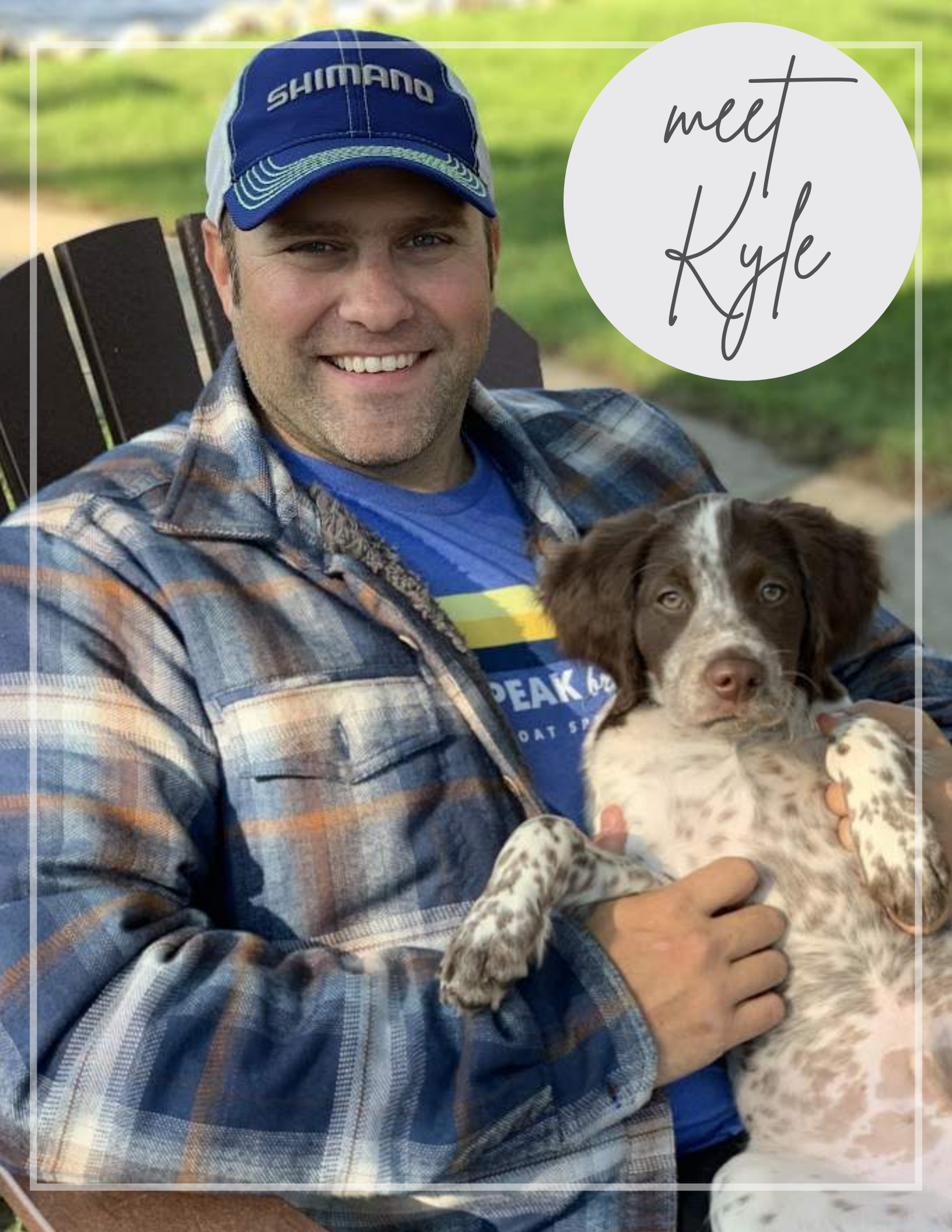
Senior Manager,  
Medical Writing

## HOBBIES

Baking, crafting, fishing,  
boating, curling, golf,  
diy projects, attending  
concerts, traveling

## FAVORITE HOLIDAY

Christmas



meet  
Kyle

# HEY THERE,

I grew up in a house on a lake, near a small town in North Dakota. There I developed a love of the outdoors that is still strong today. Amelia and I spend many weekends together camping, fishing, and hiking. I also spend some weekends hunting with my dad every fall. I love the individual challenge those activities present, always competing to better yourself. That drive also led me to the other two sports I love, curling and golf. I spent much of college and my early adulthood balancing life with competitive curling aspirations. The socialization of curling has brought me friendship and good memories that will continue on for a lifetime.

