



## ALEX & ALEX

HELLO!

Thank you for taking the time to read our family profile! We know that as you consider making this choice for your child, it's **a decision grounded in so much love.**

We consider it our **sacred responsibility** to meet that love with our own. If we are so lucky as to be chosen to raise your child, we pledge to surround him or her with **unconditional love** and to put them first always. **Adoption has always been our first choice** of how to grow our family, and we respect all of its beauty and complexity. You will forever be an integral part of your child's story, and we will raise him or her to understand the loving decision you are making.



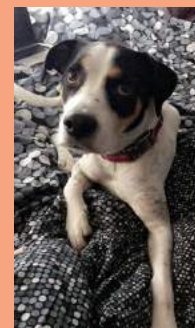
## OUR STORY

We started dating in the fall of 2013. **From the beginning, it felt different and special** – we started talking about big things like our families and our dreams for the future right away, not just usual first-date stuff.

Over the next few months, we got closer, **meeting each other's friends and family and traveling together**. By that summer, we'd decided to move in together and a few months later, we were sharing a tiny studio apartment on the Upper West Side of Manhattan.

We knew we'd be leaving New York when Alex B finished graduate school, and **we're so lucky to have ended up in Ohio**. Within about three months, Alex B got his degree, we got married, went on our honeymoon in Portugal, and moved halfway across the country. Almost two years later, **we love the community we've built here** and the friends we've made.

We know we can handle whatever the future brings, because **we've been through tough times and joyous times** that have shown us how resilient and capable we are. **We know we can count on each other** and the people in our lives even when things are hard.



### Alex B's Job

**I'm a rabbi** (like a pastor at a church). My congregation is warm, welcoming, and diverse, and **I love working with kids and families**, helping to connect them to their faith and strengthen the bonds between parents and children. I'm even learning how to play the guitar for special services designed for toddlers!

### Benjy

**We rescued our dog Benjy** – a beagle mix – a few months after arriving in Ohio. He's about 4 years old, and he's our partner in crime. Benjy is **sweet and gentle**, and he loves to run outside and chase squirrels in our backyard!



*Producing videos in Siberia (left) and Israel (right).*

### Alex W's Job

**I work from home** (our dog is my best coworker!), coordinating digital marketing for a humanitarian organization. **I love to tell people's stories**. A few times a year, I travel overseas to interview people like Holocaust survivors, social workers, and young leaders. **My work has taken me everywhere** from Texas and DC to Siberia and Israel!



## Alex B (By Alex W)

Alex is an **excellent listener and an incredibly hard worker**. He is caring and compassionate, and I look to him as my **oasis of stability** when the world gets too crazy. He's the kind of person who encourages everyone in his life to be the very

best version of themselves – not by telling them what to do but by **gently nurturing** their best qualities. He is a patient, sweet man, and a wonderful husband and partner. To watch him with kids is to get a preview of the future – **he is going to make the most incredible father**.

## Alex W (By Alex B)

Alex **loves adventure**, and he can find it anywhere – whether doing research for a vacation, finding new places to see in town, or whipping up something special in the kitchen, he

adds the spice to our lives. Alex is the **most dedicated friend** I've ever met, not just to me but for anyone lucky enough to be in his orbit. For him, going the extra mile for the people that matter is just second nature. His **irrepressible spirit** has helped make me a better and more caring person; any kid lucky enough to have him as a parent will have the horizon as their limit – they'll grow up with a love of exploration and so, so many people who love him or her.

## How We Spend Our Time

**We'll introduce our newest family member to the things that bring us joy:** cooking (we host many Friday night dinners!), spending time in nature, sci-fi, indie movies, and exploring our city -- discovering restaurants, coffee shops, and street fairs. **We can't wait for our child to join us on our adventures** (and to curl up with a good book for quiet times at home, too)!



Exploring Ohio!



Hiking with friends in NY



Alex B's best friends



Alex W's pals of 15+ years

## Adoption: A Family Tradition

**Adoption is already a treasured part of our family story**, and we're proud it will be how our family grows, too.

**Alex W's mom Bonnie was adopted** when closed adoptions were the norm. She was raised by her loving adoptive mother Sylvia, and against all odds, found her birth mother as an adult. Since they met 12 years ago, **Bonnie has developed a loving relationship with Betty, the Navy veteran who made the brave choice to give her a better life back in 1962** – and we have, too.

We **admire the bravery** of Bonnie, Betty, and Sylvia as we dream about what our family might look like. We know it's **important for every child to know the story of where they come from**. We're grateful for the opportunity to **embrace open adoption** with you, however we define and forge that together.



Thanksgiving in New York (above) and a birth-family reunion in Alaska (below).





## Faith and Education

Judaism is very **focused on family** and emphasizes the importance of asking the big questions. We will give this child **access to a top-notch education** and we're excited to instill in him or her a love of learning. We also **can't wait to celebrate holidays** like Hanukkah and Passover together!

We're **blessed with a strong faith community that supports us**. Because of Alex B's job, it can feel like 800 families are rooting for us, and that's pretty cool!



## The People We Love

**We visit the people we love a lot** (last year took us everywhere from California to Maine!), and we're lucky our loved ones travel to Ohio to spend time with us, too. When we got married, we started a guestbook; it's special to look back at the **messages of love** we've received after their visits.

We cherish our families. **Our child will have so many people who love them**. We each have two siblings, and we were both raised by parents who modeled unconditional love and devotion. Alex B's mom passed away three years ago from leukemia - she was an incredible mom and would have been an amazing grandmother. It's our vow to honor the way she lived her life in the way we parent.

*Alex B's parents and brothers*



*Our extended family in Texas*

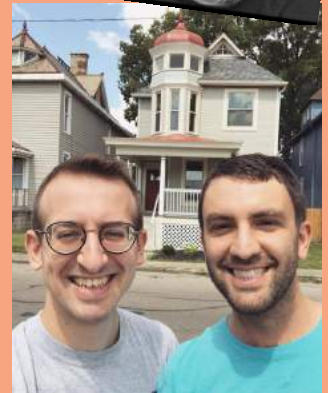


*Alex W's grandparents and siblings*



## Our Home

**We bought our three-story home** in summer 2017, and we love living in a **diverse neighborhood** in the heart of our city, with **easy access to schools, playgrounds, and parks**. Our child will have **his or her own bedroom and a big backyard** to play in. Our favorite piece of the house is a little turret on the third floor you have to crawl into. Once you're in there, you feel like you've snuck into Hogwarts! We will paint this little room in bright colors and turn it into a **magic playroom** for our child.



## Our Promise

From the beginning, we've known that we wanted a child to join our family at the right time. (We love spending time with our friends' children - they're all saying they can't wait to see us as parents!) **We're excited about this next step, and we don't take any of it for granted.**

We promise that **any child of ours will get what any child of yours deserves** - a home built on love, trust, faith, and community, a bedtime story every night, and us putting them first forever.

