





Hello!

We are humbled that our book is in your hands and grateful to be considered in your journey for your child's future.

Our home is filled with JOY, music and the aroma of a comforting meal or delicious treat being made in the kitchen. Through our book we hope you will see a glimpse into our lives, who we are and what we value.

Family is what we cherish most. We both grew up surrounded by family and are fortunate to have that same closeness today. Together we have 8 siblings, plus 8 adorable nieces and nephews, along with large extended families.

From the beginning of our relationship we have been excited to start a family. To become parents through adoption would be an absolute honor.

You are loved, you are important and you are so special.

We know that your child is already so incredibly loved because you are taking the time to educate yourself on all your options.

Our hearts and arms are wide open to you. We hope to get the opportunity to meet you and would be honored to walk alongside you.

love,

Alex & Laura



MEET ALEX

I love the outdoors! As an avid outdoorsman, two of my passions are fishing and hunting. Annually, I take a trip to Canada for the best fishing. One of my favorite fishing memories is experiencing Alaska with my grandpa, father, brother and uncles. It was an unforgettable trip, catching larger than life-sized fish, enjoying quality time together, in an unmatched setting of natural landscape and wildlife.

I have lived in several places across the country, though the Midwest is where I feel most at home - being close to family, the shared values in our community and my love for outdoor activities each season brings. I was born and raised through early childhood in Minnesota. Later in my youth, our family moved to California where I experienced a West Coast lifestyle; learning how to surf, ski and try an array of sports. Later, I attended college in Arizona, where I met some of my closest friends to this day. My friendships have grown from across the country to around the world, yet my Midwestern ties are what keeps me grounded.

Relationships are very important to me and I am grateful to have a tight group of close friends. My brother is one of my best friends, we talk at least once a day on the phone, if not in person.

Some people may call me a bit of a tech geek! Technology is not only part of my job, it is also a strong interest of mine. From reading about the latest Apple update to creating a smart home equipped with the newest trends, I enjoy learning about all facets of technology and integrating them into our daily life.

* Occupation:
Software Sales

* Education:
Business Degree

* Heritage:
Norwegian, Irish, Swedish, Danish,
German

WHAT I LOVE ABOUT **ALEX** WRITTEN BY LAURA

Alex truly is the best husband and friend. He is the textbook definition of dependable and his patience is unmeasurable.



He is easily one of the nicest people you will meet and gets along with everyone. Alex goes the extra mile in all areas of his life - especially for his family and friends. He is the guy people call when they need help or even someone to confide in and he never turns down a chance to be there for them. These are a few of the many reasons why several people call Alex their best friend.

Alex is known for creating a great atmosphere when our family and friends come over. He plays the perfect music for the occasion throughout our house, along with setting ambient lighting that makes everyone feel welcome. He plans thoughtful ideas for our guests, whether it is setting up yard games or taking out kid-friendly toys for the little ones.

I love that he is a passionate outdoorsman. I did not grow up surrounded by fishing or hunting so I have learned a lot about wildlife, hunting, fishing, boating and lake life over the years. I admire his calmness, loyalty and faith.

Children are drawn to him, in fact they flock to him! Our nieces and nephews absolutely adore him and there is usually one or two hanging from his arms and legs. No one was surprised when one of our nephews first words was "Alex".

In the ways he loves me and seeing how he actively interacts with our nieces and nephews, I am confident that he will be an incredible father.



AS A MAN OF ROUTINE,
SATURDAYS TYPICALLY START AT HOLIDAY GAS STATION FOR A CAR WASH AND COFFEE!



MEET LAURA

The simple things in life make me the most happy; a sunny day, an organized space, laughing so hard you cry, going for a walk outside, a cozy night in.

I really enjoy being creative. Interior design, cooking new recipes, fashion, and hosting events for loved ones, are a few of my favorite creative outlets.

I am constantly striving to learn new things. My latest interests have been planting an herb garden, learning photography and making pottery with clay.

The highlight of both my personal and professional life has been working with children. My passion for children led me to a career as a nanny for 8+ years. From there, I expanded into the role of personal assistant where I enjoy managing the lives of families. Alongside this, I have had the privilege of serving pediatric patients at the M Health Fairview Masonic Children's Hospital as a volunteer.

