

BROOKE & JOEY





Our STORY

Hi there! We're Brooke and Joey, and we could not be more grateful that you are considering us by reading our profile.

We met on a dating app when we were in our early 20s. During our first date at a Mexican restaurant, Joey actually got locked in the bathroom. It took so long for him to get out that Brooke thought he'd ditched her! After Joey found his way out, we spent 6 hours just talking and getting to know each other, and as cliché as it sounds, we were smitten. We each knew early on that we'd found our person.



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One shared value that initially connected us is that we each find joy in the little things. We find a way to make mundane tasks fun, and we're always being goofballs! Whether playing "I Spy" at the grocery store or singing '90s songs as we vacuum the house, we believe in making the most of each situation.

Our 4-year-old pup, Shiloh, is a big part of our lives. We knew that we wanted to get a dog together right after we got married, but Joey wanted a Siberian Husky, and Brooke wanted a Pomeranian. Our first big compromise as a married couple was to get a Pomsky - a mix of the two! He's never met a person or dog whom he doesn't love (and he is fantastic with children - he can't wait to be a big brother).

Together as a couple since 2014 (married in 2015), we separately grew up valuing adoption because both sides of our extended families were formed through adoption. After a multi-year journey of infertility, we knew that this was the sole way that we wanted to become first-time parents. We truly cannot wait to share the love, warmth, and laughter in our lives with a child.

Brooke was built to be a mom. She has a heart of gold and will do anything for those she loves. Whether it's caring for her mom after she had knee surgery last year, bringing soup to her friends when they're sick, or surprising me with dinner after she knows I've had a long day, Brooke is the ultimate caretaker. She's also fiercely loyal and the most compassionate person I know.

About
BROOKE
by Joey



Brooke is a very creative person. She writes poetry as a way to process her emotions, and her work has been published in a few anthologies and magazines! On one of our first dates, Brooke took me to a poetry slam, where she shared one of her poems aloud. I fell in love with her vulnerability and openness. The child we adopt will grow up encouraged to express themselves and to explore their creative side.



Brooke loves to read and is a lifelong learner. She's always looking to expand her knowledge of new things, including histories and cultures. She started a book club for her friends, and they've been going strong for a couple of years. She is so excited to read stories to the child we adopt.



About
JOEY
by Brooke

Joey is a die-hard sports fan. Whether it's the Vikings, the Yankees, or the Penguins, he loves supporting his teams! Joey and his grandpa had a long-standing, annual tradition where they would go to home Yankees games together. One year, Joey arranged a surprise visit where they got to sit right behind home plate. They even got to meet some of the players! To this day, this remains one of his favorite memories with his grandpa. I adore Joey for being so thoughtful.

Joey has a magnetic, charismatic personality and lights up whatever room he's in. He finds a way to make everyone around him comfortable and quickly develops a rapport with everyone he meets - when we've gotten off flights, his seatmates have introduced him to their families! Additionally, Joey has a way with words - his friends have dubbed him the resident speech-giver and all of our friend trips kick off with one of his famous speeches.



Joey will keep at something until he succeeds. We love going to pumpkin patches each fall. Last year, he made it his mission to crush the "pumpkin toss." It took Joey a few tries and experimentation with angles and positions, but he didn't give up until he hit the target. He was ecstatic when he did, and we celebrated with a piece of fresh pumpkin pie! The child we adopt will be raised to value perseverance, tenacity, and the importance of never giving up.



ON THE HUNT FOR FRESH FRUITS & VEGGIES

Our neighborhood is quiet, safe, diverse & welcoming! We live in the New Jersey suburbs, in a town with a great school system. Our house has four bedrooms and three bathrooms, and plenty of space for family! We have a large, fully fenced-in backyard, making it an awesome place for outdoor fun and games. Additionally, a child would have a spacious, peaceful nursery with lots of natural light overlooking our backyard.

We live two blocks away from a public park, which has a playground, walking trails, and baseball fields. It also has tennis courts, where we spend a lot of time, as we both played varsity tennis in high school!

Our HOME



CAN'T WAIT TO GET A MATCHING JERSEY FOR OUR LITTLE ONE!

WE HAVE A LARGE, FULLY FENCED-IN BACKYARD, MAKING IT AN AWESOME PLACE FOR OUTDOOR FUN AND GAMES.

We also live a 45-minute drive away from New York City, and one of our favorite things to do there is go to Broadway shows. A couple of our favorites are Hamilton and Come From Away. Your child would live in the peacefulness of the suburbs but still have easy access to one of the world's most vibrant cities.



FETCH TIME IN THE BACKYARD



We have a big, adoring family who is warm, open-hearted, and forward-thinking. The child we adopt will grow up with four grandparents, one great-grandma, five aunts and uncles, and five cousins nearby!

Our families are very close with each other, and Brooke's parents and Joey's parents have become very good friends over the years! They like getting together when we're out of town to give Shiloh, our Pomeranian/Husky mix, some collective love. Shiloh's pretty awesome, but they can't wait to dote on shower their first human grandchild with love.

