

# Hello!



**We are Eric and Jason,  
writing to you from our home in  
New York City.**

First of all, we'd like to thank you for taking the time to learn a little more about us. It takes a great amount of love, courage and compassion to think about adoption, and since you're reading this, we understand that you have a significant decision ahead of you.

We're very grateful to be considered as adoptive parents of your child. We have always wanted to be fathers, and we feel so ready to make your baby the center of our world. We hope that this book will give you a good sense of who we are and the kind of parents we would be, and we can't wait to speak with you and hear about your hopes and dreams for your child.



*Eric and Jason, embracing on our wedding day outside the Louvre Museum in Paris*

# About Eric

by Jason



I've always thought Eric would naturally be an amazing dad. He's unbelievably kind and thoughtful. He can find warmth or humor in any situation, and his silliness never fails to inspire a smile, especially when playing with our friend Ashley's children, Charlotte and Rory.



*Eric, nerding out about the brain, the focus of his work as a doctor*

Eric is a doctor and assistant professor at a prominent medical school. Specifically, he's a clinical neuropsychologist, which means he helps people who live with chronic medical conditions or have experienced brain injuries. (He even evaluates NFL players and Olympic athletes!)

Living and breathing in the world of psychology, Eric's sense of understanding, empathy, and patience is unrivaled. I've never met someone as approachable and with such open energy.



*Our friend Ashley's daughter, Charlotte, smiling at the end of an afternoon visit with "uncles" Jason and Eric*

Eric is from a small, rural town on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, not far from the beach. It was the kind of place where everyone knew each other, and extended family was important to him – grandparents, uncles, aunts, and cousins. He’s the third of four siblings, so he got to enjoy the fun (and sometimes chaos) of being both a little brother to Jennifer and Walter and a big brother to Hunter.



He was a rather active child – a flute player in marching band, varsity tennis player, and just shy of a black belt in Taekwondo – and he is excited to encourage your child to explore their interests as well!



*Eric with his mother, Linda (L), and sister, Jennifer (R), sharing a beautiful moment after our wedding at Parc Monceau in Paris*

# About Jason

by Eric



I know that Jason is going to be a fantastic dad. He's one of the most grounded and dependable people I know, and he brings calm, thoughtful energy to everything he does. Whether he's planning our next vacation, reflecting deeply on big decisions, or secretly finding the perfect gift—like the surprise weekend trip to Paris he planned for me!

Jason grew up in South Florida in the suburbs of Fort Lauderdale. As an only child, he has always had especially strong ties to his parents, his grandparents, and his aunts, Meryl, Karen, and Laurie, and he is deeply loyal to his family.



*Jason, with a Tony Award, after the Tony Awards ceremony*



*Eric and Jason with Jason's parents, Mindy and Gary (L), and his aunt and uncle, Meryl and Gary (R), at our post-wedding party in New York City*

From a young age, Jason had a passion for singing and playing piano, and he dreams about teaching our child how to read and play music. He also went to theater camp every summer, performing in shows such as *Les Misérables* and *Guys and Dolls* while nurturing a lifelong love of the arts — theatre, music, and storytelling.

In fact, Jason pursued a career working behind the scenes of major Broadway musicals, from *Wicked* to *Oklahoma*, overseeing the day-to-day – crunching numbers and making sure the Broadway cast and crew are taken care of... you know, keeping everything on track.



*Jason, soothing Jack, the newborn son of his friends, Katie and Ryan*



*Jason with his co-workers, Michelle, Georgina, and Christine, at the opening night of Oklahoma on Broadway*

And over the last couple of years, he had the privilege of serving as a Tony Award voter, granting him the opportunity to see every new Broadway production and vote for his favorite performers and shows. He looks forward to sharing the magic of Broadway with your child by taking them to many of these shows as his special guest.



# The Road to “Eric & Jason”:

## A Tale of Two Boroughs



*Eric and Jason, enjoying the views  
in Granada, Spain*



We first met as so many couples do these days—on a dating app. Hinge, to be specific. After a few messages back and forth, we went on our first date. Eric lived in Manhattan, and Jason lived in Queens, so we met in the middle, at a Latin American restaurant overlooking the East River and the New York City skyline.