I LOVE:

Orchids, surprises, reading a good book, the ocean, finding the perfect gift for someone, puzzles & games, rom coms, a great T. J. Maxx find, art, gardening, being active; tennis, hiking and golf.

* Occupation:
Personal Assistant/Nanny

* Education:
Business, Marketing & Communications

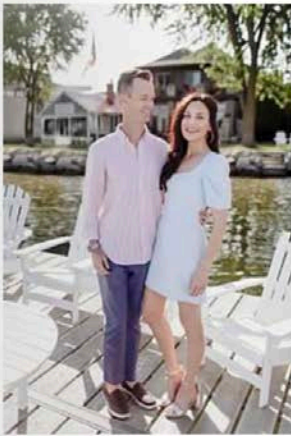
* Concentrated Program:
Child Development & Psychology

* Heritage:
Swedish, Irish, Norwegian

WHAT I
LOVE ABOUT

LAURA

WRITTEN BY ALEX



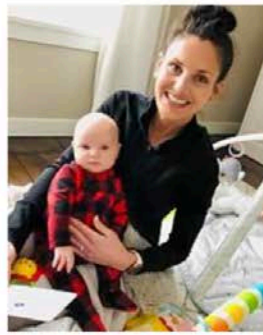
Laura is a kind, strong and devoted woman of faith.

Nothing is ordinary about her. Her heart is big and she is generous in all areas of her life. Laura likes to laugh and she makes life effortlessly fun simply by being around her. She is naturally athletic and doesn't shy away from trying new things. I love that she does not mind getting dirty and will take up any job or hobby alongside me, no matter how messy.

She is stylish, innovative and exceptional at creating any task or event. There is always a great amount of thought and detail she puts into everything she does.

Laura is a connector, people are drawn to her and she makes friends wherever she goes.

I admire her passion for life, her strong work ethic and her radiant love for others. The way she loves and supports her family and those around her is impressive, she is often thinking of others above herself. She is innately nurturing and children gravitate to her. This is a short list of the many things that will make her a remarkable mother.





OUR STORY

Alex asked Laura out to dinner, which turned out to be the longest (and best) first date. As we sat down for dinner and started talking, it instantly felt comfortable as if we had known each other for years. We talked for hours like we were the only two people in the restaurant.

Four hours later, we were still at dinner and both knew this was something special. We have been inseparable ever since!

We got married on a beautiful summer day in 2012 surrounded by our family and friends.

OUR MARRIAGE IS ROOTED IN OUR
DEEP LOVE FOR EACH OTHER.

OUR VALUES:
TRUST,
KINDNESS,
RESPECT,
SUPPORT,
QUALITY TIME,
FORGIVENESS,
& HAVING FUN!

OUR LIFE TOGETHER



From the mundane tasks such as running errands, all the way to traveling somewhere new, we love doing life together.

We are that couple who holds hands everywhere we go.

Regular dates night are important and fun! Whether it is finding a new restaurant spot or trying a new activity, we are intentional about making time to connect just the two of us.

Laura is a romantic and Alex is great at romantic gestures, he often surprises her with flowers just because.

We love going out with friends as much as we value a night in. We appreciate routine, and balance life with many impromptu moments.

Listening and supporting each other is only part of what makes us a great team. Our personalities and strengths truly compliment one another.

Finding ways to show acts of kindness towards one another comes easily for us; bringing the other coffee to start the day, sending a text to say I love you or preparing a favorite comfort meal.

When life throws us curveballs, we work together side by side, lean into our faith and always come out stronger as a couple.

We have built an unwavering foundation and becoming parents will grow upon this sturdy base.

ACTIVITIES



Biking on one of many trails near our house



Ice skating on the pond in our backyard



Cross country skiing



Jetskiing

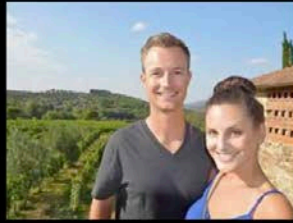


Fishing on the lake closeby



Planting and landscaping at our house

TRAVEL



From left to right: Maui :: Utah :: Bahamas :: Yellowstone National Park :: Camelback Mountain in Arizona :: The Bean in Chicago :: Tuscan countryside in Italy :: Denver, Colorado :: Lake Superior in Lutsen :: Turks and Caicos :: Golf tournament in Arizona



HOME & NEIGHBORHOOD

There really is no place like home. We love to travel and go on adventures, yet we really enjoy being in the comfort of our home and sharing it with others.

