



meet Winnie



HELLO

it's so nice to meet you





I am so honored to be on this journey with you. You are very brave to consider adoption, and I can only imagine your journey to this point hasn't been easy. **I admire your courage and strength greatly; I want you to know my heart is for you and your well-being, as well as for your sweet baby.** My prayer and hope for you as you embark on this journey is that you will experience peace and a sense of calm and serenity. I will be here to give you any encouragement and support you need.

Thanks so much for taking the time to get to know me through this book! If you choose me to be a mother for your child, I can assure you I will take good care of your precious baby.



MY

HEART

FOR ADOPTION





I have dreamed for so long of being a mother. I waited for many years for a man to sweep me off my feet and marry me, so we could build a home together, have children, and live happily ever after. But so far, that hasn't been the path that God has had for me. Even though I have nieces, nephews, and several God-children that I have helped raise over the years, **the longing and yearning to be a mother and to nurture my own child has been so strong and never gone away.** I even went as far as freezing my eggs and attempted to do an IVF cycle, but I lost all my eggs in the process. I have two family friends who have adopted children, and I've watched them raise and nurture their children. So, after many years of infertility, I have decided to explore this beautiful path of adoption.

IN MY OWN FAMILY AND NIGERIAN
CULTURE, CHILDREN ARE A PRECIOUS
GIFT, NO MATTER HOW THEY JOIN
YOUR FAMILY.

A LITTLE ABOUT

Me



MY CAREER

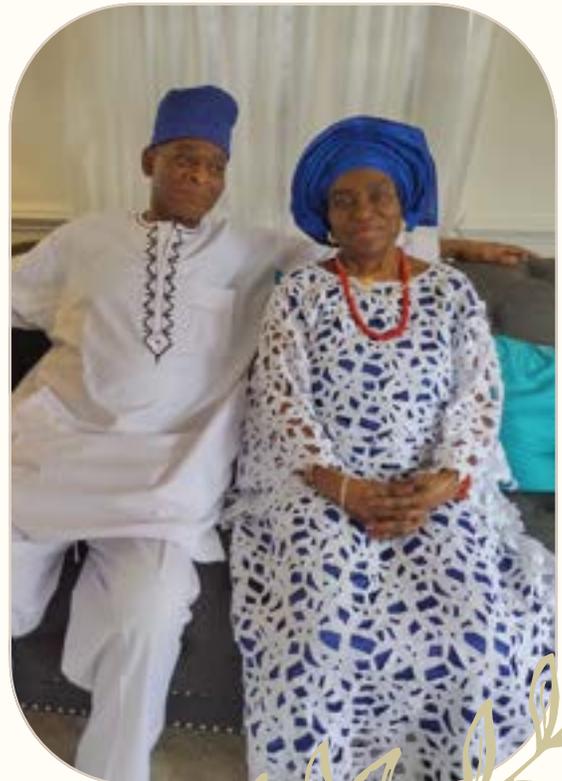
I work as a manager for a tech company. I love solving problems, getting the best services for a great value, and saving my company money. I have amazing insurance and generous benefits, and work 100% from home, which gives me the much-needed flexibility to care for my child. I plan to hire a nanny to support me in the first few years, and then transition to childcare so they can begin to socialize with other kids regularly.



I intend to raise my own child with the same values that I was raised with, and equip them with the tools and necessary support they need to succeed in this life.

GROWING UP

I grew up in Nigeria in a middle-class family, in the beautiful city of Lagos— surrounded by a lagoon and beach. My parents were hard-working and loving. They ensured that everything my three siblings and I needed was provided for, to help us be successful and thrive. We were raised in a Christian home and taught to have faith in God and work hard in whatever we put our minds to. My upbringing has shaped my work ethic and my drive to be successful. This is what motivated me to come to the US to pursue my Master's in Business Administration (MBA), and I was then able to secure a great job. With the support of my amazing bosses, I was also able to secure my US citizenship.



THINGS I

love



TRAVEL

I love to travel, and take several trips a year—both domestically and internationally. I love any opportunity to go on a trip and love to go on cruises, train rides, and road trips! Some of my favorite international travel destinations have been: London, Paris, Rome, Milan, Zurich, Barcelona, the Bahamas, Montreal, Toronto, Nigeria, and Jamaica. I also love traveling domestically, and some of my favorites include: Miami, Orlando, Destin, Sarasota, LA, San Francisco, Chicago, and Austin. I hope to continue to travel, and I plan to take my child with me and show them the world, so they can experience various cultures and gain a wide depth of knowledge about how people live across the world.

