

*Nick, Leah
and our daughter, Aria*



(and Max, Lupin & Luna)

Thank you

Thank you so much for considering us to be the adoptive parents of your child and for your incredible courage and selflessness. We hope this book will give you a glimpse into our lives and the life your child will have with us. Always know that he/she will be loved unconditionally and that we will be forever thankful and grateful for the sacrifice you have made. Your child will also know the unconditional love you have shown and you will be always loved in our home. We pray for guidance and wisdom for you as you make your decision.



About us

We love exploring and discovering new adventures and activities. Whether it's a neighborhood park, a local zoo or museum, or a vacation destination, we love experiencing all the adventures life has to offer. Being able to share this love and excitement as a family is our passion. Your child will grow up knowing the joy and confidence that comes from trying new things and experiencing the excitement of discovering our amazing world.

Spending time with family and friends is a priority for us. We see our family and friends multiple times a week. We love hosting dinners, parties and casual get togethers that allow us to have fun with the special people in our lives. Your child will have a loving community of family and friends that embraces them and supports them throughout his/her life.



We love animals, especially our four legged family members. We have two dogs and one cat in our family and they have been with us since they were very young. Your child will grow up knowing the special love and joy of having animals in their life and of discovering nature's many wonders.



Becoming a family

We met through a mutual friend when Nick was finishing his last year of college and Leah had just moved to the same city to begin her career in nursing. We found we shared a love of sports (although fans of opposing football teams), great food, travel, dogs, all things Harry Potter, and are **kindred spirits in our determination to enjoy and experience the most in life!** We dated for the next year, got engaged and have been married for 10 years. We have always been drawn to adopting since being together

Once we became parents, we loved spending time together as a family with our daughter, Aria, however we are also very intentional in making sure we spend time together as a couple. We enjoy going on date nights, and take turns picking what to do. If Aria is spending the night with grandparents, **our favorite date night is for Nick to do what he loves best, cooking and trying out a new recipe.** On our last stay-at-home date night, Nick treated Leah to homemade pasta and his grandmother's special recipe meatballs, Yum!



We are so excited to add to our family through adoption. Leah has an adopted brother and knows first hand the love her brother has brought to her family. We also have close friends who have adopted and have been inspired by the joy we see in their lives. Sharing our unconditional love with another child has become our deepest desire and we cannot wait to grow our family again.



Meet Leah (by Nick)

Leah is one of the most energetic and determined people I know and passionate about helping people. She was an ICU trauma nurse for 10 years, but after Aria was born, she wanted to have a career that allowed her more flexibility. She applied her nursing skills and passion for helping people to creating her own business, a concierge med spa that promotes health and wellness. Your child will know that same energy and support, as Leah encourages everyone around her to go after their dreams. Everyday she tells Aria, "Be kind and be brave."

One of the things I love most about Leah is how she encourages Aria to learn and experience new things. We are members of the local zoo, museum, science center, library, and arts center and it is all Leah's doing. Aria has grown up with a weekly visit to at least one of these places and your child will too. Leah also makes everyday life fun and adventurous for Aria, from building tunnels and forts out of furniture and blankets to hatching caterpillars and watching them grow into butterflies. With Leah, your child's days will be filled with fun and learning as part of his or her everyday life.



Leah loves hosting and entertaining and bringing people together. She decorates the house for every holiday, even Valentine's Day and the 4th of July. But she doesn't reserve the holidays for bringing family and friends together. Thursday nights are pizza night with Aria's grandparents and weekends always include enjoying time with families, friends or both, whether it's just hanging out or meeting up at the local park. Your child will grow up in a festive home knowing family and friends are always welcome.



Meet Nick (by Leah)

Nick has a big heart and is always accepting of any new challenge in life. While majoring in engineering and economics in college, he also played Division I soccer. After graduation, he worked as an engineer but knew his dream was to own his own business, which he did 5 years later. As the owner of a robotic painting company, Nick works with people from diverse communities, and loves meeting the everyday challenges of running his own business. Nick will always encourage your child to challenge themselves to go after his or her dreams and to not be afraid to take risks.

Nick is curious about everything and a constant learner. When we experienced the eclipse, he researched and studied so he would be able to photograph all the stages. Cooking is another passion and he is always learning and experimenting with new recipes and foods. I especially love to watch him and Aria while he patiently shows her how to stir in ingredients and help him cook. There is nothing Nick doesn't love learning about and trying, from kayaking in whitewater rapids to learning about the latest scientific discoveries. Just as he shares his love of learning with Aria, you can be sure your child will be encouraged to learn and experience whatever things he or she finds interesting or exciting.



Nick grew up in a close and loving family and knows the importance of family. He reads to Aria every night and Aria loves hearing all the individual voices he gives to all her favorite storybook characters. Whether it's sharing waffles at a Saturday morning breakfast or dancing silly dances together, Nick always makes spending time with Aria a priority. With Nick as a father, your child will always know that same love and attention.

