



MARC *and* KATHRYN



# HELLO!

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR TAKING  
THE TIME TO GET TO KNOW US.

We know it's impossible to capture the full picture of who we are in these pages, but we hope you feel our hearts here. We are two best friends who love each other deeply, and we are excited to grow our family with openness and care. Service, compassion, and kindness guide our lives, and we want you to know that we honor you, your baby, and the emotions you may be navigating right now.

*If given the opportunity, we promise to cherish, respect,  
and love your baby, and to always hold you in gratitude and  
high regard. No matter what you decide, we wish you peace,  
strength, and ease.*

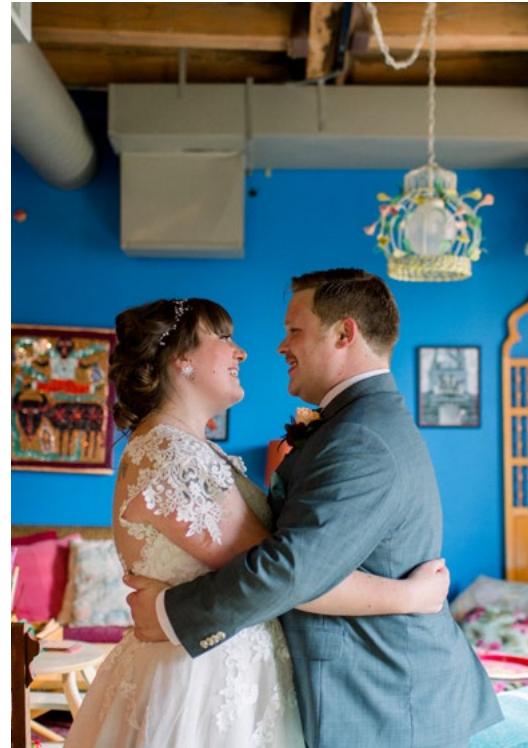
THANK YOU FOR CONSIDERING US.

MARC and KATHRYN

# our STORY

WE MET IN JANUARY 2016 IN A STUDY ROOM AT COLLEGE.

Kathryn was from rural Texas, and Marc was from the South Side of Chicago, but we quickly discovered we had more in common than anyone would expect. We bonded over our tattoos and our shared desire to grow, heal, and build meaningful lives. Our connection was instant, and we've been loving and supporting each other ever since.



*We were married in August 2018, and our life together has been the greatest adventure. Through every season—easy or challenging—we've stayed committed to creating a home filled with love, encouragement, and joy.*



## WHAT LED US TO *adoption*?

FAMILY TO US MEANS LOVE, BELONGING, AND SHOWING UP FOR EACH OTHER.

We both come from lively, complicated, and loving families. Marc's sister, Jodi, joined his family through a familial adoption, which helped us understand early in life that family is not defined only by biology. We have always relied on our chosen family too, the people we love deeply and who have supported us through every chapter of life.

*Adoption has long felt like a natural path for us. After facing challenges trying to get pregnant, our desire to grow our family only deepened. We can't wait to be parents, and we believe whole-heartedly that family is built through love, commitment, and belonging.*



## *meet* **KATHRYN**

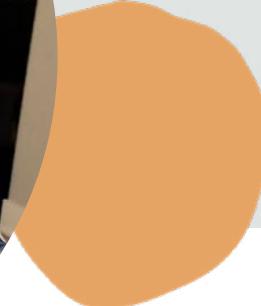
*According to Marc*

Kathryn is the kindest, smartest, and most beautiful person I know. She has a rare gift for knowing exactly what to say to make someone feel understood, and she makes me laugh no matter what is going on. She stands up for the people she loves and is never afraid to defend what is right. She is also the best gift-giver ever—creative, thoughtful, and always spot-on. Her compassion isn't passive; it moves her to act, help, and care.

Beyond our marriage, Kathryn is open, nonjudgmental, and deeply empathetic toward people from all walks of life, which makes it no surprise that she's a social worker. She listens deeply and truly hears others.

