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made
(with love) for
an amazing
birthmom


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Dear Birthmom,

" We're so thankful for your choice
We will just never know how to say it."


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Dear Birthmom,

There are so many things We would like to say to you but the most important thing we want to say right from the beginning of our letter is 'THANK-YOU'. Thank you for loving the amazing miracle you have created, so much that you are making a decision we realize is nothing less than completely unselfish and made out of pure love. A decision only a mother who loves her child above everything else could consider making. You must be an incredibly strong & courageous woman for making it to this point. We admire you for making the choice to love & carry your baby and for giving her the chance at an amazing life. Regardless of the family you choose for your beautiful baby, we want you to know that, as an adoptive family, we think of birthmoms as angels. Women who sacrifice so much for their children & in doing this also help others create families. There is absolutely no greater gift one person can give another than the gift of a child & the chance at being a family, which otherwise may never happen. Although the words thank-you will never be enough, it is where we wanted to start. To let you know that we admire & respect you for all the things your are doing in searching for the family you feel is right for your baby, for all the things you have already done for her so far & for all the things you are hoping to do for your little girl through adoption.

We wanted our letter to you to be honest & informal because we are completely open, honest & informal people. Trying to show in letters and pictures, who we truly are as a family, is so difficult especially when it is the only way to communicate on something so important. We started with piles of pictures, trying to decide which ones did the best job. During this process, when we found ourselves struggling with how hard it was to choose the right ones, we always come back to thinking of you, the birthmom of the little girl we so much hope will become part of our family. our struggles with choosing pictures just become so small in comparison to the struggles we know you must be facing in searching for the answers for you & your baby. We know there are no magic pictures or words to do such an important job, so we just went with some of our favorites. Pictures we hope will give you a sense of how much we love each other, how happy we are as a family & most importantly how much we love & live for these children we have been blessed with. We hope that what you read in our letter will somehow make your decision a little easier. We hope it will show you that, should you choose us as an adoptive family for your little girl, you will be placing her in a family filled with unconditional love & support. We pray that you find strength in knowing that, through adoption, your baby girl will have so many amazing gifts & opportunities, all because of the decision you, her birthmom, made out of true love for her.


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## This is us - our story

We hope this book helps you to get to know us a little better. We are a relaxed & "go-with" on the go kind of family. We are really casual, laid back, honest and open people who appreciate the craziness life has to offer. We always try to find the positive in life even when things don't go exactly as we plan. We know first-hand the best things in life that have happened to us have come from plans we made that were turned completely upside down. We take each day as it comes and never stop looking at our lives in amazement that it all came together better than we could have ever planned or imagined. Following our hearts is what had lead us down this path of adoption again. We have been beyond blessed with our three perfect, beautiful boys and also the open and loving relationships we have with both of our boys birth families. We have had the amazing experience of growing our family through adoption and we wouldn't change one single minute of the life that has lead us to this point but, we also couldn't ignore the overwhelming feeling in our hearts telling us that our family is not complete just yet. We are so excited about loving and supporting another angel and welcoming her into our lives and hearts. We only hope that the excitement we have will be obvious to you when you look through our book.

## RALPH

Ralph grew up in a very close family with a sister that was adopted. He graduated from college (where he also played football) and went to work at a large public accounting firm where he met Erin. A few years later, Ralph was offered a position at one of the firm's largest & most successful clients and he is now the chief operating officer of that corporation. Ralph went back to school and earned his Masters Degree in Business.Ralph is on the Board of Directors & Finance Committee for several non-profit organizations of causes he feels strongly about. Ralph is incredibly successful in his career but he is an even better husband & father. Watching Ralph with our boys, I see such pure happiness & love that only a child could bring to someone. Ralph lights up when he talks about our kids. He is one of those fathers who will tell anyone who will listen about all the amazing things his kids are learning to do. I can't wait to see him share all the wonderful qualities that make him such an amazing person, with a little girl in his life. She will receive nothing less than the absolute best because that is what Ralph will make sure she gets. He will teach her self-respect but also to be kind & generous. He will be the perfect role model to give her the confidence to know that she can do & be anything she wants in life, with a family who will always love & support her dreams.