Meet Aria

(by Nick & Leah)

Aria is full of joy and so easygoing and imaginative. She is always ready to laugh and have fun. She loves playing pretend and can create her own imaginary play with anything. Her most recent pretend play is to cover a stool and pillow with a blanket and pretend it is her “Mystery Machine” from Scooby Doo. She especially loves inviting others to join her in pretending. Your child will have a big sister who will be a fun and creative playmate.



Aria is gentle and affectionate and loves hugs and cuddles. Her favorite place to snuggle is on the couch with all her blankets and pillows and favorite stuffed animals. Aria also loves real animals, especially our dogs, Maximus and Lupin, and her grandmother’s cat, Yoda. They all love her, too, knowing she has a gentle and loving touch. Your child will grow up knowing that same gentleness and kindness.

Aria’s favorite activities include gymnastics, ballet, swimming, and doing anything outdoors. Last summer she learned how to float and swim across the pool in ISR swimming lessons. Whether its feeding the ducks at the local park, playing at the playground or blowing bubbles in the backyard, she is always ready to go outside and play. We love letting her explore things that she loves. Your child will be encouraged to learn what he or she loves and be given the opportunity to do it.



Maximus, Lupin & Luna



We have two dogs, Maximus (Max) and Lupin, and one cat, Luna, who are all part of our family. Maximus is a Puggle and is 14 years old. He has been with Leah since he has been a puppy. Lupin is 4 years old and is a Great Dane. Luna is under a year old and still a very playful kitten. All of them are great buddies.



Both dogs have been trained and they are gentle and loving. We love starting every day (rain or shine) taking them on an early morning walk on the walking trails near our home. Aria has grown up with both Maximus and Lupin by her side. As a baby, one of us would strap Aria in her baby carrier or push her in her stroller and the other would leash both dogs, and we would be off. Now Aria loves walking alongside and helping to hold on to their leashes. Your child will grow up with these daily walks as part of his/her life too.



All the animals are patient and gentle. Lupin loves playing hide and seek with Aria (she hides and he finds her). Luna just loves to play and Max's favorite time of the day is snuggling with us when we read bedtime stories to Aria. Your child will also know the special bond of growing up with playful and loving pets.



What We Do for Fun



We love exploring new adventures—going to the zoo, parks, museums and festivals. We especially enjoy going with family and friends. It is so fun to introduce our daughter to new experiences and see her excitement. We go often and there is always something new to discover and learn.



We love the outdoors and traveling to new places. Whether its skiing in the snow, learning about other cultures, or swimming in the ocean, we enjoy it all. Making memories on trips together is important to us and we look forward to giving our children the chance to understand the world through many different cultural perspectives.



We love entertaining and hosting get togethers with family and friends. We love celebrating holidays and birthdays, but also plan casual get togethers during the week and on the weekends. We love hosting an evening of



playing board games with our friends.



Nick loves trying out new recipes and our families and friends are always happy to enjoy whatever he creates. He especially loves to cook recipes from the cookbook of his brother-in-law who is an indigenous Mexican chef! Being with the people we love and making memories with them is a priority for us.

And More Fun

We love learning about other cultures and traditions and are lucky to have two family members that help give us a direct introduction!

Leah's sister-in-law is half Mexican—her mother often speaks Spanish to Leah's niece. Leah's sister is married to an indigenous Mexican who is a chef and Aztec dancer whose greatest passion is sharing his culture with others. He published a cookbook, which not only has recipes Nick loves to make, but is also full of stories of Mexican cooks, food producers, and healers.

Leah's sister and her husband live in Mexico. We had a wonderful time visiting them this past spring, participating in Mexican traditions, and learning the native culture and traditions.

We also love learning about the arts!

Living in the music city of Nashville, we are fortunate to live where music of all kinds are celebrated and we love catching a concert or street performance whenever we can. Nick's mom is an artist and loves sharing her passion with Aria, teaching her how to draw and paint and taking her to art exhibits. We all loved the Van Gogh exhibit that was recently in Nashville, and your child, too will be raised with a deep love and appreciation for the arts.

Being physically active is also important to us. Whether its working out, walking the dogs, or playing soccer in our backyard, we want our children to grow up active and healthy as part of their daily lives. Nick played soccer and Leah swam, so we appreciate the value of both team and individual sports. We are excited to support your child in whatever sport or passion they choose.



Our Home & Neighborhood

Our home is in a family friendly neighborhood with lots of places to play, relax and be part of the community. We love that we can go out our front door and walk or bike throughout the neighborhood, with friends and playmates close by. Our fenced in backyard is the perfect size for outdoor play and our favorite place to relax in the evening with an outdoor cooked meal on the grill.



