

# PATRICK

A N D

# Emily



H U D S O N

*Eila*

E L L I O T



hey!

**WE'RE PATRICK AND EMILY,  
IT'S REALLY NICE TO "MEET" YOU.**

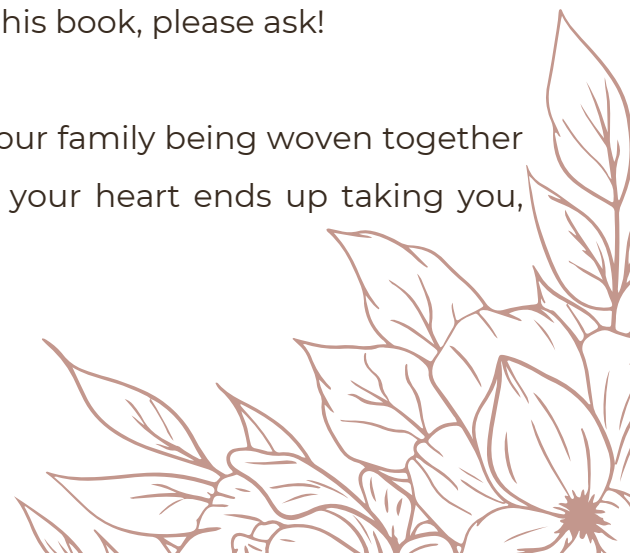
We just want to start by thanking you for allowing us into this delicate and intimate space. We realize that considering every single option available for you and your child takes a lot of courage, strength, and selfless love. So, right up front we want you to know that we respect and admire you.

We won't pretend that we know what it's like to be considering an adoption plan or that we know all the thoughts and emotions you must be working through, but please know that we are on your side. We support you, we will cheer you on, and we want you to remember that you are worthy and deserve to feel seen, listened to, respected and loved unconditionally. No matter what decision ends up feeling right for you and your child, we are so proud of you!

While we don't want to overwhelm you with a ton of information about our family, we do hope that what we share in these pages gives you a true glimpse of our hearts. If you have any specific questions that aren't answered in this book, please ask!

We are so excited about the possibility of our family and your family being woven together because of love for your child. No matter what direction your heart ends up taking you, please know that we are praying for you and your child.

Patrick and Emily







# WHY adoption?

**LONG BEFORE WE GOT MARRIED WE DREAMT OF HAVING A LARGE FAMILY AND COULDN'T WAIT TO BECOME PARENTS.**

We always envisioned our home – and our hearts – filled with the love and laughter (and chaos!) of a bunch of little ones running around...so when we were told that Emily couldn't have any more children, we knew that did not mean our family had to be done growing.

So, we began praying about welcoming more children (and their families!) into our family through adoption. The process of bringing two families together all because of love for a child has taught us so much. We have learned that joy and grief can coexist, and that while life likes to throw curveballs, beautiful things can come from the unexpected.

Over the past 4 years we have had the amazing opportunity to speak with so many amazing Expectant Mamas, to hear their hearts and watch them find families who love them and their babies. We have also had the honor of getting to know and love two incredible Expectant Mamas more personally. Mama M - who found the support and empowerment to raise her daughter, and Mama S - who asked us to welcome her son into our family and love him unconditionally!

Adoption is and will always be something our family is passionate about, and we believe every single Expectant Parent and their child(ren) deserves to be loved by people who will cheer them on, no matter what!