### **KATHRYN AS A MOM:**

**KATHRYN IS TENDER, FUNNY, BRILLIANT, AND STRONG, AND SHE IS GOING TO BE THE MOST LOVING AND SUPPORTIVE MOM.**



## meet MARC

*According to Kathryn*

Marc is the most genuinely positive and loving person I have ever met. He always has a kind word to say and can make anyone laugh, even the most serious people. In my wedding vows, I told him that he is my sun, and I meant it. He lifts everyone around him and brings joy into every room. Marc being a middle school teacher makes perfect sense, because he gets to help kids grow, explore, and feel proud of themselves every single day.

Marc and I have built our lives around breaking negative patterns and creating a home full of gentleness and safety. He inspires me daily with his patience, humor, and huge heart.

### MARC AS A DAD:

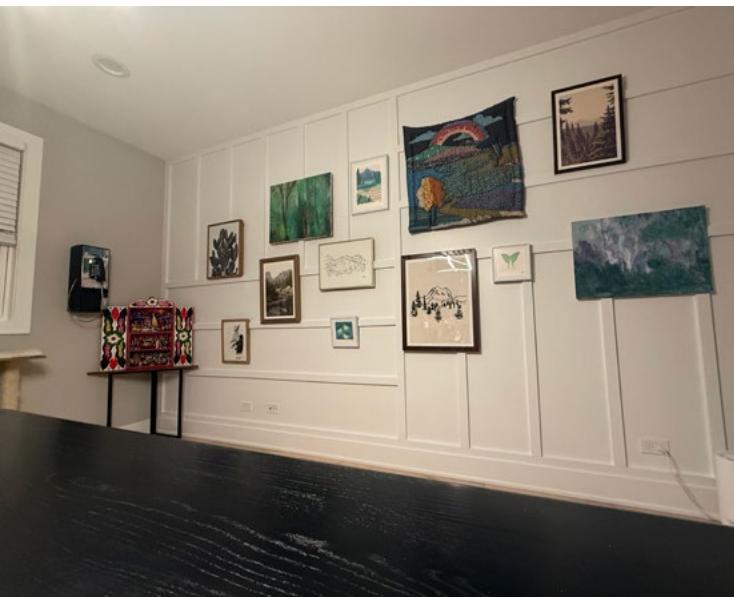
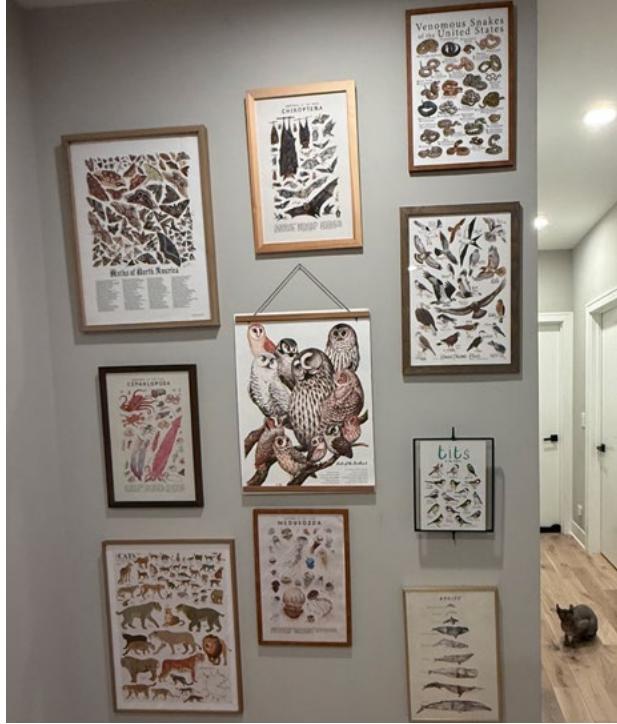
**MARC WILL BE THE KIND OF PARENT WHO  
MAKES A CHILD FEEL LOVED, SUPPORTED, AND  
DEEPLY SEEN.**