I can also be a bit of a nerd. I love science, fixing things, and comic books. I have never missed a Star Wars opening weekend in my lifetime. I thoroughly enjoy being in the engineering field, and teaching what I have learned. I love spending time with kids and seeing them grow in whatever they are doing. Seeing their excitement for things always brings me joy.

*-Kyle*



## CAREER

Fabrication  
Manager

## HOBBIES

Curling, golf, fishing,  
hunting, and anything  
outdoors.

## FAVORITE HOLIDAYS

Halloween  
and Christmas

# Amelia's family

I have 3 younger siblings (2 sisters, Alisa and Athena, and a brother, A.J.) who all live in Northern MN. All of my siblings are married and they have blessed Kyle and me (thus far) with 3 nieces and 4 nephews.



My parents are divorced. My dad John lives in my hometown and my mom Sherri, who is remarried to Jeff, now lives in Arkansas.



In my extended family, we make it a priority to be a regular part of each other's lives. We continue the tradition from my childhood to get together in our hometown to celebrate the Fourth of July (I have only missed 2 years of being back home for that holiday in my lifetime), do our best to get together to celebrate each holiday (Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter), and I try to travel down to Arkansas at least once a year to visit my mom (thankfully she gets back up north quite often to see us all).

Kyle and I also enjoy spending summers together with my dad and siblings enjoying the lake property on Lake of the Woods and have been fortunate to travel with my siblings. Kyle and I can often be found on the sidelines cheering our nieces and nephews on in their various activities. We love watching our nieces and nephews pursue their passions and seeing how their personalities develop as they grow up.



# Kyle's family

I am the first child in my family, with a younger brother, Matt. My brother and his daughter Devlyn live next door to my parents, not far from the small town I grew up in.

My Mom has an affinity for all animals and their current property is home to dogs, cats, horses, and goats. Next door, my brother has dogs and cats, and also runs a dog boarding business next to his house. Amelia and I currently have two hunting dogs that travel with us often to family events or the lake. They are like family members to all of us.

My parents, Terry and Kathy, have been married for over 40 years and set a great family example for me. Both grew up in ND and the majority of extended family are within a couple hours drive from each other.

In the summer we spent a lot of time together doing outdoor activities with family on my dad's side. My grandparents were only a few miles down the lake shore along with my uncle's lake house. We typically travelled to see my mom's side of the family around winter holidays, when farms were less busy. Many holidays were rotated so we had traditions but the locations changed sometimes.

Currently Amelia and I spend most holidays with either her or my family. Christmas is usually spent at my parents house where we have a big family meal that I usually play a large part in cooking.



# Connecting with Kyle's Birth Parents

Kyle gets to meet  
Judith and Scott  
after 37 years



In early March 2020, Kyle had the surprise of a lifetime when he received a Facebook message from his birth mother Judith wanting to connect with him. After many years of searching by herself, she used a search angel to find him and was successful in just a few weeks. After the first messages back and forth, there were many long phone calls and FaceTime chats for the next month. Then Judith got in contact with Kyle's birth father Scott. He reached out right away to connect and there were many more phone calls and FaceTime chats with him, too, including one just hours after Scott told his daughters about Kyle for the first time. We have even had FaceTime chats to meet Judith's husband Paul's kids in England.



# The Road Trip of a Lifetime

In June 2020 Kyle and Amelia set off on a 17-day road trip to meet Kyle's birth parents and their families. We headed towards California hitting National Parks like Yellowstone and the Tetons along the way. We were able to spend a few days enjoying time with Judith and her husband Paul in Northern California despite many closures due to COVID.



From there we headed south to Arizona to meet Scott, his wife Stephanie, and Kyle's half sisters Nicole and Lauren. We only spent one day with them in Arizona before following Scott and his family to Colorado to attend a family party meeting Scott's mom and older brother.



Later that fall, Judith and Scott each made separate trips to ND to see us and meet our friends and family. During Judith's trip we were able to host a dinner and meet some of her cousins that still live in ND. During Scott's trip we rented a cabin in MN and met his High School friends for a fishing excursion.