## ERIN

Erin also grew up in a very close family. Her parents have been happily married for 41 years. She has a sister who works in the medical field & is also one of her best friends. our children are the biggest joy in Erin's perfect life & they love spending as much time doing things with the boys as possible. Erin graduated from college (where she ran track & cross-country) & went to work at a large accounting firm (where she met Ralph). She earned her license as a CPA & later left that firm to become a Senior Finance Manager for a large international clothing retailer. Erin had a successful career but she always knew what she really wanted to do was be a mommy. our first dream came true in Mar 2007 with the birth/adoption of our 1st son & then again 18 months later with the birth/adoption of our twin boys Ryan & Ronan. Erin has fulfilled her dream of being a stay home mommy & has truly never been happier. We are both looking forward to the day when we meet the next miracle that we are so much hoping will become part of our family. Erin loves her life as a stay at home mom. During the boys school hours (Reed is in Kindergarten at our area best private school & our twins have a personal pre-school teacher who comes to our home to teach them so Erin can play a part in their school day). Erin also volunteers her time to a cause she feels very strongly about. Due to the amazing relationships we have with both of our sons birthfamilies, Erin shares her experiences with adoption at a pregnancy center where she volunteers. She hopes sharing the story of the amazing, open & loving relationships we have with our sons birthfamilies will help someone considering adoption know what an amazing gift it can be to everyone involved. Erin is a fantastic wife & mom who devotes her life completely & happily to our family.


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Daddy's little mini me!!

# {some of}

The good times

PREVIEW

## Ralph,

Chief operating officer, "wanna-be" pro-golfer, former college football player, excellent cook, volunteer, Board & Finance Comittee member and amazing father & husband.

Sun, sand, and the beach!


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PREVIEW

Stay at home mom, community & school volunteer, former college athlete, CPA, part-time finance consultant & loving every second of being "Mommy"


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OUR FAMILY - OUR BOYS

We've been blessed with 3 perfect & amazing boys from two perfect adoptions. our boys are our lives & our hearts. Everything we do in life is for their well-being, happiness & future. We prayed & hoped for these children to become part of our family & never question the war they came into our lives. We love them completely & unconditionally for who they are & what they mean to us. Ralphie sister is adopted as he has always known how great adoption can be in creating families. After being married for about a year we decided it was time to add the children we had always wanted. After about 2 years of notestable disappointment with fertility treatments, we both looked at each other & knew, without a doubt, it was time to stop the craziness. We were so excited about getting started with our first adoption & once we got going, everything just seemed to fall into place. Shortly after beginning our adoption journey, we received that call we had been hoping & praying for: A birthmom wanted to talk to us. From the moment we all said "hello", we just knew this was the war it was all meant to be. We had such a comfortable & natural connection. We continued to talk on a regular basis & about a month after that first phone call, we were blessed with the birth of our first son, Reed. We had built such an amazing relationship with his birth family & we are so thankful that we were all there in the hospital together, loving him the day he was born. our relationship with Reed's birthfamily has only continued to grow. We continue to have an open, loving relatio[illegible] of our family. Reed knows his birthfamily & [illegible]

Life was so great after Reed was born [illegible] we just knew [illegible] When Reed was about 10 months old we started all the paperwork again. About 6 months later, we received the call we again had been praying for. A birthmom wanted to talk to us & this time it was double the miracle-SWEET! She was pregnant with twins boys! We had prayed for twins while going through fertility treatments but when we put those behind us, we put the idea of ever having twins in our lives behind us as well. We would be thankful for any baby placed into our family & the thought of ever being blessed with twins through adoption was beyond our expectations. Yet here it was, the chance of loving the twins we had wanted & hoped for. After a few phone calls, we were finally told by our sons birthmom that she knew in her heart we were the family the boys were meant to be with. Their birth was another amazing experience for which we will always be thankful. Erin was in the delivery room with our sons birthmom & her mom while Ralph was pacing the waiting room with her father & daughter. Spending time together in the hospital & the days after, was a wonderful experience & gift. We all formed a comfort & bond which continues today. We have an open, loving relationship with them as well, built from gratitude, respect & love for these boys we all love so much.