**FROM WANTED, TO WANTED.  
FROM LOVING ARMS, TO LOVING ARMS...  
THAT'S ADOPTION.**





# this is us

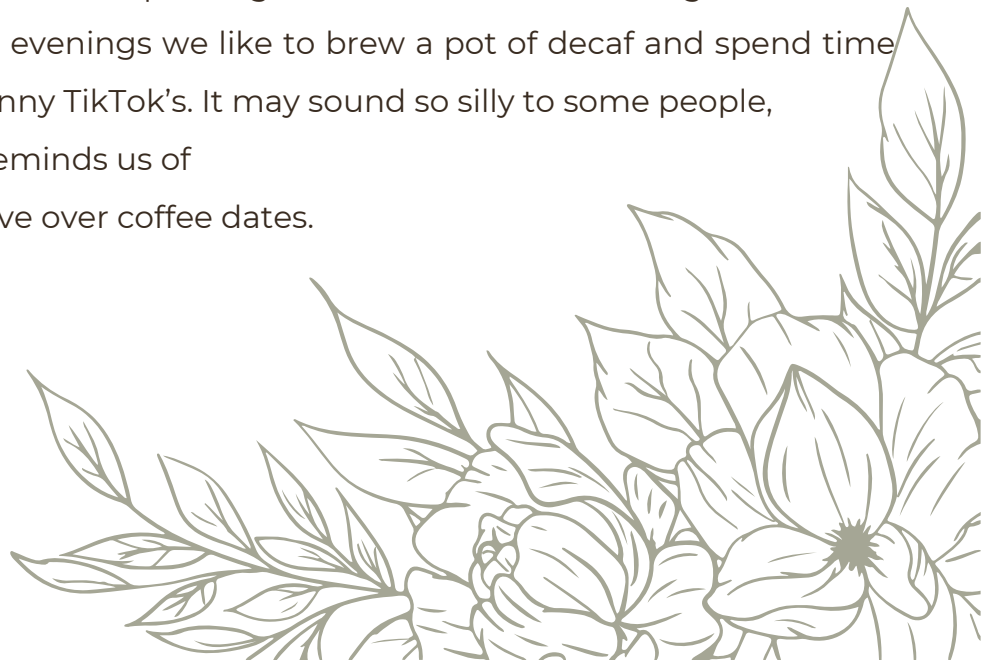
Our story doesn't start with "instant attraction" or really any attraction at all.

We met in 2011 while working at American Eagle over summer break and were just two co-workers who occasionally worked the same shifts. Our paths would cross during the summer and holidays, until 2013 when Patrick walked into the coffee shop where I worked and asked me to grab coffee with him sometime, which I found incredibly adorable.

The rest is history.

We got married in a beautiful open air botanical greenhouse on November 1, 2015, and as luck would have it, it poured the entire day. I really think that experience helped us see that some of the greatest things (like marrying my best friend in the pouring rain) can come from unexpected moments.

We say that coffee brought us together and keeps us together. These days our coffee dates look more like sipping coffee together while packing school lunches and talking about what we have planned for the day. In the evenings we like to brew a pot of decaf and spend time watching our favorite tv shows or funny TikTok's. It may sound so silly to some people, but having coffee together always reminds us of those two college kids who fell in love over coffee dates.



M E E T

emily

BY PATRICK



## fun facts

- Emily went to Cosmetology School and is passionate about curly/natural haircare!
- She taught herself to sing and play guitar, and began performing at local festivals, restaurants and churches when she was only 14.
- She is pretty sure she could live off of chips and salsa...and maybe the occasional bowl of guacamole.

As cheesy as it may sound, Emily honestly completes me. In areas where I am lacking, she comes along side to balance things out. I love that no matter what, she always tries to take interest in the things that are important to the people she loves. She's the kind of person who will drop everything to show up for her people...especially our kids.

While no mom is perfect, Emily strives to be the very best mom she can be, to learn from her mistakes, and to apologize when she is wrong. She takes the time to learn different ways to parent each kid based on their personalities and needs. She is always trying to give our kids space to express their thoughts and feelings in a safe environment, and works daily to make our home a safe and inviting place for our kids to just be themselves.

From singing Disney songs at the top of her lungs, to playing in the sprinkler with the kids, to dance parties in the kitchen, Emily is the fun loving kind of mom that ensures our home is filled with giggles as often as possible.

She is my best friend, and I can't imagine doing life without her.