Within a matter of months, we knew that we had something special. Soon enough, we went on our first trip together to Spain, moved in together (Manhattan won over Queens in the end!), and got engaged while camping in the mountains of upstate New York.



*Eric and Jason, taking in the beautiful  
architecture of Istanbul, Turkiye*



# Our Beautiful Wedding



We decided to have a very small wedding ceremony in Paris. We were married by a pond in beautiful Parc Monceau, accompanied by Jason's parents, Mindy and Gary, and Eric's mother, Linda, and sister, Jennifer (on their first trip abroad!). It was incredibly romantic, and that day still brings such wonderful memories.



*Eric and Jason, getting married by our French officiant, Laura, in the stunning Parc Monceau in Paris*



*Celebrating our wedding with some of our closest friends in New York City (Front: Christine, Nik; Back: Jason, Amelia, Eric, Justin, Jessica)*

# Our Life Now



Today we live with our dog Seymour (aka Sy Sy) on the Upper East Side of Manhattan, very close to some incredible museums and beautiful parks, all of which we try to take advantage of as much as we can.

We rescued Sy Sy a few years ago on Christmas Eve, and he's the sweetest, most cuddly dog we know. He's relatively small at 20lbs and is a mix of Chihuahua, Shih Tzu, Korean Jindo, and Japanese Spitz. His favorite pastimes include chasing pigeons and enjoying the smells of New York City. On the weekends, we enjoy taking Sy Sy to the nearby park to sit by the river and watch the ferries (and pigeons) go by.



*Jason and Eric, snuggling with our dog Sy Sy on a Saturday morning*



*Our friends, Roxanna and Rhiannon, playing with our friend Ashley's daughter, Charlotte*



We've both lived in New York City for over a decade and still have so much more of the city to explore. We love that the diversity and cultural opportunities here are truly boundless, which means your child will experience sensational music, art, performance, and history. But we also value the calm and peace brought by nature and the outdoors. When we need a break from the hustle and bustle of our daily lives, we're just a short train or ferry ride away from beaches and parks, where we look forward to taking your child hiking, camping, and even sledding in the winter.

