

*Ben & Lindsay*





# Hello!

**IT MAY SOUND CLICHE, BUT WE KNEW IT WAS MEANT TO BE FROM THE FIRST DATE.**

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**T**hank you so much for reading about our story and learning more about us as prospective parents.

Our story begins online! We had a few friends and family members meet their spouses online and figured we would try it. It may sound cliché, but we knew it was meant to be from the first date.

We had only planned to meet for lunch on a random Saturday in July. We were so excited to experience such a strong connection that we didn't want the date to end! We got coffee and then ice cream while we shared similar interests in traveling, old books, and movies. Ben was excited to show off his swing dancing moves, and we spent the afternoon listening to big brass band music and practicing Ben's favorite dance moves. On a whim, we traveled the short distance to New Orleans for dinner at what remains one of our favorite spots. We capped off the evening with beignets and coffee in the park on the river. We still talk about how we spent half the night asking each other, "Where have you been all my life?"

We spent the next few years traveling the world and falling in love over our shared interests in bookshops, exploring foreign countries and movies, and spending time with friends. We eventually married in January 2021, and after about a year of trying to conceive, we learned from our doctors that we would be unable to have a biological child. Unalarmed, we quickly shifted our focus to adoption --- a topic we had always spoken of passionately.

We have a big love for others, and providing help to a mother who is not in a position to raise a child, as well as giving a child a loving, stable home with every opportunity in life, is something we have openly dreamed about as a couple. We see adoption as an outpouring of this beautifully shared energy. We cannot wait to be parents! It has been our dream, and we are excited to welcome a child into our hearts through adoption.







# About Lindsay, by Ben

Lindsay has always been passionate about helping others and decided to make a career out of it by becoming a nurse. She has held multiple positions within the nursing field, and she'd tell you that the best part of her job is making her patients feel cared for. Lindsay enjoys using her nursing skills to care for her family and is excited about the prospect of staying home and dedicating her time to a child. She cannot wait for the opportunity to be a mom!

She enjoys staying active with indoor cycling (a hobby shared with me) as well as CrossFit. We love the camaraderie of these sports and have made many friends this way. Lindsay is also an amazing crafter, and on Sunday afternoons, you can find her curled up on the couch with our dogs, watching a favorite movie and knitting. We are avid readers, and some of our best Saturdays are spent frequenting local tea and coffee shops with a good book after a spin class.



Our favorite Ice-cream shop





Lindsay had the great fortune to be raised by parents, who are probably two of the most supportive people she knows (outside of Ben). She grew up believing she could accomplish anything if she was willing to work. She was never discouraged from following a dream and inherited her strong work ethic from her parents' hard-working example. Her mother is a nurse, and Lindsay was inspired by how she selflessly cared for others. Her mom's dedication was what sparked her interest in nursing. Her parents' constant encouragement gave her the confidence to finish her program successfully and start her dream job. This was pivotal in her childhood, and she is excited to instill that same sense of confidence and self-worth in any child she is fortunate enough to raise.



*"If they have a dream, Ben and I will help them make it happen!" - Lindsay*



# About Ben, by Lindsay

**B**en loves linking his family history to anyone around him, and there is a 100% chance he will find a way you or a loved one is related to him!

He has a dream job as a financial advisor and stockbroker and loves working with his hands and tinkering with things. Ben is also passionate about traveling, woodworking, reading, writing, quote collecting, biking, fishing, and kayaking. Additionally, he was a writer for several years and worked on several children's books that approach important topics to help young minds develop in unique and fun ways. One of Ben's burning desires is to help reform local schools in the community by improving learning habits, incorporating entrepreneurial skillsets, financial functionality classes, public speaking, and practical work ethic application.



One thing many people don't know about Ben is that he came from a broken home, and at 17, his parents left the state, leaving their son behind to finish his junior and senior year(s) in high school. They didn't have a lot of money or options, and Ben knew the only way to break the cycle was to finish school. He sold everything he owned to move away from all that he was familiar with. He left his friends to pursue a career that he knew nothing about. He often says he is reminded of the quote from the Disney movie Hercules: "You can't change your stars".. The timing in which he was facing these adversities felt like fate- his moment, his opportunity, that maybe, JUST maybe he could change his stars".. So he stayed at a few friends' houses dreaming of a better life under the stars. His friend's mom, Jackie, a former English teacher, eventually took him in and gave him a place to stay. She helped him complete college entrance paperwork, and he was the first child in his family to put himself through college and graduate.