I think most little girls probably daydream about weddings and prince charming's, but all I wanted was a home full of babies to love, share my fondness of music, and joy of laughing with.

Motherhood looks absolutely nothing like what my 5-year old self envisioned with my room full of baby dolls, little cribs, and baskets full of blankets. It's definitely a lot louder, way more chaotic, and tiring, but it's also so much better than I ever imagined. I had no idea that I could love anyone so deeply and fully. Then as each child entered our home and family, I realized there was more love in my heart than I knew I was capable of giving. I would see their face and fall so deeply and madly in love with them...it's absolutely magical.

My friends would tell you my laugh comes from my toes. I am an incredibly goofy and silly person. I love to have a good time and to make people laugh. Being able to find joy and to laugh deeply and loudly is something I don't want to take for granted.

I ADORE music, and can't help but start dancing and singing along (even if a little too loudly) with every song I hear. Getting to share my love of music with the kids has been incredible.

Before becoming a stay-at-home mom, I was a full-time stylist. I specialized in natural/curlly hair care and loved every single minute of it. Being able to help women see their natural, God-given beauty never got old. I learned so much about life and love from the women who sat in my chair.



*out of all the titles I've ever had,  
mommy is my favorite.*





M E E T

patrick

BY EMILY

Patrick is hands down my best friend. Not long after I met him I knew he was going to be an amazing husband and father one day..little did I know I'd be the girl who gets to see that happen first hand!

Patrick is incredibly kind, and always treats people with respect. He's the kind of guy who can always find the good in any situation, and doesn't allow bad moments to ruin his whole day. He forgives quickly, and honestly is just an easy person to get along with. He works incredibly hard so that I am able to stay home with our kids, but also knows how and when to prioritize our family over work.

His love for kids and his ability to be silly and play pretend have made him an amazing dad. He knows when to discipline, when to teach, and when to give grace and help our kiddos learn and grow. I really do think Patrick was created to be a dad, and there is honestly no one else I could ever imagine raising a family with.

**F  
U  
N  
F  
A  
C  
T  
S**

- Patrick got his degree in journalism, and loves reading to our kids and making up stories with them!
- He loves sports, and has recently begun coaching our kids baseball and soccer teams.
- His favorite food is pizza...especially Mellow Mushrooms' Buffalo Chicken pizza.



Everyone says that I'm a quiet or even a shy person. I prefer to watch rather than be seen, but when I find something I'm passionate about I'm all in.

Early on I discovered my love for reading and writing. Once I made it to College, I took that passion and attempted a career in it, deciding to get a degree in English and Journalism. This provided me the opportunity to write for the school newspaper and spent some time as a sports section editor.

I have always been drawn to sports and enjoy playing most sports (although not particularly well). Spending time as the sports editor allowed me to cover so many athletic events. It was a dream come true to not only attend these events but get paid and earn college credits to write about them. The journalism thing didn't pan out, but I was provided the opportunity to work along side my father in law at his manufacturing business. It's a small company with new challenges and opportunities always on the horizon, so there is never a dull moment. I still get to do free-lance writing from time to time, but my passion for sports and writing still burns bright.



I'm slowly passing my love of sports on to my kids. I can honestly say I never saw myself as a youth coach, but when a friend of mine needed help on my son's t-ball team, I joined. I had one of the greatest experiences and can't wait for the next season. My son has played soccer for a couple years also and I even got to coach his team this year. Getting to coach my son has meant so much to me. It lets me spend even more time with him and try to be a role model in my kids' lives.



I still love writing and I still love sports, but I love nothing like I love these kids. I am all in on these kiddos, they add more to my life than I could ever ask for. They keep me on my toes almost every hour of the day and I wouldn't trade it for anything.

*being their dad is my dream job...*

# MEET OUR KIDDOS

Hudson is our strong willed, loving, and incredibly funny oldest kiddo. He loves to be silly, make up dance routines with Eila, and loves to read to Eila and Elliot. He brings so much laughter to our family. He is very protective of his siblings and tells everyone he is a “double big brother”, since Eila and Elliot are younger than him. He is excited to possibly become a “triple big brother”.