Our neighborhood has lots of sidewalks, trees, friendly neighbors with small children and a community pool and playground. One of our favorite things about our neighborhood is the community center where each month there are family friendly activities offered, from face painting and art classes to holiday parties celebrating every season. We walk our dogs everyday on the tree lined sidewalks and trails and love that our neighborhood is pet and kid friendly,



Our suburban town has a number of parks and lakes. We enjoy hiking and feeding the duck and geese at the parks. We also love it when we have the opportunity to go on a friend's boat and ride on the lake. Aria went on her first boat ride this summer and smiled the whole time! Your child will know the fun of growing up in a town filled with lakes and parks and a neighborhood filled with friends and activities.



Family Fun

If you choose us, your child will have **2 sets of grandparents, 3 aunts, 4 uncles, and 2 cousins**. Not to mention many honorary aunts, uncles and cousins that are our close friends.



We are close to both our families. Nick's parents live 5 minutes from us so we spend a lot of time together. Leah's parents live 4 hours away so we easily see them once or twice a month. Fridays have become **Grandparent Fridays** because Aria spends Fridays with either Nick or Leah's parents. Fridays are Aria's favorite day! They may go to an arts center, or shopping, or play at the park. Nick's mom is an art teacher and loves painting and creating art with Aria. Leah's mom loves animals and taking Aria to the aquarium. Both grandfathers just love playing and hanging out with Aria. Your child will also grow up with Grandparents Day and know the special bond and love shared between a child and his/her grandparents.



Nick has 2 younger brothers who come to visit often and love being fun uncles, exploring and playing with Aria. Nick's family loves to travel. We all went on vacation together to Puerto Rico and had a great time exploring, learning about the culture, and relaxing together. Your child will know the same fun and closeness of vacationing and having fun with family.



Family Fun

Leah has 3 brothers and one sister. When Leah was 30 she learned that she had an older brother that she had never known. He was born when her mother was 17, and wanting to give him more opportunities than she could provide, Leah's mom gave him up for adoption. He was raised by a loving family and many years later, mother and son connected. Times have changed for the better since her brother's adoption, and now, very rarely are there closed adoptions.



Leah's brothers live near her parents so



the whole family gets together when we come to visit.

Leah's oldest sister lives in Mexico so

when she and her family come home it is an extra special treat.

Leah's sister and brother have daughters close in age to Aria and love playing together, and will be thrilled to have your child join them in their fun.



Holiday celebrations are important traditions spent with both our families. We love cooking and sharing our Thanksgiving and Christmas meals with both our families, so our holiday celebrations can last for several weeks! Because we love to eat, our favorite traditions revolve around food, but the most important thing for us is being together for birthdays, holidays, and everything in between. Your child will know the love and joy of being part of a family that embraces the joyous events in life.

We also see our 'honorary family' on a weekly basis. Our friends also have small children, and it is so fun to plan activities together. At Easter, we all got together to color Easter eggs. We thought we had everything planned until we discovered some of the eggs weren't hard boiled! It got a little messy but we all laughed and had fun.

We love that we have family and friends so close to us, and see both family and friends every week. Your child will grow up surrounded by loving family and friends.



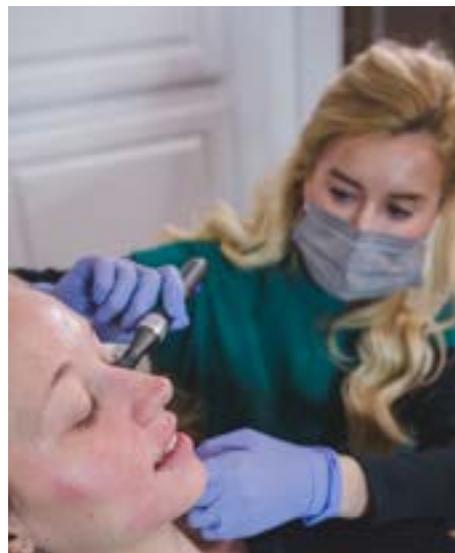
Weekdays

Nicks owns his own business, a robotic painting company. His office is 5 minutes from our home, so it allows him flexibility to attend any events your child may have or to be home whenever needed.

In his work, Nick works with a diverse community of people and enjoys relationships with people from a variety of cultures. His company's core values are the same values he will teach your child: to embrace challenges, respect each individual, question everything, take risks and go after your dreams.



Leah also owns her own business, a concierge med spa that promotes health and wellness. She works with people of all ages and cultures, helping them to look and feel their best. Owning her own business allows Leah flexibility in planning her schedule to care for Aria and if you choose us, to care for your child also.



Thank you

Thank you again for considering us as adoptive parents for your child. We recognize that this must be a deeply emotional experience for you and words cannot express how much we respect your difficult decision. We will make sure your child knows about you and the selfless and loving decision you made for him/her. Your child will hear your name often and, within your comfort level, we look forward to staying in contact with you as your child grows.

If you find us to be the right adoptive parents for your child, he/she will live a life full of love, joy, and adventure. Your child will be loved endlessly and his/her dreams will be supported enthusiastically. Please know that we will be praying for you throughout your adoption journey.

Thank you!

Nick, Leah & Aria

