



# Emily & Vanessa

OUR JOURNEY TO ADOPTION



LIFELONG  
ADOPTIONS

[www.lifelongadoptions.com](http://www.lifelongadoptions.com)



## ABOUT US

On a January night in 2012, we met in person for the first time. We'd initially found each other online, and after messaging for a couple of weeks, we decided to meet up in person to see if the connection we felt would translate to our everyday lives. It did! That first night, we talked for hours and decided to meet up again the following week...and then the following week. It became more frequent from there, morphing into a committed relationship, including an out-of-state move, the adoption of our beloved dog Tallulah, moving into a house, trips near and far, our wedding, and so much more. We respect and support one another on every level, and we have a lot of fun going to concerts and movies, hanging with friends and family, going on hikes or doing other outdoor activities, trying new restaurants, and just being together at home.



## OUR HOME & PETS

We love our home. We do our best to make it cozy and inviting for ourselves and those who visit. Our back porch and yard are great spaces to play with our dog, grill, hang out, and tend our garden. We're located in a quiet, kid-friendly neighborhood with tall trees and beautiful blooms. It's a short drive from downtown with museums, restaurants, rivers, and lakes. It's just minutes from grocery stores, parks, schools, and a local university, so we're never far from sporting events, author talks, and more. We adopted Tallulah from a shelter in 2018. She's six years old, playful, loving, and loyal. She loves to cuddle, play catch, swim, sunbathe, and go on walks. She loves her best dog friend, Petey. She brings us daily joy!



## *what led us to adoption*

We are interested in adoption in large part because we both feel naturally drawn to it. Before we met, we had each thought seriously about adoption. When we first discussed raising a child together, we were delighted we were on the same page. There was no convincing or debate. This feels right for us. As a same-sex couple, we view adoption as a life-changing path forward. For Vanessa, there's the additional fact that her dad was adopted. He was raised by his adoptive parents with two siblings, and he remains close with members of both his adoptive and biological families. We know his perspective as an adoptee will be invaluable as we proceed, and it will make him a really understanding grandpa!



# our photos



# learn more about

## EMILY



**OCCUPATION:** Marketing  
Content Writer

**EDUCATION:** Master's in  
Journalism

**RACE:** Caucasian

**SPORT:** Basketball, soccer

**FOOD:** Tacos

**HOBBY:** Playing drums, reading

**FAMILY TRADITION:** Summer  
vacations

**MUSICAL GROUP:** Beyoncé,  
Jessie Ware

**MOVIE:** *Mean Girls*, *Moonlight*

**DREAM VACATION:** Thailand

**HOLIDAY:** Christmas

**TV SHOW:** *Succession*, *Insecure*,  
any food-based reality TV

**SUBJECT IN SCHOOL:** English

**BOOK:** *The Book of Delights*,  
*Transcendent Kingdom*

## VANESSA

**OCCUPATION:** Professor

**EDUCATION:** Ph.D. in Library &  
Information Science

**RACE:** Caucasian

**SPORT:** Reality television

**FOOD:** Sushi

**HOBBY:** Reading

**FAMILY TRADITION:** Watching  
horror movies with my parents

**MUSICAL GROUP:** MUNA

**MOVIE:** *Donnie Darko*

**DREAM VACATION:** Japan

**HOLIDAY:** Halloween

**TV SHOW:** *Yellowjackets*

**SUBJECT IN SCHOOL:** English

**BOOK:** *Infinite Jest*





# OUR FAMILY & *traditions*

Neither of us would be where we are today without the support of our families. They love us deeply, and we love them in return. They're excited to add a new family member into the bunch, and we know they'll welcome this child with open arms!

Vanessa is an only child. She's very close with her parents; she's in touch with them daily and sees them often. Her friends growing up became like siblings, plus she grew up near extended family, including grandparents and cousins, who got together for family events, celebrations, and holidays. Emily is the third of four daughters raised by their mom and dad. She considers her sisters some of her closest friends and confidants. Her extended family is quite large, with many cousins on both sides, especially her mom's side (as her mom is one of 11 kids!). Family events are always vibrant and entertaining. Plus, her sisters all have kids, so we have eight nieces and nephews!

We spend time with some mixture of our families for holidays and go on summer vacations with each side every year. We feel lucky to be so close to our families, and it's been a beautiful thing to combine them during our 10+ years together.





*dear*

# EXPECTANT MOTHER

## Dear Expectant Mother,

We hope this glimpse into our lives and personalities shines light on how much love and care we have to give to your child and that we're excited for this next chapter in our lives. We hope this makes your decision a slightly easier one, although we acknowledge just how difficult it must be; we respect that. Together, we want to fulfill all the hopes and dreams you have for your child. We look forward to creating a relationship that gives you comfort in knowing we'll provide a loving environment and a loving home in which they can flourish.

If you choose to make an adoption plan with us, we promise to:

- ♥ Raise your child in an inclusive, accepting, supportive environment with exposure to a wide range of activities and enrichment throughout their lives.
- ♥ Be open and honest about you as well as the unique story of how we became a family.
- ♥ Celebrate all cultures and involve ourselves in our child's heritage and culture if it happens to be different than our own experiences.
- ♥ Provide opportunities for education, travel, and curiosity-led exploration.
- ♥ Provide an environment that allows them to be who they are, fully and freely.
- ♥ We appreciate your time and consideration and wish you all the best as you make your decision.

**With Love,**

**Vanessa and Emily**



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