Eila is our spunky, free spirited, yet incredibly sweet little girl. She is always ready to have a good time, loves to dance and sing, and can make anyone laugh. She’s our fashionista, always picking out outfits and accessories and trying new styles in her hair. Being around her is like experiencing pure sunshine. She’s a little mama, always taking care of Elliot (and any other little ones around). She adores being a big sister.

Elliot is the current family baby, and he takes that roll seriously! He loves for Hudson and Eila to carry him around, and just wants to be doing whatever they are. He and Eila have a super sweet bond, and one of his first words was her name. He is a super smiley, happy little dude, and he makes our family so much better. His smile and laugh can make anyone’s day a hundred times better. He was born in Louisiana (adopted at birth), and we cant wait to teach him all about his Creole heritage, and to take him back to experience his culture for himself!

**HUDSON**  
11/15/2016



*Eila*  
07/07/2019



**ELLIOT**  
10/21/2022



# HOME SWEET HOME

Emily would describe our home as “cozy bohemian”.

From the many houseplants scattered about, to the cozy blankets, fluffy pillows, and soft inviting spaces to cuddle up. Emily tries to make sure our home is the kind of place you want to be.

We live in a 4-bedroom home that sits on 2 acres in a small town located in South Alabama.

Even though we live in a smaller town, we are a short distance from two major cities and The Gulf of Mexico. We are thankful this gives our kids the chance to grow up in a quiet area with plenty of room to play but also be able to enjoy the laid-back beach life and the diversity and many cultural experiences the cities offer.

Emily’s parents live next door to us, and we love the fact that our kids get to see their grandparents every day! In fact, most of our neighbors are either Emily’s family or family friends, so it’s nice knowing that our kids are safe and surrounded by people who love them.

One of our favorite things about our home is that the living room and kitchen are open to each other, making it so easy to spend time together. The kitchen has a large window over the sink that looks out over the back yard, and we love that we can watch our kids playing on the swing set or riding bikes while we are doing day to day chores.



Most days you will find crayons, coloring pages and craft supplies covering the kitchen table. Disney songs will be playing in the background, and baby toys will be “decorating” the living room floor. There are little handprints on the backdoor glass, and sippy cups hanging on the fridge. There is no question that little people are growing up here, and we wouldn’t have it any other way!





## EMILYS FAMILY

I am the oldest in my family, with a little brother who's 5 years younger than me. I have a very large family, with six aunts and uncles, twenty-four first cousins, and twenty second cousins. Growing up there were always family members at our house, and I didn't know that everyone's family wasn't as loud and large as mine!

Even though my family is extensive, I am the closest with my mom's two sisters and their children, who are more like siblings to me and my brother than cousins.

My mom has always tried to make sure we have weekly family dinners, and loves to plan get togethers for every single holiday - even the small ones.

Doing anything with my family is always loud and full of laughter and fun!



## PATRICKS FAMILY

I am the youngest of three children. I have two older sisters who are 12 and 13 years older than me, which was kind of like having two extra moms. I have two nieces and two nephews, and a great niece on the way!

My dad, both of my sisters, and their kids live one town over, so we try to do family dinners as often as everyone's schedules allow.

Every year we spend Christmas Eve at my oldest sisters house - we all bring our favorite finger foods, and we play Dirty Santa, which always leaves us laughing until our sides hurt. It's become a tradition that our kids (and the adults) look forward to all year!

When my mom passed away in 2020, we realized you really never know when you'll spend your last time with a loved one - so making time for family is so important to us.