SERVING OTHERS



I am passionate about volunteering in charitable causes and helping people in need. I have traveled on several medical and building construction mission trips to Mexico, Haiti, rural Texas, and also served in various food pantries in inner city neighborhoods in New York City. I also love to help my friends and family who have fallen into hard times. For example, one of my friends from high school passed away from complications due to Sickle cell disease in 2020, and since then, I have financially supported her mother and daughter.

MUSIC

I love music—especially gospel music, Christian contemporary music, Christian Hip Hop, old school R&B, Afrogospel, and Afrobeats. I also love Karaoke, and I was part of a singing band at my church for many years, which was located on Broadway in New York City. One time, our band was invited to sing at a Christmas concert in Carnegie Hall!



ART

I love classical and modern art; my favorite museums include The MET and MOMA in NYC, The Art Institute of Chicago, and The Louvre and Orsay Museum in Paris. I love paintings like Monet's "Water Lilies", Van Gogh's "Starry Night". Also, some of my favorite sculptures include: Rodin's "The Thinker", Michelangelo's "David", The Winged Victory, and Venus De Milo.



Becoming a

MOTHER

MY THOUGHTS ON MOTHERHOOD

I look forward to being a loving and nurturing parent. I have loved spending time with the kids in my family and my friends' kids over the years. I have nephews and nieces that I helped raise. They have spent several sleepovers at my home. I also attend their sports games and musical recitals at school as often as I can. My siblings have trusted me as a second parent to their kids ever since they were born. I was privileged to help raise one of my nieces, Isabella, for three years of her life at my home when my brother Ralph was in grad school and he needed a place to stay with his family. I would help care for Bella (as I fondly call her), feed her, change her diapers, bathe her, take her to the playground, and even step in sometimes to drop her off and pick her up at daycare. I would often sing and dance with her as she watched her favorite shows like Moana. It was a blessing to be a key part of her formative years, and it really helped give me insight into what it would feel like to be a mother.



*For me, being a mom
is to love my child
unconditionally, to
nurture and train them
with values and morals.*

—WINNIE

I also had the privilege of taking care of and babysitting several of my friends' kids and have served in the kids' ministry of my church. I really love children, and they give me so much joy. Their innocence and curiosity about life are so amazing to watch. **As I grow my own family, I'm looking forward to being a hands-on mum. I intend to teach my child about my Nigerian culture and values.** One major part of my culture is respect for one's elders, family, and the sense of being part of a community. I will raise my child to be close to my parents, siblings, and cousins, who are already so close-knit. I also intend to teach two Nigerian languages that I am fluent in, including English, in our home. America is now home to me, and I will teach them to be a noble and kind person who values and respects their country.

I know how much my heart bursts out of love and joy for my nephews and nieces, and **I can't wait to pour my heart out to my child that I have dreamed of and waited for.** It would be such a dream come true for me to become a mummy at this chapter of my life.



FROM CHINNY, MY
FRIEND FOR 20 YEARS

I have seen Winnie love and care for children, and know that she will make an amazing mother and caregiver to any child who is blessed enough to have her.

A GLIMPSE INTO

my life

A typical weeknight after work usually includes me turning on some music and making dinner, which is typically a Nigerian meal like rice and chicken or fish and vegetables, or sometimes lentils and corn stew. I then do some light exercise at my building's gym. In the warmer months, I love to take an evening walk to the nearby lake. Later in the evening, I love a nice hot cup of Hibiscus or ginger tea to wind down with a book. Sometimes I may turn on the evening news to catch up on current events. Once a week, I attend a bible study with my church small group in my neighborhood, and we get to encourage and pray together.



A typical weekend for me entails things like cleaning the house, doing laundry, walking to the lake with a friend or neighbor, going out for a meal at a nearby restaurant, watching a nice movie, or catching up on a Netflix show with my sister, or sometimes even shopping in the mall close by. Every now and then, I may go in to Washington D.C. for a museum exhibit; I also attend church on Sundays, and catch up with my church family, which sometimes entails us grabbing brunch together.