# home sweet HOME

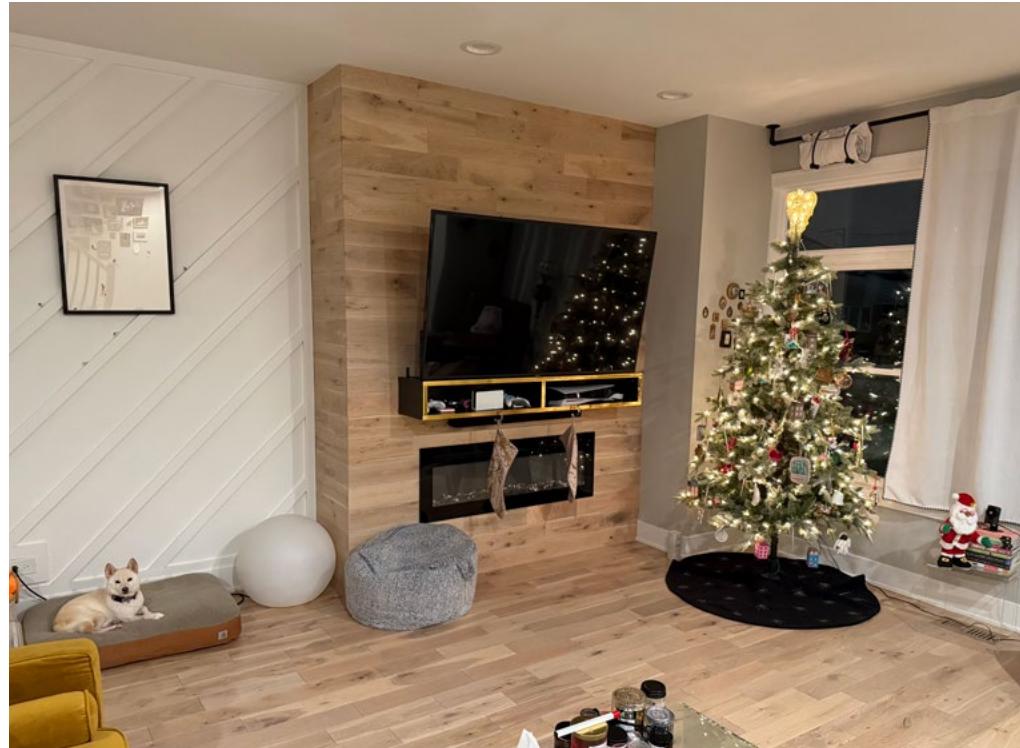
OUR HOME IS COLORFUL, COZY, AND FULL OF PERSONALITY—JUST LIKE US.

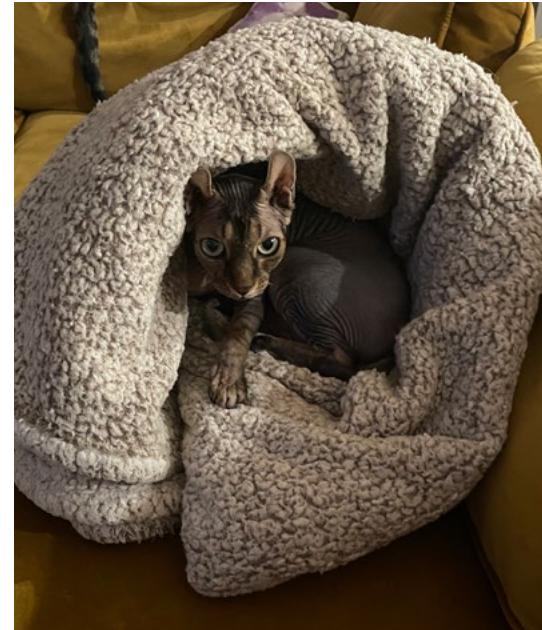


We live in a renovated Cape Cod-style home on the South Side of Chicago, right on the edge of the city in a neighborhood that blends urban and suburban life. It's cozy, tight-knit, and incredibly diverse, which is something we value deeply.



Our home is full of art, color, and love, and our neighbors affectionately call it "The Dark House" because it stands out from the surrounding red-brick homes. We're expressive people, so the irony always makes us smile. We have everything we need ready to bring home a baby and are putting the finishing touches on decorating the nursery!





## our pet CREW

OUR HOME IS FULL OF FURRY AND SCALY  
FRIENDS WHO BRING US JOY.