Our families and twelve other friend-families live within 10 minutes, which leads to many fun get togethers.

Our neighborhood is in a wonderful suburb that is situated on a circle with mature trees. It is established, safe, and filled with families and kids of all ages.

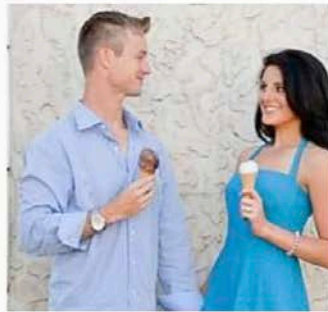
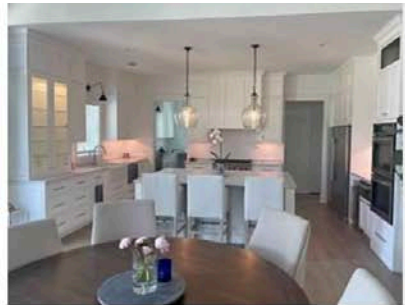
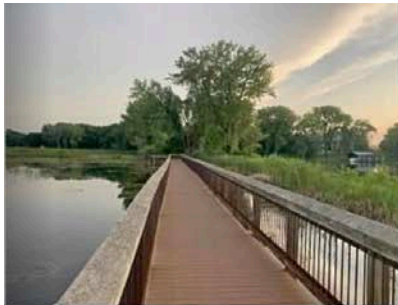
We are in an exceptional school district and can walk to several parks with playgrounds, basketball courts, tennis courts and large sports fields. There are numerous walking and biking paths directly from our house.

The heart of our neighborhood has several shops, a grocery store, many restaurants and our favorite ice cream spot - close enough we can walk to! It is a slice of charmed small & tranquil life among being part of a large suburb and close to a big city. Lake life is only minutes from our home, where we enjoy spending time.

Within our home is a spacious open floor plan filled with a lot of natural light. There is an abundance of space for toys, exploring and making welcomed messes (our nieces, nephews & friends' little ones can all attest!). Near the primary is a room dedicated for a nursery, already adorned with a sweet rocking chair.

Outside, we have a large grass backyard that extends to a nature preserve with two beautiful ponds. Daily, we see turtles, bunnies, deer, swans and baby birds nesting in our trees.

Our long flat driveway is perfect for hours of sidewalk chalk and learning to ride a bike!



*This boardwalk is our favorite walking + biking path from our house.

*Christmas time cozy by the fireplace.

*The kitchen really is the heart of the home, there is always something cooking or baking.

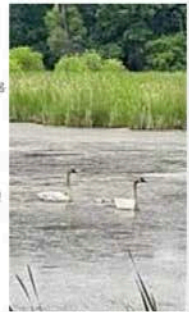
*Swans + deer, we see wildlife up close on our property daily.

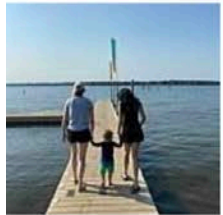
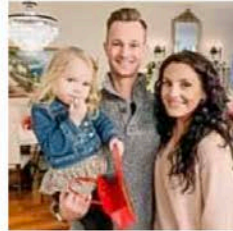
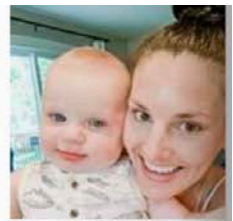
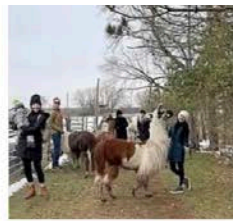
*Ice cream at our neighborhood spot, make it a double scoop!

*We get excited about setting up our Christmas lights, it is never too early at our house!

*One of many fun playgrounds nearby.

*We love spending time in our backyard - sunsets are the best.





LAURA'S FAMILY

Laura is a middle child, with two sisters and one brother. Her mom lives very close by, less than 10 minutes away. Her sister, brother in-law and two nephews are only 5 minutes from us. Laura's other sister splits her time between Colorado and Minnesota, and when she is not here, we enjoy visiting her and skiing in the Colorado mountains all together. Her brother lives only a short drive away.

Her parents were married for 22 years until her father passed away.

