

* FROM US TO YOU



Dan & Colette *



This is the most important letter we will ever write.

We have always wanted to be parents. Dan dreamed of adopting since he was a boy. Colette too dreamed of being a mother, but worried that she was not strong enough to carry a child of her own because of her muscular dystrophy.

In our hearts we know that our path to starting a family is through adoption. We spent our twenties and early thirties working hard towards that dream (we're 35 & 36 now). We hope our words **spark a connection** and that by reading this you get to know us, trust us and help us make our dreams of starting a family come true.

Dan &
Colette





THE LIFE WE'VE BUILT TOGETHER



We live in a diverse suburb of Los Angeles. We own a cottage style home that is too big for just us. In our backyard we have built a huge garden with tomatoes, sunflowers and peppers growing. We can't wait to show our little one the beautiful flowers that bloom and teach them the magic gardening and cooking from the garden, one of Colette's favorite things to do.





IN OUR
BACKYARD
GARDEN



OUR LOVE



We are truly each other's best friend. We have worked hard in our almost 14 years together and 9 years married (we met when we were 20 and 21 while we were students at UC Berkeley!) to become the family we would have wanted as kids. Both our parents divorced and our moms struggled financially to provide a stable home. We both moved a lot as kids and that instability was difficult. We want something better for our family and so we have built a loving, committed partnership between us and worked hard and saved so we have the resources to give a child everything they need. There is nothing we want more than to provide a stable, loving home to a child.