PREVIEW

a day in the life of


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We talk on the phone & email regularly. We feel strongly about encouraging our kids to always feel comfortable knowing & talking about adoption. We want them to know how much they are loved by their birthfamilies & what an amazing gift they gave the bors through adoption. our birthfamilies are truly part of family. We love & respect them for the choices they made & for the gifts they have given us.

RANDOM THINGS ABOUT US THAT MAY OR MAY NOT INTEREST YOU:

- our family loves to vacation. We have a family beach home in florida we love to use in the summer. We are huge Disney park fans & even though neither of us adults are good ride riders, it's still so much fun to watch the kids & see life through the eyes of a child learning and seeing new things.

- We own 30 acres across the road from Erin's parents cabin and we are working on plans to build our log cabin in the woods. Erin spent many weekends at the cabin growing up and she has fantastic memories of those times. As our kids grow, we want them to also have those kind of memories. We want them to enjoy things like skiing and riding snow mobiles in the winter & to enjoy summer weekends in the country with bonfires, swimming at the lake, fishing, riding ATV's etc.

- We belong to a country club where the bors enjoy swimming & other club activities. As they grow, they will have a great place to learn & play golf, tennis, swim team etc. Right now they just enjoy the kids stuff like movie night at the pool, "Kids Club", ice cream socials, brunch with Santa & the Easter Bunny where they get their own private time to talk about all the presents & treats they think they deserve.

-We have season passes to many different "learning facilities" & season tickets to our hometown sports teams but the one season pass the kids love most is the one to the amusement and water park nearby for kids. The bors especially love it in october when they get to wear their Halloween costumes and trick-or-treat through the park. After they have stuffed their bags (and their bellies), the rides are free and they love to ride all dressed up in their costumes.

-Spending time with friends is a big part of our schedule. We have a very close group of friends who are like extended family to us. All of our friends have children, some adopted, some biological, but to all of us they are just kids, our kids. Knowing that there are others in our group of family & friends that are adopted means only that there is always support from people who know & understand adoption.

-We are so lucky to have our bors but we also know that we have more than enough room and love for more children. We have worked hard in our careers and have been blessed with a large home and stable finances which allow us to do so many things for our family. Most importantly though, we have more than enough unconditional love and support for our children that we are blessed to bring home & into our family.

SO ADORABLE:

PREVIEW


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our dog Harmony! My best friend!

PREVIEW

Im so excited about having a little sister! She'll be so happy here!


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That was a great Disney day!

More pictures?!?!

I want that camera

LOVE YOU

PREVIEW


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# OUR Boys!

our Lives! our Hearts!

The greatest blessings and gifts in our lives are our children!

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Welcome to our Home!