FAMILY TRADITIONS

Apart from several times a year when we meet up as a family, we always get together during Thanksgiving, Christmas, and birthday celebrations as well.

We cook, eat, and laugh together; there is typically a family movie after all the celebration (we love *The Sound of Music* and can watch that several times a year). We tend to cook Nigerian meals when we get together, so we can continue our heritage. We also often wear Nigerian outfits at our celebrations, and we memorialize all our events with loads of photographs. We are big on gift-giving, so we exchange gifts as well.

My nephews play football, one of my nieces used to run the triathlon, and another niece now plays tennis, so we always try to meet up for their games to cheer for them.

I look forward to raising my child with these traditions. Family is everything to us, and that sense of community has made us a tightly knit family.



I'm very excited to adjust my life to a child and their needs and add them to these traditions!

Meet MY VILLAGE

I AM BLESSED TO HAVE A ROCK-SOLID SUPPORT SYSTEM SURROUNDING ME AND AM THANKFUL I WILL HAVE SO MANY PEOPLE SUPPORTING OUR LITTLE FAMILY WHEN I WELCOME A CHILD HOME.



MY FRIENDS

I have a large number of close friends who have been my tribe for over the course of 20+ years. Some of them I met in high school, and some I met in college; others are friends through church. I meet up with some of my best friends in NYC every other month; some of them also visit me in alternating months. They have been known to cook for me, drive with me to run errands, pray for me, and come stay with me when I was sick. They have been there for me consistently over the years. I'm very, very blessed to have them as my support system!



Family is everything...



I have a very close relationship with my immediate family. My sister, Rachel, lives in Maryland, works as a nurse, is married to Ola, and has two sons, Aaron (18) and Michael (16). My older brother, Charles, lives in New York and works as an engineer. Charles is married to Mina and has one daughter, Maya (18). My younger brother, Ralph, is a computer scientist and lives in Texas. He is married to Sophie and they have two daughters: Isabelle (9) and Annabelle (5). My parents, Rebecca and Victor (known as Grandma and Grandpa to their grandchildren), have been married for over fifty years. They are retired and live in Maryland. My sister is my best friend and lives less than an hour away from me. **I'm also really close to my two brothers, who will make the best father figures for my adopted child.** We all get together throughout the year and always to celebrate the holidays and other celebrations. We also have some cousins here in the US, so we meet up with them sometimes for extended family events too.





FAMILY

Values

TIME TOGETHER

I was raised to be very close to my family, and we have always shared both life's victories and challenges together. We visit and spend time with each other several times during the year. Even when we can't all be in the same place, we communicate almost daily via text, and we try to do bi-weekly video calls.

CELEBRATION

We always get together for Thanksgiving, Christmas, birthdays, and graduation celebrations as well. This is important because it's a time for us to celebrate each other, cook, and feast together. It also allows us to spend quality time together.

FAITH

We pray together and support each other during life's trials, like sickness, loss of a job. We are a tightly knit family, and we celebrate Easter and Christmas together.

SERVICE

My parents taught my siblings and me to show compassion and support to those who are less privileged or who have fallen into hard times. This could be rallying around a friend or family member who needs help or serving others through missions or service projects.



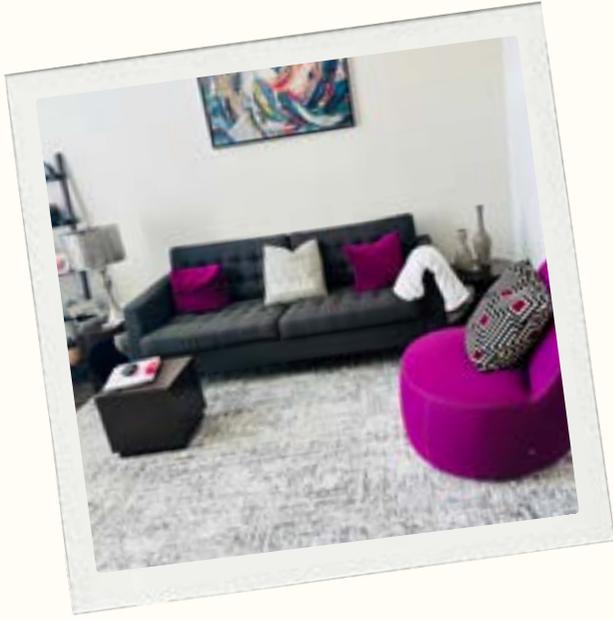
“WINNIE IS ONE OF THE MOST KIND AND THOUGHTFUL PEOPLE I HAVE EVER MET. SHE IS CONSTANTLY THINKING OF THE WELL-BEING OF OTHERS. I HAVE WITNESSED FIRSHTHAND HER ABILITY TO NURTURE AND SUPPORT HER FAMILY AND FRIENDS. I BELIEVE SHE IS MORE THAN PREPARED TO TAKE ON THE REWARDING AND LIFE-CHANGING JOURNEY OF ADOPTION, AND I HAVE NO DOUBT SHE WILL MAKE A WONDERFUL AND DEDICATED PARENT.”