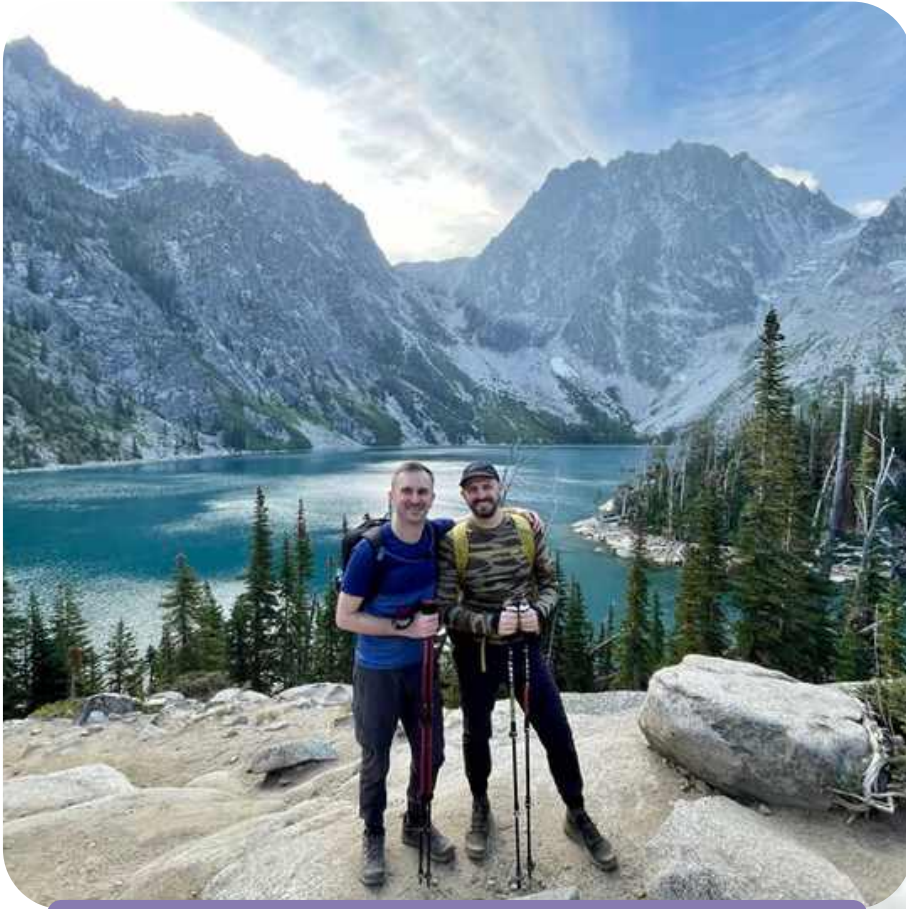


Jason, Eric, and Jason's childhood friend, Ashley, celebrating her daughter Charlotte's 1<sup>st</sup> birthday



Eric and Jason, hiking with our dog, Sy Sy, in upstate New York





*Jason and Eric, hiking the Enchantments in Washington State*

We also love traveling and immersing ourselves in other cultures around the world. Some of our favorite excursions have included going on safari in South Africa and trekking through the jungle villages of Thailand. We dream about all of the wonderful places where we are going to bring your child, from the castles of Europe to the temples of Asia.



We try to cook together as much as we can, from salmon cakes to Pad Thai, and we love playing board games. (We have an entire bookshelf filled with them!)



*Eric and Jason, soaking in the beauty of Khao Sok, Thailand*



Our passion for world cultures extends into our daily lives at home in New York as well. Eric majored in Spanish in college, and we share a love for learning languages. We are currently studying both Spanish and French rather seriously.

In fact, we're members of L'Alliance New York, a French cultural center where we enjoy attending the Animation First Festival every January, the biggest animation festival in the entire U.S.

We look forward to one day attending this festival as a family and raising your child to be trilingual!



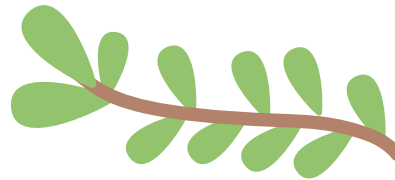
**Eric and Jason at the Louvre Museum in Paris with our friends Amelia and Christine**



**Eric, playing with our friend Ashley's daughter, Rory**

Eric's the kind of person who wakes up early and can't wait to get started on the day. He's always had a lot of energy and loves staying active, whether he's taking a long walk along the East River, rock climbing at the gym, or heading out on a run with Sy Sy. Eric loves plants; he has a green thumb. Every day, you turn around, and there's a new plant by the window.

Jason has a passion for trees – family trees, that is. One of his lifelong projects is researching his and Eric's family history, going back hundreds of years. Once we welcome a child into our home, Jason is excited to share this passion with them as well and help them learn more about their roots and where they came from.



**Family gathering with Jason's cousins, Alan and Jackie, and their spouses (L to R: David, Jason, Eric, Phil, Jackie, Alan)**

# Our Family Is Incredibly Important To Us



We are lucky to have strong relationships on both sides of our family, and everyone is thrilled about our adoption plans and eager to embrace your child as the newest member of the pack.

Jason's immediate family is in Florida, including his father, Gary, his aunt, Meryl, and his grandma, Lynn. We fly down to visit a couple of times a year, and they typically visit us in NYC once a year. Jason's cousin, Alan, also lives a few blocks away, and Alan's sister, Jackie, visits from Colorado every so often, so it's nice to have family close by as well.

Eric's family is mostly based in Maryland, including his mother, Linda, and two of his siblings, Jennifer and Walter. His younger brother, Hunter, lives in San Diego, and Eric always looks forward to his visits out west—especially if it includes a trip to the famous San Diego Zoo and a day hitting up hiking trails or the beach. Eric's family visits New York regularly, which lets us pretend to be tourists and visit all of the sites we otherwise wouldn't, since we live here.