ALEX'S FAMILY

Alex is the eldest of his siblings, with a younger brother and sister. All together there are 5 nieces and 1 nephew on his side. His brother and family live steps away in our same neighborhood. His sister and family are a quick drive away. His mom is close by, where we gather often as a family.

His parents were married for 40 year until his father passed away.





FAMILY & TRADITIONS

FAMILY

Living in close proximity to our families is a gift. We talk daily and see them often for weekly dinners, to attend one of our nieces or nephew's sporting events/activities or to simply spend time together. There are numerous get togethers sprinkled in throughout each month.

BIRTHDAYS

A special Birthday chair with balloons and gifts, along with celebrations that include their favorite meal and dessert. The Birthday chair is a tradition that Laura's family started and we continue to carry on. We typically celebrate all together with our immediate family, making any milestone extra significant.

CHRISTMAS (Christmas is kind of a big deal here!)

- We love having several Christmas trees, making it feel very festive for the season. Visiting the tree farm to pick out and cut down our own tree is a long standing tradition in both our families. Decorating the tree is an equally fun part of the experience.
- Christmas cookie baking. Our specialty is homemade cut-out sugar cookies. The best part is spending the day with our families decorating the cookies and laughing.
- We make a big batch of homemade chexmix. (A family recipe from Laura's Grandma)
- Christmas meal is always Swedish meatballs, Lefsa and all the Scandinavian extras.

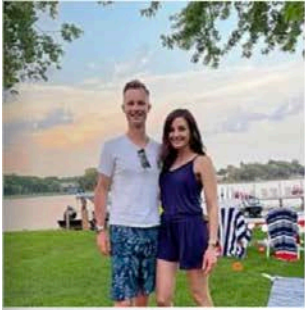


4th OF JULY

We spend the day at the lake with both sides of our family, as well as extended family, for water activities, a BBQ and fireworks.

CABIN

We take an annual trip with our extensive friend-family (16 children total) to a cabin in northern Minnesota, where we have been going to for over 10 years.



WE HAVE 8 NIECES & NEPHEWS WHO CAN'T WAIT TO WELCOME A NEW COUSIN TO THE CREW!

OPENNESS

We view open adoption as more love - more people to love a child!

We are lovingly supportive of open adoption and understand the importance and benefits in a child having the support and connections with both the adoptive family and birth family. We will commit to building and growing in a relationship together with you.

We hope to have in person connections, if this is also your desire. In addition, we will happily and eagerly share texts, calls, virtual visits, emails, photos, and letters. As you can see from our book, we take a lot of photos. We love living in the moments as much as we enjoy capturing them. We know our photos will only multiply with the addition of a little one!

The child's best interest will be at the forefront in all our decision-making. Our hope is to come alongside you and develop a plan together that will honor the level of openness you prefer. Most importantly, your child will know this adoption plan was made with love.





ALEX

FAVORITE PLACE: Relaxing in a hot tub.

FAVORITE SEASON: Fall.

FAVORITE DESSERT: Has never turned down dessert. Classic chocolate chip cookies or brownies (bonus if either are warm with vanilla ice cream!)

FAVORITE MOVIE: Films with Jermiah Johnson or James Bond.

LAURA

FAVORITE PLACE: On a warm sandy beach.

FAVORITE SEASON: Summer, hands down.

FAVORITE SHOWS: The Food Network, HGTV, documentaries.

FAVORITE SCENTS: Lavender, rain, fresh cut grass & eucalyptus.



OUR PROMISES

To raise a child through leading by example and modeling in how we live our lives.

To surround them with LOVE, GRACE and CONNECTION.

To spend quality time as a family.

To teach and guide them, and provide an environment for them to grow, learn, use their imagination, and thrive.

To continually share and celebrate the story of you and who they are.

To raise a child to know his/her great worth and value.



We would be SO thrilled and honored to share this life we have created with a child.

Through adoption our heart and commitment is not only to your child, but also to you. We are sending you strength and hope as you consider your options.

We appreciate you taking the time to learn about who we are, the love we have to offer and how you and your child will be welcomed into our lives.

If you choose to move forward with an adoption plan, know that we are here and ready to embrace your child with all that we have. We are committed to making sure your child knows where they came from and the great amount of respect and honor we have for you and your decision.

Love,

Alex & Laura