Ben is such a goof! but he keeps it classy!



Ben later helped his older brother and his younger sister, who were separated from one another when they were younger, fill out tuition and financial aid paperwork so that they could further themselves and attend college. He was fortunate to have many people who invested in him and helped raise him. While nothing was ever formally written, he calls each one a “God Mother” or “God Father.” And he looks forward to having that impact on the life of the child he raises.



Getting ready to travel!



There isn't many times Ben isn't trying to make you smile!

- *Ben understands what it is like having three moms and two dads.*
- *He knows what Christmas is like without a tree.*
- *He knows what it's like to move every few months and hear: "You have until this evening to get out."*
- *He knows what hard work is and how important it is to have people that believe in you.*
- *He knows that family is not always those who share your blood but the people who sweat it out with you in the trenches of life.*

*"I promise our child will lose count of the hugs I never had. They will lose count of the times I tell them, "I'm-soo-proud-of-you." And the only couch they will sleep on is one surrounded by a fort that their father made with them out of bed sheets and pillows."- Ben.*



# Our Home

We love our house and have had fun updating it since moving in a few years ago. We added plenty of bookshelves and comfy furniture, so we have many places to curl up with a good book.

Our favorite thing to do at home is entertaining friends!

We love hosting backyard barbecues and movie nights, and everyone looks forward to our annual Halloween Hootenanny! Each year it gets bigger. Every single room in our home is covered from top to bottom with spooky decorations. Our friends dress up in outfits that they spent weeks and even months creating prior to the event. We spend the day baking Halloween-inspired dishes. Our friend is a professional DJ, so he is in charge of the music that night. We've even added a few Halloween pinatas to the mix. Having a child join us will make it all the more fun!





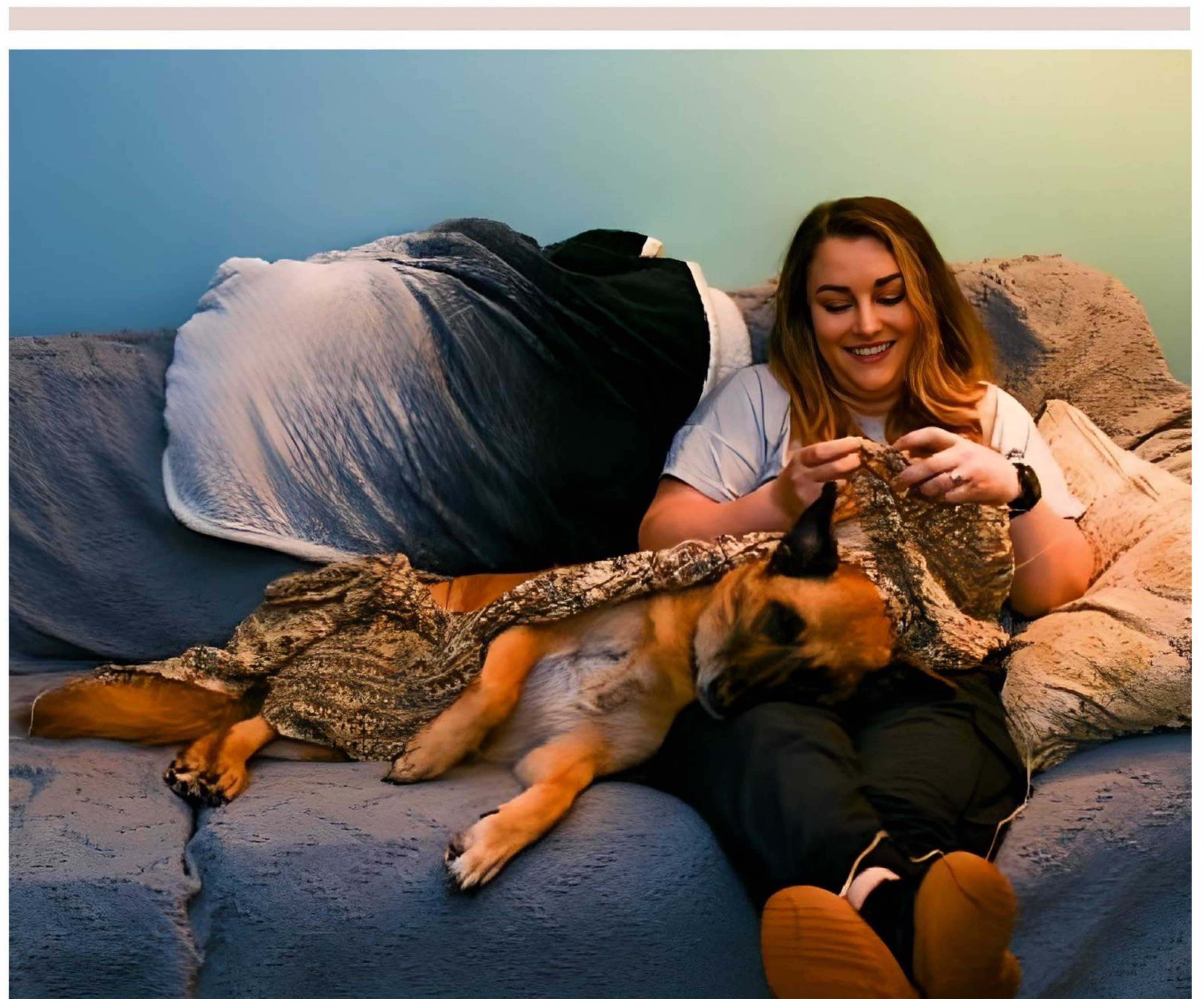
## WE LOVE HOSTING BACKYARD BARBECUES AND MOVIE NIGHTS, AND EVERYONE LOOKS FORWARD TO OUR ANNUAL HALLOWEEN HOOTENANNY!