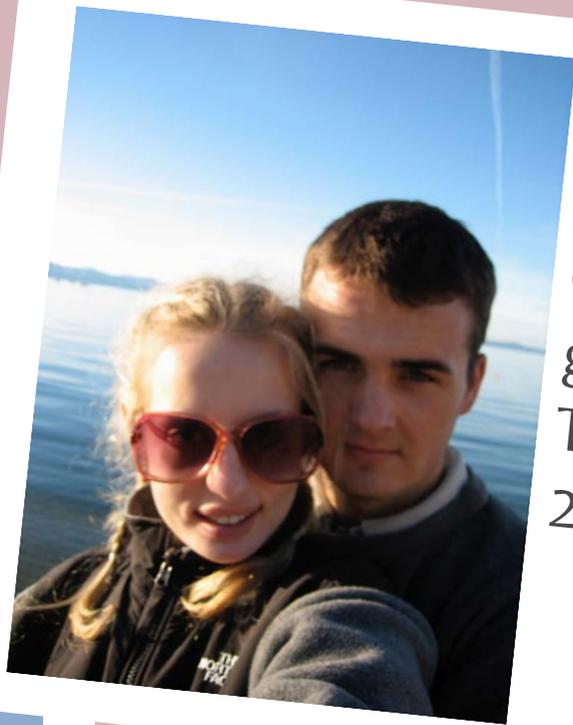
OH ME,

OH MY,

YOU'RE THE APPLE OF MY EYE ♡



WHAT WE LOVE



*Our first
getaway,
Tahoe
2007*



OUTDOORS

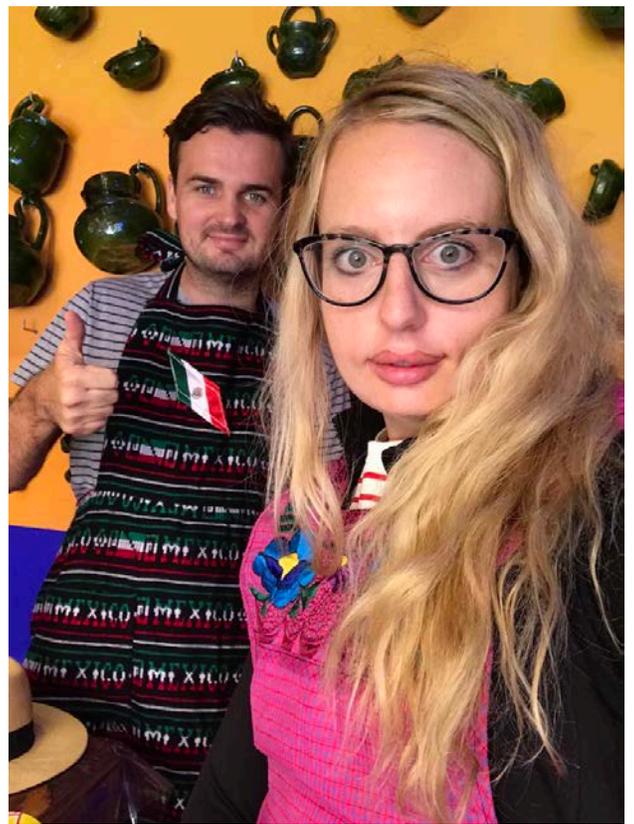
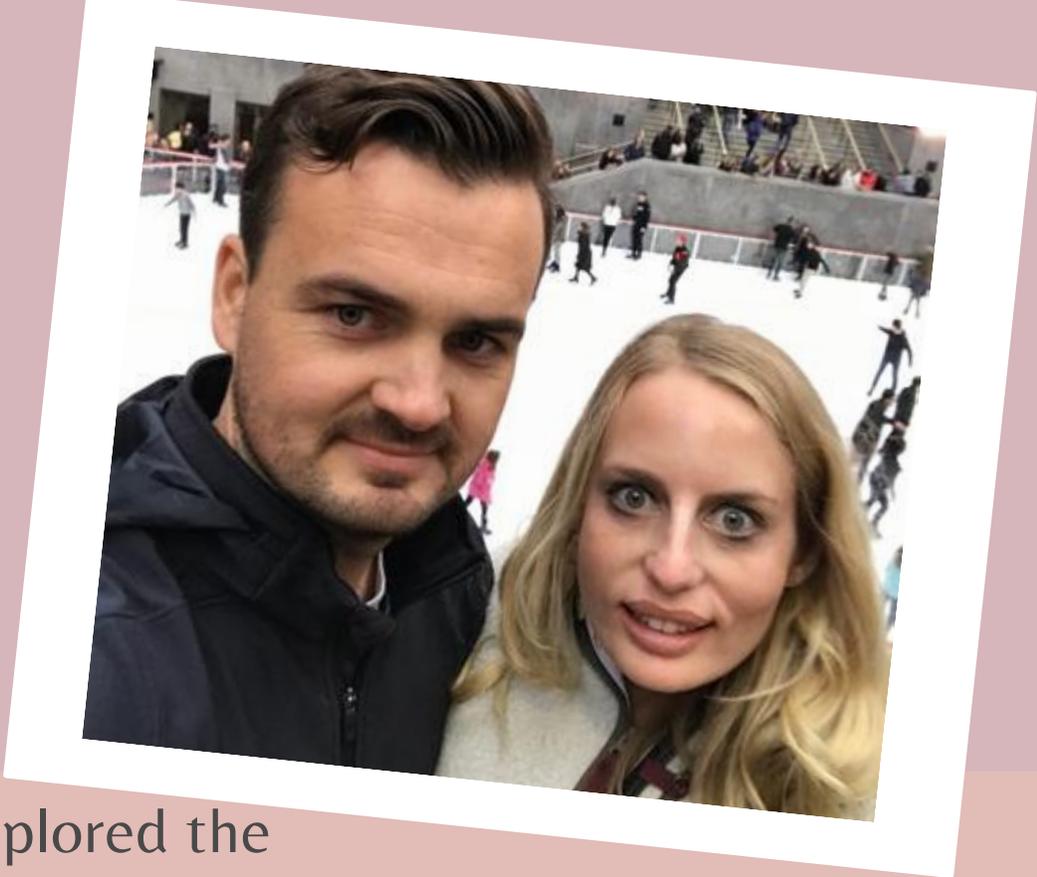
We love spending time together in our backyard and outside in general. We have a pool in our backyard where we host cannon ball contests for our 2 nieces and 2 nephews (3 of them live 10 mins away!). When we are not in the pool, you will find us on a hike with our dogs or at the beach. Dan loves to surf while Colette and our dog Werner love relaxing and watching for dolphins.

WHAT WE LOVE



TRAVEL

Together we have explored the world enjoying different cultures' art and food. We traveled to Thailand, India, various far corners of Mexico and so many states across the US and far and wide in our home state of California. We cannot wait to take our little one on exciting adventures and as a family to discover art in museums, try different flavors and spices and learn about how while cultures can be so different, we are all still connected by love, compassion and commitment to family.



In Oaxaca, Mexico taking a
Cooking Class

WHAT WE DO



Dan works from home as a digital marketing manager. Colette had a successful career in marketing too, but two years ago made a change to focus on our adoption and once we are matched being a stay-at-home mom.

While Colette uses a wheelchair, she can walk and stays active with indoor biking. There are some limitations on her strength, so we plan to hire a mother's helper to support Colette when Dan is working for the more physical demands of parenting. We want to be the best parents possible and know that a stay-at-home parent focusing on our child's needs will give them the support they need to thrive.



OUR APPROACH TO PARENTING

We worked hard so we could live in a safe neighborhood full of young kids with excellent schools, including an elementary school a short walk from our home that ranks in the top 10% of schools in California! We dream of walking our little one to and from school chatting about what they learned and who they played with on the playground each day.



We both come from big, modern families with half siblings, step siblings and siblings of siblings, first, second and third cousins. Our child will be surrounded by all of them who believe love for each other is what bonds a family together. We believe stability and structure are some of the most important things that parents can give to their children and plan to create a routine that makes our child feel joy but safe and secure knowing that every night will end with a relaxing bath and us reading books together in bed.



OUR FAMILY



With Dan's brother, his mom and step-dad and his sister-in-law. We visit Dan's mom in Napa a few times per year.



With Colette's mom, two older sisters, younger brother, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, nieces, nephews and Colette's fur sister, Cali. They all live within a short drive.



OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU

First, thank you for reading this and hopefully you have learned a little about who we are and our dream of starting a family. We are **committed** to doing everything in our power and means to put our child's well-being first and dedicate our lives to their happiness. Our goal as parents is to always be open and honest and to us that starts with day one **celebrating you** as the birth mother that made us a family. We hope that this is just the beginning of our **shared connection** and the start of us becoming family.

Dan & Colette