We have three cats, one dog, a ball python, and a blue-tongued skink.

Our cats are **Saul, Bean, and Worm**. Our dog, **Banana**, is the sweetest girl.

Our python is named **Peele**, and our skink is **Cheese**. We've always been animal lovers, and our pets are a big part of our daily joy. Marc even built bioactive habitats for our reptiles with live plants and tiny ecosystems.



WHAT IS DONE IN LOVE,  
IS DONE WELL.

- VINCENT VAN GOGH

# Things we LOVE



We love reading, museums, and what we jokingly call "fun, old-people activities." One photo even shows us visiting a replica of a historic Chinese home. We adore animals and care deeply about their well-being, which is part of why our home is full of furry and scaly friends. Kathryn has loved Harry Potter since she was a kid, and Marc is a huge rollercoaster enthusiast who will ride absolutely anything.





# fun facts **ABOUT US**

**1 • MARC SPEAKS ENGLISH AND SPANISH FLUENTLY AND LOVES MEXICAN CULTURE.**

**2 • BOTH OF OUR MOMS WERE AFRAID OF SNAKES GROWING UP, SO NATURALLY WE COULDN'T WAIT TO GET ONE AS ADULTS.**

**3 • KATHRYN LOVES TRUE CRIME AND MYSTERIES AND IS READING ALL OF AGATHA CHRISTIE'S BOOKS.**

**4 • MARC PLAYS SEVERAL INSTRUMENTS, INCLUDING GUITAR AND BANJO.**

**5 • WE BOTH WORK IN SCHOOLS AND LOVE KIDS, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO NEED EXTRA PATIENCE AND UNDERSTANDING.**





**6 • WE BOTH LOVE TATTOOS AND HAVE QUITE A FEW.**

**7 • KATHRYN IS AN AVID CRAFTER—KNITTING, CROCHETING, CROSS-STITCHING, AND SCRAPBOOKING.**

**8 • WE ARE BOTH ARIES AND DEFINITELY SHOW THAT FIRE-SIGN ENERGY.**

**9 • WE HAVE VERY DIFFERENT TASTE IN MOVIES BUT BOTH LOVED ARRIVAL SO MUCH THAT WE SAW IT TWICE IN THEATERS.**

**10 • WE COLLECT ANTIQUE PHONES, INCLUDING A 1980 PAYPHONE AND A 1908 HAND-CRANK PHONE.**

*fun facts* **ABOUT US**

# we love ADVENTURE

*Exploring the world together has shaped who we are.*

We love exploring new places, both nearby (Southern Illinois, Michigan) and far away (Peru, Ireland!). Traveling has helped us learn, grow, and stay curious. We look forward to sharing that same sense of adventure with a child and helping them experience the world in ways that open their mind and heart.





# our FRIENDS

*Our chosen family has carried us through every season of life.*

We are very social and love spending time with our friends, who come from many different backgrounds and life experiences. Our chosen family has been especially important throughout our infertility and adoption journey, offering love, support, and community. Marc enjoys concerts, meditation, and jam sessions with his friends. Kathryn loves reading, crafting, and watching true crime with hers.

IN THIS *family*...



- WE LAUGH EVERY CHANCE WE GET
- WE COOK AND EAT TOGETHER
- WE TREAT EVERYONE WITH LOVE, DIGNITY, AND BELONGING
- WE ROCK OUT AND ENJOY THE RHYTHM OF LIFE

# OUR promises

WE ARE BEYOND GRATEFUL THAT YOU ARE CONSIDERING US AS ADOPTIVE PARENTS TO YOUR BABY. BEFORE YOU GO, WE WANT TO LEAVE YOU WITH THESE PROMISES:

**We promise to** practice openness in an adoption, always honoring you and your baby.

**We promise to** follow your lead as we build our blended lives with care and respect.

**We promise to** provide a happy, safe, and loving home where your child can truly thrive.

**We promise to** keep learning and growing so we can be the best parents possible.

**We promise to** love and cherish you and your baby as honored and important parts of our family.

*With love,*  
MARC and KATHRYN