*Eric and Jason, spending quality time with Jason's grandma, Lynn, by the beach in Florida*





**Celebrating our engagement with friends!**

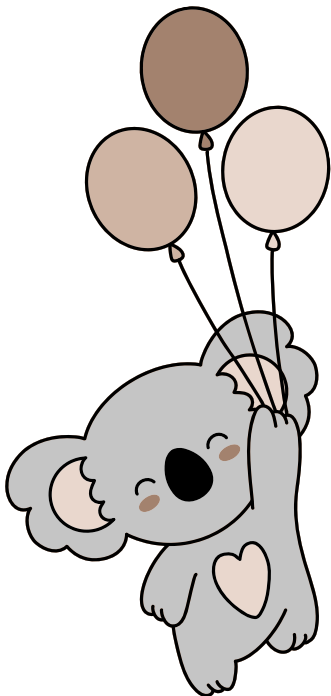
**(Front: Eric, Jason, Michelle;**

**Back: David, Ashley, Rhiannon, Roxanna, Brendan)**

Our family also extends to our strong network of friends, who mostly live nearby. Our NYC family helps us in keeping our traditions alive and in creating new ones.

Every Thanksgiving we visit our friends, Roxanna and Rhiannon, who host a big potluck with other friends and their families. (These days, besides the adults, we only have little baby Dylan in attendance, but we look forward to expanding the kids' table in the coming years!)

We stuff ourselves with a smorgasbord of delicious dishes – turkey, Eric's famous broccoli and cheese casserole, cranberry sauce (there's always a debate between fresh or canned!) – all while watching the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, followed by the Westminster Dog Show (and their puppy parade!).



We're also excited to take your child to the annual Balloon Inflation Celebration near Central Park each year on the day before Thanksgiving, as they prepare for the big parade the following morning. We can't wait to see your child's expression of awe as the giant balloons come to life!



On Christmas Eve, we usually host friends at our place – Megan, Laura, Lindsay, Sam, Jake, and others – with, yes, another potluck. We spend the day cooking and baking cookies, all while singing along to our favorite Christmas carols playing in the background. When our friends arrive, we play board games, watch all the new Hallmark movies, and sip on hot chocolate. (And yes, there will always be marshmallows!) The next morning, we sleep in and spend the day in our pajamas, watching more holiday movies and eating leftovers.



With your little one, we look forward to rekindling some traditions from our own childhood. The day after Thanksgiving will be devoted to decorating our home for the holiday season. We'll cover our tree in ornaments representing our favorite things and our travels, string twinkling Christmas lights all around the living room, and hang stockings for each of us. On Christmas Eve, we'll be sure to leave cookies and milk for Santa, and the following morning, we'll confirm that he swung by overnight before showering your child with presents.



**Donning Christmas crowns with friends!  
(L to R: David, Jason, Eric, Gaby,  
Rhiannon, Roxanna)**



Now, let's not forget about Easter. We have such great childhood memories of dyeing Easter eggs with our families and poring through Easter baskets overflowing with jelly beans, Starbursts, and a chocolate bunny almost as big as Sy Sy.



Jason has a close friend of over 30 years named Ashley, who lives in New Jersey with her husband Jamie and two daughters, Charlotte (3 years old) and Rory (1 year old), and we're already excited to spend Easter with them next year. I mean, who doesn't love a backyard Easter egg hunt?! We can already hear the sound of Charlotte and Rory's gleeful giggles as they uncover each colorful egg filled with sweet surprises.

**Jason's childhood friend, Ashley, with her daughters, Rory and Charlotte**



**Our friends, Michelle, Ashley, Roxanna, and Rhiannon, with Ashley's daughter, Charlotte**

And for July 4th, our friend, David, hosts a barbecue every year with all of the usual fixings – burgers, hot dogs, corn on the cob. His dog, Luke, is good friends with Sy Sy, and it's always fun watching their two tails wagging furiously as they run around and play together. We can't wait to see a child frolicking with them and, when they are old enough, staying up late to watch the fireworks with us over the East River.