Even reading is a family affair when we aren't watching our favorite movies

Our home is nestled in a quiet, peaceful neighborhood where it's common to see kids playing outside, joggers, and people outside tending their lawns. We often enjoy long walks through the neighborhood with our two dogs.

We love our city and can't imagine leaving. We joke that it is a 'little big town' as it is a thriving, expanding city, but we always manage to run into friends when we are out. It is an active community with lots going on (the locals love a reason to celebrate!). We are always downtown at farmer's markets, music festivals, hockey and baseball games, and the community theater. We love that it is a 'kid-friendly' place to be and cannot wait to take the little one to the children's museum or one of the many playgrounds!





# Our Family

WE ARE A CLOSE-KNIT GROUP!



We got married during the Pandemic so this is a cross section of our family that could make it!

**O**ur family may be spread throughout the east coast, but we get together every chance we can! Our home has been host to our family for Thanksgiving, Christmas, weddings, and summer getaway vacations!

Our close friends also serve as our 'local family. We are a close-knit group. They share our love for our town, and we all enjoy meeting up at local baseball and hockey games and local plays, concerts, and festivals. Like us, our friends like to stay active, and we enjoy working out together in our downtown indoor cycling studio.





Christmas time with Lindsay's family



Fun time with friends at the Mardi Gras Parade

You will not often find our crew indoors, but when you do, we are usually gathered in our kitchen for potluck dinners or bonfires in our backyard. We also like celebrating holidays and seasonal activities with our local family - we are known for our annual Halloween Party and Christmas cookie decorating night! Many of our friends have children who cannot wait to support us on our journey.

Our family and friends know that we are adopting and are so excited at the prospect of a new child and cannot wait to welcome them with open arms into the family. They have already been talking excitedly about celebrating milestones and attending sporting events/performances in support of a child.



# Hobbies & Traditions

We have many annual traditions with friends and family and cannot wait to start sharing them with a child!