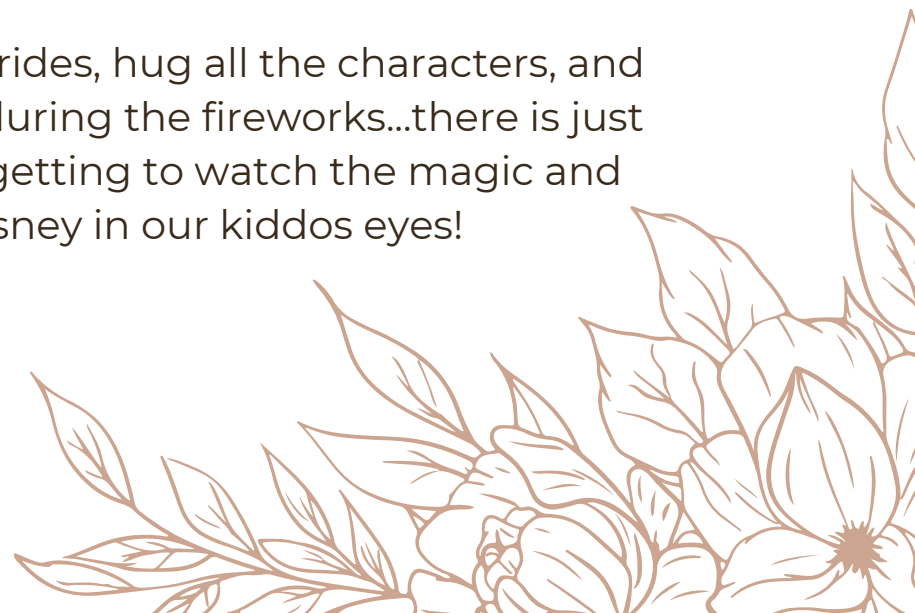
# our adventures

**WE LOVE TO TRAVEL**

*especially to Disney World!*

Disney is very special to all of us. We spent our honeymoon there and now try to make a trip down to Orlando once a year to take the kids to their favorite parks. They love counting down the days until we go each year! Emily is also the queen of Disney planning. Finding matching outfits for the kids, scoring amazing character dining, and filling our days so that we get to experience all of our favorite things!

We love to ride all the rides, hug all the characters, and stand in amazement during the fireworks...there is just nothing better than getting to watch the magic and wonder of Disney in our kiddos eyes!







# OUR TRADITIONS

As a young family, we are still creating new memories and building traditions for ourselves, mixing our own families' holiday traditions with new experiences of our own.

Things like coloring Easter Eggs and going to Christmas Eve services were things we both grew up doing and now love to share with our kids. New ideas we started were writing our kids' Valentines notes, reading The Easter Story together as a family, going to local Pumpkin Patches and Fall Festivals, and hosting a soup and pumpkin carving family night!

The holiday seasons can get so busy, so we try to do little things that keep us together and encourage us to laugh and have fun. We search for matching pjs to wear on Christmas Eve, we bake sugar cookies and gingerbread people together, and invite friends and family to a Christmas cookie decorating party. We hope that one day these moments lay the foundation of our children creating traditions with their own families.



WHATEVER WE DO  
*i want it to be together*





OUR  
*promise to you,*

We want to close this book with a few things we promise to uphold.

Should you choose us to walk this life with you and your child, we want you to know that we will:

- Love your child fiercely and unconditionally.
- To make our home a safe space where they can thrive, and always be and feel completely accepted and adored.
- Allow him/her to be a child, to guide him/her through the tough parts of life, to celebrate and cheer on in the exciting times, and to help him/her flourish into the young man or woman that God designed him/her to be.
- Surround your child with family and friends who love him/her, who have vowed to support, to guide, to teach, to listen, to laugh, to encourage, to adore, and to always pray with, for, and over him/her.
- Always extend forgiveness and grace.
- Always tell your child of your selfless and sacrificial love.
- Honor what you desire our relationship to look like to the best of our ability, and to be flexible when/if your desires change.
- We value and see the relationship between you, your child, and our family as something incredibly sacred.

*Thank you for allowing us to share our hearts with you.  
We hope you are able to find a little peace during this season.*