*Our dog, Sy Sy, with our friend David's dog, Luke, on July 4th*



*Ring in the New Year with friends at a 90s-themed celebration (L to R: Nik, Amelia, Jason & Sy Sy, Eric)*

Beyond holidays, we usually have our close friends, Amelia and Christine (both from Australia) and Jessica and Justin (both Mario Kart enthusiasts), over to our place every Friday to celebrate the end of the week. We play games, watch movies, and simply catch up. They are the best aunties and uncle to little Sy Sy (and can't wait to be the best aunties and uncle to your child one day!).



And lastly, we have a built-in community among Jason's colleagues on Broadway. It's a close-knit group of actors and crew members, including a number of young parents, who often bring their children to the theater between shows to play together. We look forward to joining in on the fun.



*Reveling in our friends' company at our joint Bachelor Party  
(Front: David & Luke, Justin, Jessica, Christine, Alex, Roxanna, Laura, Megan;  
Back: Rhiannon, Jason, Eric & Sy Sy, Amelia, Jake, Sam, Ryan, Ben, Ryan)*

# Why We Want A Family



Jason has always dreamed of having a family. He's genuinely excited about the responsibility of guiding a young person's development and creating those everyday moments that become treasured memories: weekend pancake breakfasts, teaching important life lessons, and experiencing the pure joy of seeing the world through a child's eyes.

Eric has always been good with children and has always wanted to be a father. When his sister raised his nephew, Trey, and niece, Reese, he wasn't just the fun uncle. He babysat them all the time – feeding them, changing diapers, playing with them, and keeping them safe. In his work as a psychologist, he has realized that he has a lot of love and compassion to offer. He's provided that to his patients and their families for years and can't wait to now share that with your child.



*Our friends, Rhiannon, Ashley, Roxanna, and Michelle, with Ashley's daughter, Charlotte, on Christmas Eve*



*Jason, our dear friend, Sam, and Eric at our post-wedding celebration in New York City*

We feel like now is the perfect time for us to start a family. Our careers are solid and secure, our marriage is strong and committed, and we've built a stable, loving home and life together. It feels like the natural next step to share this with a new member of the family, to whom we can devote all of our attention (and we know little Sy Sy feels the same!).



*Eric with his friend, Lindsay, at a Christmas Light Festival in New York City*

# Our Values



There's so much that we would want to pass on to a child – kindness, empathy, a curiosity for learning, and a sense of adventure and joy. Laughter is key to a healthy life, and we hope not a day will go by without at least a giggle (especially during our Saturday morning dance parties with Sy Sy).

We both plan on being very hands-on and involved in our child's life, education, and upbringing. What Jason brings in structure, Eric brings in spontaneity. We very much believe in openness, honesty, and mutual respect, and we plan to teach these values to our child as well. Similarly, we would look to foster an environment where they can feel safe expressing themselves and know that we will listen and support them.



*Out and about in New York City with friends!  
(L to R: Andrea, Christine, Eric, Jason)*

We will feed your child's curiosity by exposing them to as many different activities and cultural opportunities as possible, and we promise to support their interests and passions, whatever they may be (and no matter how often they may change!).

We also can't wait to introduce a child to all of our friends and family. Our parents are thrilled at the prospect of spoiling their grandchildren, and we have several close friends who are also making plans to start families of their own, meaning we'll get to experience the adventure of raising children around the same time.



*Eric and Jason, basking in the sun in southern Thailand with our friends, Justin and Jessica*



# Thank You

## From The Bottom Of Our Hearts

We know this is an incredibly personal and difficult decision, and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts for taking the time to get to know us. We hope this book has given you a better understanding of our values and the sense of love, stability, and joy we hope to offer your child.

We would love to share more and would be thrilled to learn more about you and your aspirations for your child. If you'd like to talk, please call or text 347-630-8052 or e-mail [ericandjasonhopetoadopt@gmail.com](mailto:ericandjasonhopetoadopt@gmail.com). If you have questions about the process, our attorney, Suzanne Nichols, would be happy to speak to you at 800-255-1415.

Whatever path you choose, we wish you peace, strength, and comfort.

With love,

*Eric & Jason*