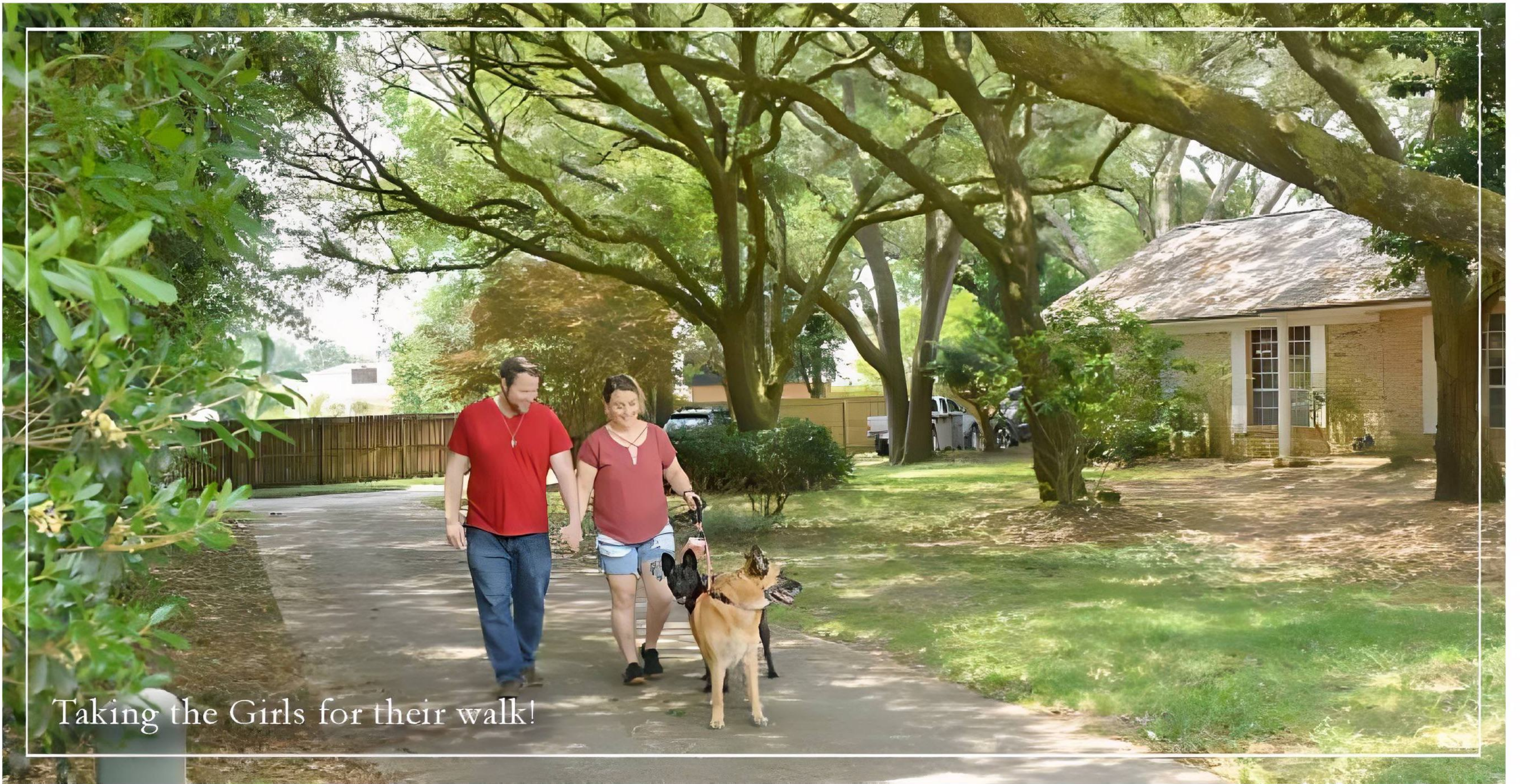
While both Lindsay and Ben love some of the classics, Lindsay is more of a thriller/fantasy reader, and Ben loves anything to do with history and science.

**Spring:** Springtime is usually reserved for travel! We have enjoyed trips with family to France, Ireland, Germany, Switzerland, and Italy.

**Summer:** Our favorite beat-the-heat must-do is gathering all our friends for an inner-tube float down some of our local rivers. There is nothing like a picnic lunch in the shade of a riverbank on a hot day with friends.

**Fall:** Aside from our annual Halloween party, we love getting the family together by hosting Thanksgiving. We always finish Thanksgiving evening by drinking hot chocolate and roasting marshmallows by our fireplace.





Taking the Girls for their walk!

*Winter:* Every year, we enjoy driving to our local botanical gardens to see the Christmas lights and hosting friends at our home for a bonfire and apple cider!



Ben has worked on projects with friends and family and loves using his hands and teaching others.



Ben took Lindsay swinging dancing on one of their FIRST dates, and they haven't stopped since!







# *Thank You!*

**YOU ARE BRAVE, LOVING, AND  
SELFLESS TO CONSIDER THIS CHOICE.**

**W**e can't thank you enough for learning more about us and considering an adoption plan for this baby. You are brave, loving, and selfless to consider this choice.

Regardless of the level of openness you prefer, we will always remind the child of the loving choice their mother made for them so that they can have the life they deserve and the one that you want them to have.

We promise they will have access to every advantage in life, be it educational experiences through private education, support with their hobbies and interests, and traveling the world. No matter the path they decide to take, we will always be in their corner to show them how much love and support they have.

We wish you luck and good health as you navigate these choices and determine what is right for you and your baby.

With love,

*Ben and Lindsay*





*Ben and Lindsay*