

# LAURA & CLAIRE



## OUR ADOPTION STORY



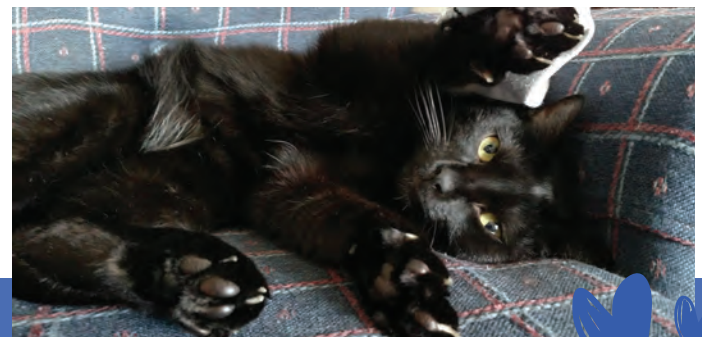
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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SreJGECffPQ>



## ABOUT US

As parents to a beautiful three-year-old, we have always seen family as a source of strength and joy. We each grew up in close-knit families who love the outdoors, and our favorite way to spend time is to do an activity together, whether we're working on the house, playing a game in the living room, or taking a trip to the lake for some paddleboarding. Laura works as an accountant, a job she loves because it challenges her to solve new problems every day, and Claire works as a professor teaching American literature and helping students to discover themselves along the way. Our child, Xherdan, loves reading, splashing in water, hide-and-go-seek, and, of course, ice cream. Most importantly, we try to make our corner of the world a better place as we strive to be not only happy and healthy but kind and compassionate people.



## OUR HOME & PETS

Our family lives in a two-story home in the woods, a short drive from a major city in SC. We have a peaceful porch where we often sip coffee in the mornings before work and a spacious backyard where our child plays on the swing set and digs for bugs. We have a large garden that continues to grow each year, and we're building a deck in the woods to be surrounded by trees for family dinners and game nights. We have a playroom above the garage for toys, crafts, and dance parties and a spare room ready for our family to grow. Our cat, Zephyr, loves to sit in a window watching the birds, and we live near multiple state parks for weekend getaways.

## OUR ADOPTION STORY

Ever since we started building a life together, from our first date to our first child, we have always envisioned a family with room to grow. After experiencing infertility, we adopted our child, Xherdan, three years ago, and have become the parents and the family we always imagined. We continue to have a wonderful relationship with their birthmother, and our extended family includes adopted cousins as well. They are all eager for us to adopt again, not only so we can have another child but so Xherdan can have a younger sibling to adore. Ultimately, we have such hope that you as an expectant mother will see our family the way we see it, as warm, joyful, and uplifting.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SreJGECffPQ>





# OUR LIFE TOGETHER



# LAURA

**Occupation:** Accountant

**Education:** BA/BS-Psychology and Accounting, MA-Human Services

**Race:** Caucasian

**Religion:** Nonreligious

**Sport:** Tennis, football, soccer

**Food:** Shrimp tacos

**Hobby:** Yoga, gardening, hiking

**Tradition:** Spring flower shopping

**Musical Group:** Miranda Lambert, Kacey Musgraves

**Movie:** *Elf*

**Dream Vacation:** Switzerland

**Holiday:** Christmas

**TV Show:** *The Office*, *Schitt's Creek*

**Subject in School:** Psychology

**Book:** *The Girls I've Been*



# CLAIRE

**Occupation:** Professor

**Education:** PhD-English

**Race:** Caucasian

**Religion:** Nonreligious

**Sport:** Soccer, disc golf, ping pong

**Food:** Chicken and waffles

**Hobby:** Paddleboarding, woodworking, camping

**Tradition:** Wrapping Christmas presents

**Musical Group:** Billy Joel, Jack's Mannequin

**Movie:** *A League of Their Own*

**Dream Vacation:** Nova Scotia

**Holiday:** Christmas Eve

**TV Show:** *Friends*, *Breaking Bad*

**Subject in School:** English

**Book:** *The Color Purple*





# OUR FAMILY & TRADITIONS

We are so grateful to have supportive and loving extended families who adore our family and cannot wait for us to bring another child home. Claire's parents live close enough for weekend visits, when we cook together, play yard games, and find new hiking trails. Known affectionately as "Mémé" and "Papa," they find any opportunity to bring a smile to all of our faces, especially their grandchildren's. Claire also has grandparents, cousins, aunts, and uncles who are some of our best friends, and when we visit, we spend hours exploring new places, playing board games, and talking over coffee.

Laura's parents and her brother's family share videos, pictures, and calls on a daily basis, so much so that it feels as if they live next door! Our child, who is only three, regularly exchanges videos with their older cousin, and Laura's parents, Mema and Beepa, send surprise packages in the mail for all of their grandchildren. They all cannot wait to welcome another baby into our family of four generations, where they will grow up with a devoted team of cousins, uncles, aunts, grandparents, and great-grandparents eager to love them.





## DEAR EXPECTANT MOTHER,

We feel like we have already met you because we have been thinking about you for so long. We have tried to imagine what you are like, what makes you laugh, and what makes you worried, as we are sure you have about the family that might raise your child. We feel connected to you already because we both dream about the future of your child.

We are a family of three looking to grow, and we can promise your child a home full of devotion. We value compassion and goodwill, and we vow that your child will receive kindness and will learn to offer it freely. We live each day with passion and gratitude for what we have been given, and we can promise that your child will appreciate the beauty of the world and the people in it.

We dream of taking your child camping for the first time or teaching them how to write their name. We close our eyes and see them shaking Christmas presents under the tree to guess what is hidden inside. We imagine teaching your child how to share toys with their sibling and hope to watch, with joy and envy, as they build a unique bond through secret adventures in a world of their own. Most importantly, we dream of a safe and loving home for your child for the rest of their life. Our dreams and your dreams, we imagine, are not that different.

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