We are a fun-loving, joyful group, and we love to be goofy and silly! We enjoy taking what we call "personality pic selfies," which typically take us a few tries as we keep cracking up between takes - but we get there eventually! Your child would grow up in a family who not only supports each other through the tough times but who also doesn't take themselves too seriously.

Our FAMILY

BOTH SIDES OF OUR FAMILY WERE BUILT THROUGH ADOPTION!



AUNT AND UNCLE DUTY!



FULL ON FUNNEL CAKE AND FROZEN LEMONADE



WEDDING TIME IN BOSTON

Both sides of our family were built through adoption! Joey's cousin, Iliana, was adopted, and so was Brooke's sister-in-law, Adrienne. Both Iliana and Adrienne were placed through closed adoption processes, and we saw firsthand how each one has struggled to answer questions about their respective histories. Witnessing people who we love experience this dynamic instilled in us the importance of an open adoption. Your child will be embraced by a family who understands the beauty and challenges of adoption.



JOINT MOTHER'S DAY WITH OUR MAMAS!



TRADITIONS

In addition to celebrating the below, we are just as excited to create new traditions with the child we adopt – and to honor any traditions that you'd like to be passed on.



PUMPKIN PATCH FUN!



WE LOVE THE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS IN NYC

Each year, we take a photo in front of the Christmas tree at New York City's Rockefeller Center. We love NYC around the holidays. - so festive! A couple of years ago, our train ride home from seeing the tree was delayed. We made the most of it, stopping in the infamous Serendipity for frozen hot chocolate and admiring the department store window displays. It turned out to be an amazing and unexpected evening!

Our family loves gathering by the water. Brooke's family has a cozy lake house in Connecticut, where she spent a lot of time growing up. The county in CT also hosts a local county fair each summer, full of rides, games, and funnel cake. We can't wait to bring our future child there and create memories like the ones Brooke remembers so fondly.



CELEBRATING JOEY'S BIRTHDAY IN JERSEY CITY!

We always celebrate Joey's birthday at one of our favorite seafood restaurants in our old Jersey City neighborhood. The first time we went there, we just happened upon it while we were exploring shortly after moving in. It was such a cool surprise to find this little oasis in the middle of a big city! It's beach-themed, complete with sand and umbrellas. It's even dog-friendly so Shiloh doesn't need to miss out on the fun! Even since moving out of Jersey City, we've maintained this tradition, and it's something that our friends look forward to each June.

Time WELL SPENT

We love to do puzzles together. We've done more than fifty 1,000+ piece jigsaw puzzles in the past few years, and we also love to do escape rooms. One of our favorite-ever escape rooms had an underwater theme. It was super challenging - at one point, we thought that we'd made it out, only to discover an additional hidden room! After quickly putting aside our initial frustration, we worked together to solve the last set of puzzles. We made it out with 2 minutes to spare and were so proud of ourselves - even closing things out with a dorky celebratory "happy dance."

We enjoy hiking and exploring nature. Last year, we took a particularly beautiful hike through a series of waterfalls. What would've normally taken us a couple of hours took us about 3 hours because Shiloh felt the need to continuously stop and lick everyone we passed, and also kept stopping for swim breaks! It made us so happy to see him splashing around and also served to remind us that there's beauty in taking our time and enjoying the journey.



ALL DOLLED UP FOR OUR FRIENDS' WEDDING IN BOSTON

We love learning about new cultures, often through food & travel. When we visited Australia for our honeymoon, we were surprised to learn that kangaroo meat was a common staple of meals. We're both adventurous eaters, as well as self-described foodies, so decided to order kangaroo for dinner one night. It was plated with locally grown veggies, a creamy sauce, and a potato cake. It was delicious! We asked our waiter where to go for non-touristy meals, to ensure that we were immersing ourselves in the culture as much as possible. Your child would be exposed to diverse cultures, experiences, and adventures.



KAYAKING WITH SHILOH - HE'S A PRO

Before YOU GO!

We can't thank you enough for considering us as potential adoptive parents for your child. We know that adoption is a lifetime journey for everyone involved, and we're hopeful to begin this journey with you.

If you choose us to raise your child, please know that we will strive to fulfill all of the hopes that you have for them. Your child will be embraced by our family with open arms and showered in love, and they will grow up respecting their history and origin. You will always be honored and respected in our home. We truly can't wait to make our dreams of parenthood a reality, and we look forward to maintaining the level of openness that you are comfortable with.

While we can't pretend to know what you're feeling, we want you to know that we'll embrace & support you however we can. We are wishing you strength, love, and peace of mind in making the decisions that are best for you and your child. Thank you again for taking the time to learn about us!

WE KNOW THAT ADOPTION IS A LIFETIME JOURNEY FOR EVERYONE INVOLVED, AND WE'RE HOPEFUL TO BEGIN THIS JOURNEY WITH YOU.