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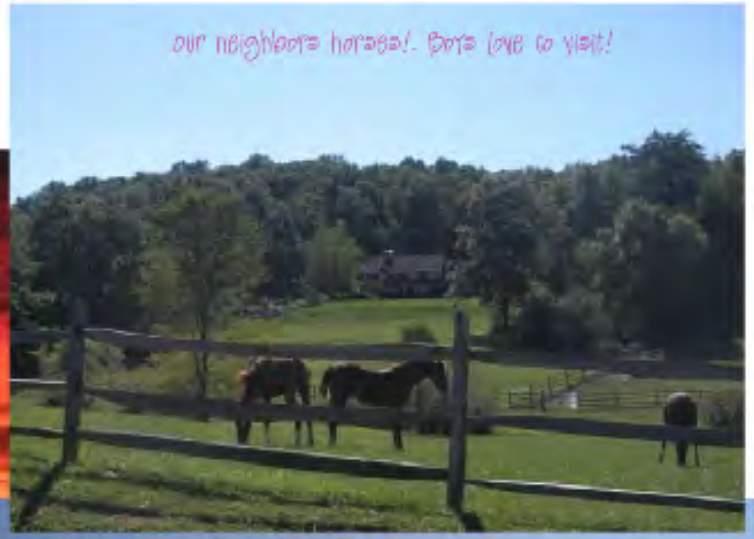
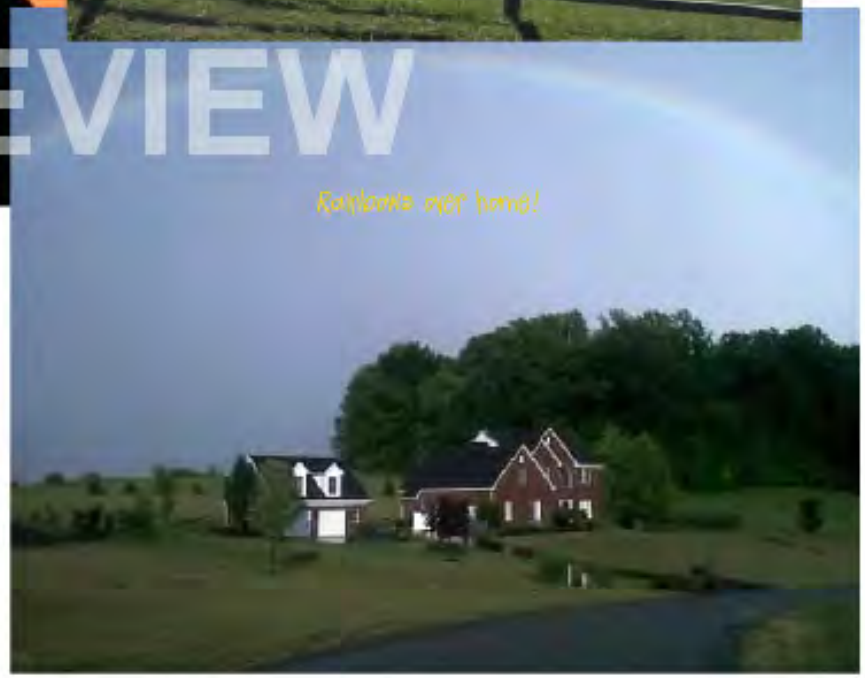
Sunsets from our patio!

our neighbors horses!. Boys love to visit!



PREVIEW

Rainbows over home!



We built our home 9 years ago in a private development. There are lots of children in the neighborhood with lots of room to run and play. We live near a lake with beautiful beaches and nature trails for the kids to explore. There are horse stables where the boys can visit beautiful horses but we are also close enough to the city to enjoy our hometown sports teams and cultural activities.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Who's idea was it to show them the presents before pictures were done? Not Grant!

PREVIEW

What did you say happened to our shirts?!?!?!

HOW FUNNY

Yes Rowan thats what I said! We are going to Disney!


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our children are gifts which we will never be able to re-pay our birthfamilies for. All we can do is make the promise that, our children we are blessed to have as part of our family, will always know that adoption is a gift of love & that their birthmama loved them from the very beginning of their life.

We realize there are no perfect words we can write to you that will make the decision you face easy. We just want you to know that, as adoptive families, we are so thankful to you as a birthmom. We are thankful to you for the decision you have made to carry your child, to give them life & to search for a family that will love and cherish them for the perfect miracle that they are. We are thankful to you for the unselfishness & courage you have shown by placing the needs of your baby above your own & we are also thankful to you for taking the time to read our book & learn a little about our family. We would be happy to answer any questions you have about us, our families, our lives, our loves, our previous adoptions or anything else that is important to you that we may not have talked about. We know a few pictures can't tell our story, we just hope that you can see a little, that we love each other, adore our sons and especially how much we will love your little girl if you decide that adoption is the right choice and we are the right family.

We can only imagine how hard it is to look at the pictures of strangers and try to decide who or what is best for your little one. We truly can't imagine a more difficult or important decision. We want you to know that having gone through the adoption process with our birthmama, we know that concern exists. The best thing we can do to try to ease your concern at this point is to make a promise to you in words. A promise that if you decide we are the right adoptive family for your baby, your little girl will be loved beyond imagination, given every opportunity possible to have her dreams and also the chance to achieve them. From that point on, our promise to you is to change these words into actions that you can see, at whatever level of openness you are most comfortable, as you watch them grow. We believe that every child deserves a family filled with love, support & happiness. They deserve a life where they are free to have dreams and are given every opportunity to fulfill them. We are just waiting for the little girl who needs our help & love to do that.

Sincerely,

Ralph & Erin

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