

# Scott + Nate



Hello,

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for considering our family as you are creating your adoption plan. We can imagine how difficult this decision can be, and we want you to know that, for us, it all comes down to love. We believe that, at its core, loving another person means doing whatever it takes to make it possible for them to thrive. Love is the reason you are reading this letter, and love is the reason we have written it.

From the moment we decided to start a family, adoption has been our first and only choice. If you choose us to parent your child, please know that we will love them unconditionally and do everything within our power to build a happy and fulfilling life for them. The part you play in your child's story will always be integral to their life, and we will raise them to understand that your decision was made because of love.

We look forward to meeting you (if that is your wish) and sharing in the decisions that will ensure that your child's life is full of joy, family, and most importantly, love. We are honored that you are considering us as part of this journey, and we are so excited to meet you!

*Nate & Scott*

**About Us** We became friends in 2006 while in graduate school, and in 2008, started dating. Nate asked: do you want to be more than friends? Scott replied: I'll think about it. And we've been together ever since. In 2016 we got married, and in 2019 we moved into our forever home. We, along with our senior chihuahua Chula, are looking to fill this home with love! We are both motivated and hard-working and take pride in what we do. Nate, the first person in his family to graduate from college, earned his PhD and is an environmental science professor. He keeps our family focused on living sustainably and helps us appreciate our connections to the Earth (he likes to garden). Scott is a nurse practitioner who loves to guide others to be their healthiest, happiest selves, even in the face of serious illness. Nate - a *creator* - enjoys cooking, crocheting, crafting, and lots of home improvement projects. Scott - a *restorer* - loves to walk, hike, bike, read, and believe it or not, keep things in order by cleaning and organizing around the house. What we love most about our relationship are the ways in which we complement each other - **we are beautifully different.**

## A few favorites

Nate: Drop Dead Gorgeous, Golden Girls, singing showtunes (off key!)

Scott: Jurassic Park, carrot cake, napping

Together: True crime shows, Jeopardy!, and spoiling our little Chula



## Meet Scott

Scott is *hands down* the most sincere, loving, and compassionate person I have ever known. I have always admired Scott's ability to open up and share his feelings and not shy away from shedding tears - he simply bubbles *love*.

I would have to say that his superpower is his incredible ability to put people at ease and have deep and meaningful conversations. I have witnessed firsthand how he can start a conversation with almost *anybody*, and afterward he responds with 'I enjoyed their company.'

As a father, Scott will be the perfect and patient person for those tough conversations that come during the teenage years.

- Nate

## Meet Nate

Let me start off by saying that Nate truly is a kid at heart! His creative, fun, energetic spirit will fill any child's life with joy. He is boisterous, enthusiastic, and hands-on and doesn't hesitate to jump right in and play.

Few people love harder than Nate. While words may not be his strongest suit, the love that shows in his actions is the most genuine I have ever experienced. It may be a home-cooked meal, a surprise gift, or just being present during a tough time. Whatever it is, Nate will always let you know how important you are to him.

I am completely certain that Nate will be an amazing father and that his family will always be his number one priority.

-Scott



In New Orleans



In Mexico



Scott's doctoral graduation



Nate in Iceland



Making tamales



# Family, Traditions, and Values



Scott's family (left) and Nate's family (right) on our wedding day

We are a proud multiethnic family. Nate comes from a large Mexican family in Southern California which values being around family in their daily lives. Everyone knows everyone's business, and no one forgets that they are loved and cared for. Scott's family, which has lived in Ohio and Pennsylvania for literally hundreds of years, is small and tight-knit. What they may lack in size, they make up for in closeness. Our approach to parenting comes from the blended experience of both families. We can't wait to share this immense network of love and support with our children.

The love and connectedness of our family is reflected in our shared traditions. Every year, we alternate spending the holidays with each side of our family, despite them living on opposite sides of the country. Scott has fond memories of reading "The Night Before Christmas" with his family on Christmas Eve, and Nate can't wait to bake the "Baby Jesus Birthday Cake" where the youngest child in the extended family gets to blow out the candles. We're also excited to share in our annual family vacations. Remembering our loved ones who have passed on is extremely important to us because we believe that our loved ones never truly leave us. We do so by surrounding our home with photos of them and by honoring them with an altar on Dia de Los Muertos (Day of the Dead).

Nate and his siblings



Scott and his sister



We've both had challenging coming out experiences, which have made us stronger than we ever thought we could be. We value that strength and self-reliance. We value individuality and will encourage our family to living their truth. We will impart the importance of treating others with love and respect, and we will always value education and life-long learning.



With Nate's mom in L.A.



With Nate's Abuela and (some) of his cousins



With Scott's parents in Costa Rica



# Our Friends

Our group of friends truly have become our second family. We met most of this group in college at Ohio State and although we have ventured all over the world since then, we continue to grow together and have remained essential pieces of each others' lives.

We cherish our annual "Secret Santa" gift exchanges, and we love taking "family vacations" every few years, often to ring in the New Year!

Our child will have many honorary aunts and uncles, making our family even richer!



Our group of friends dating back to our days in college



## Travel, is our shared passion

Seeing and appreciating as much of our world as possible is a shared passion that drives both of us. Every few years, we take cross-country road trips to visit family and to work toward Nate's goal of seeing every county in the United States! (yes, all 3,243 of them)

We have a very special relationship with the country of Costa Rica. Scott studied abroad there, and together, we have formed lasting friendships (we even got engaged in Costa Rica in 2014). We continue to visit often.

We are so eager and excited to include our entire family on these adventures as we continue to explore the world - hopefully visiting Europe, Asia, and Africa. We pledge that our child will see the world!



## Our commitment

We promise to love this child with every beat of our hearts. That includes our commitment to each step of the adoption relationship. We promise to listen to you and to communicate openly as we prepare to raise this child with every opportunity for love, happiness, and success. We will always honor the responsibility that we share with you and the important part you play in the life of this child.

Thank you for trusting us.