And in the couple years since then, we have planned other get togethers for holidays, graduations, sporting events, ski trips, and family vacations with each side.



# our adventures



*we love making memories and making each other laugh*

As you may have picked up on already, our life is full of adventure. We have an active lifestyle and seek out new opportunities or unique experiences whenever we can. We love being able to travel to new places and being exposed to new cultures, food, and climates. We are very lucky to have wonderful role models in our friends and family with young children who have shown us how to balance spending time at home with their kids and on how to be on the go with their kids. With these examples, we look forward to bringing our child along on our journeys.

As our summers are short here in the Midwest, we prioritize spending our summer weekends on the waters of Lake of the Woods, Lake Lida or Devils Lake. We enjoy spending time with family and friends boating, fishing, tubing, four-wheeling, paddle boarding, and really just the general peace and serenity that being at the lake brings. We cherish our memories made at the lake and can't wait to make many more memories with our children in the future. Winters are spent curling, ice fishing, snowshoeing, downhill skiing and being outdoors enjoying the winter wonderland (when temperatures are tolerable).



# *this is home*

Our home is nicknamed "the Young B&B" by our friends and family as we enjoy hosting people, both for meals, playdates, and overnight. We have a large yard which gives our two Brittany Spaniels, Louie and Hudson, room to roam. We have three parks within walking distance of our home and are able to enroll our children in our choice of three different school districts. There are many young families in our neighborhood and our direct neighbors have become like family to us. On weeknights, we enjoy spending time hanging outside together with our neighbors while the kids ride their bikes or play yard games.





## *Our community and support system*

In addition to our families, we are lucky to have an amazing community of neighbors and large group of friends who are very active in our lives; both of which are truly an extension of our family to us. With our neighbors, we get together for birthday celebrations, have summer outdoor movie nights, celebrate holidays together, and can often be found having an impromptu neighbor potluck or evening bonfire.

We have had the pleasure of witnessing and supporting most of our friends as they have had families of their own. It has been a joy to have a front seat to not only watch our friends become parents, but also to have the opportunity to love and support their children as they grow up. We are looking forward to adding our child to this mix and have our friends and neighbors be active in our child's life.

As the saying goes, it takes a village and we are truly lucky to have one of the best! Everyone is so excited for us to expand our family and can't wait to love on the new addition to the Young family.

# traditions, holidays, and celebrations

As Amelia loves to celebrate everything, we tend to have quite a few celebrations around our home!

In the summer, we enjoy hosting friends and neighbors for barbecues and fish fries. We also started outdoor movie nights in our backyard that we open up to anyone that wants to join. Amelia enjoys setting up the snack bar with candy, popcorn and toppings. She also makes snow cones to order and the kids (and adults) enjoy picking out their favorite treats.

Kyle loves dressing up for Halloween and creating special treat bags for our neighbor and friends' children. His costumes to date include Dumbledore, a Viking, Popeye, strong man, and a football player.

At Christmas time, Amelia makes graham cracker gingerbread houses for friends and family to decorate (a childhood tradition of hers). She also likes to drive around and look at Christmas lights throughout the area and has organized a Christmas trolley event for the friends group to enjoy the lights and celebrate the holiday season together







# how we will speak of adoption in our home

In our house, we plan to speak openly and honestly about adoption and create positivity around it.

From the age that our child is old enough to understand, we will do our best to explain what adoption is and where they came from. We will explain how you, the birth parents, made your decision out of love and how blessed we are to be our child's parents.

We plan to have age appropriate conversations with our child to give them the information they need to hear and build their self esteem.

We will always talk with confidence and pride so the child is never fearful to ask questions or think of adoption as an undesirable topic.

Using Kyle's experience of being supported similarly by his parents regarding his own adoption, we believe this creates the best situation for the child to develop their identity, confidence, and most of all feel loved.

If you as the birth parents choose to be involved in our child's life (which we hope you will) we will foster an open dialogue and relationship between you and our child. We would welcome discussions with you on what information each party is comfortable sharing about the process of becoming a family like ours. In our opinion, what matters most in all of this is the child.

As the opening quote in this book read, "a family is built and maintained through love." Based on our experiences, we agree wholeheartedly with this and look forward to extending our family further with lots of love.



Thank you