- Natasha, friend for 15 years



HOME *sweet* HOME





home

I live in a luxury apartment building. I especially love the balcony with outdoor seating overlooking the pool. My home is very cozy and spacious, with beautiful and comfortable seating, and lots of plants. I love the modern and warm interior design. I like to have uplifting music playing in the background, and so it sets a laid-back and relaxing tone for me. I love to cook and entertain my friends and family here, and so many wonderful memories have been created in my home.

community

I live downtown in a small city in the Mid-Atlantic. I love my friendly neighborhood where neighbors say hello and kids play together. My apartment building has lots of amenities like a pool, gym, game room, and children's play area. And nearby, there are great things for young families to take advantage of, with several restaurants, a shopping mall, and a beautiful park and lake nearby. I live near big cities like Baltimore and Washington, DC. Nearby is a fantastic Children's Museum, and DC has the National Museum of Natural History and the National Children's Museum. There are also several parks and playgrounds with swings and rides in my neighborhood. My church is also just a short drive, and they have an excellent children's program where I know my child would be able to grow and thrive.



MY *Future*

For now, I plan on staying in my community and look forward to traveling and creating many adventures with my child! I plan on taking my child on road trips to theme parks like Hershey's Park, Virginia Safari Park, and Leesburg Animal Park, as they are all within just a few hours of me. I'm also looking forward to travelling internationally to places like England, France, and even Nigeria, so they can learn about different cultures and foods.

FAITH

My Christian faith is a core part of my life. I plan to raise my child with the teachings of Jesus and the Bible. I want to teach my child Godly principles and how to be kind, loving, and generous to others. As my child grows up, I will teach them to serve with me in missions and community outreaches like feeding the poor and serving in food pantries.

EDUCATION

Education is very important to our family; my parents and my siblings, and I kids have achieved great careers in our respective fields. We all have bachelor's degrees, and several of us also have master's degrees. I'm thankful my home is located in a wonderful county that has one of the best school districts in the state. I plan on sending my child to public school and will equip them with the best resources, education, and support, whatever career and dreams they choose to pursue.





My Promise to You

IF YOU CHOOSE ME TO
RAISE YOUR CHILD,
I PROMISE TO...

TALK OFTEN OF THE BIRTH FAMILY & HONOR THEIR BIRTH CULTURE

MAKE SURE YOUR CHILD GROWS UP WITH LOVE AND JOY

RAISE YOUR CHILD IN A HEALTHY HOME WITH GOOD MORALS

TEACH THEM TO LOVE AND RESPECT OTHERS

EXPOSE YOUR CHILD TO VARIOUS CULTURES AND PEOPLE

RAISE THEM IN A BIG, TIGHT-KNIT FAMILY

SURROUND THEM WITH SUPPORT AND CARE



THANK *you*

I am praying for you as you make this decision for what is best for you and your baby.

It is very important to me that this child knows they are dearly loved by you and that you want what is the absolute best for them. I would love to keep an open relationship with you, updating you on how your child is doing, and will do as much as is best for his or her emotional, physical, and overall well-being. Know that your baby will be cared for and protected in my home.

I am so grateful that I am being given this sacred opportunity to help raise your child. **My hope and prayer for you is that you will have a great life and receive wonderful blessings from God.** I look forward to getting to know you more and walking on this amazing journey with you. And, I hope together we can do what is in the best interest of this precious child.

WITH LOVE,

Winnie



I CAN'T WAIT TO
MEET YOU!

- Winnie