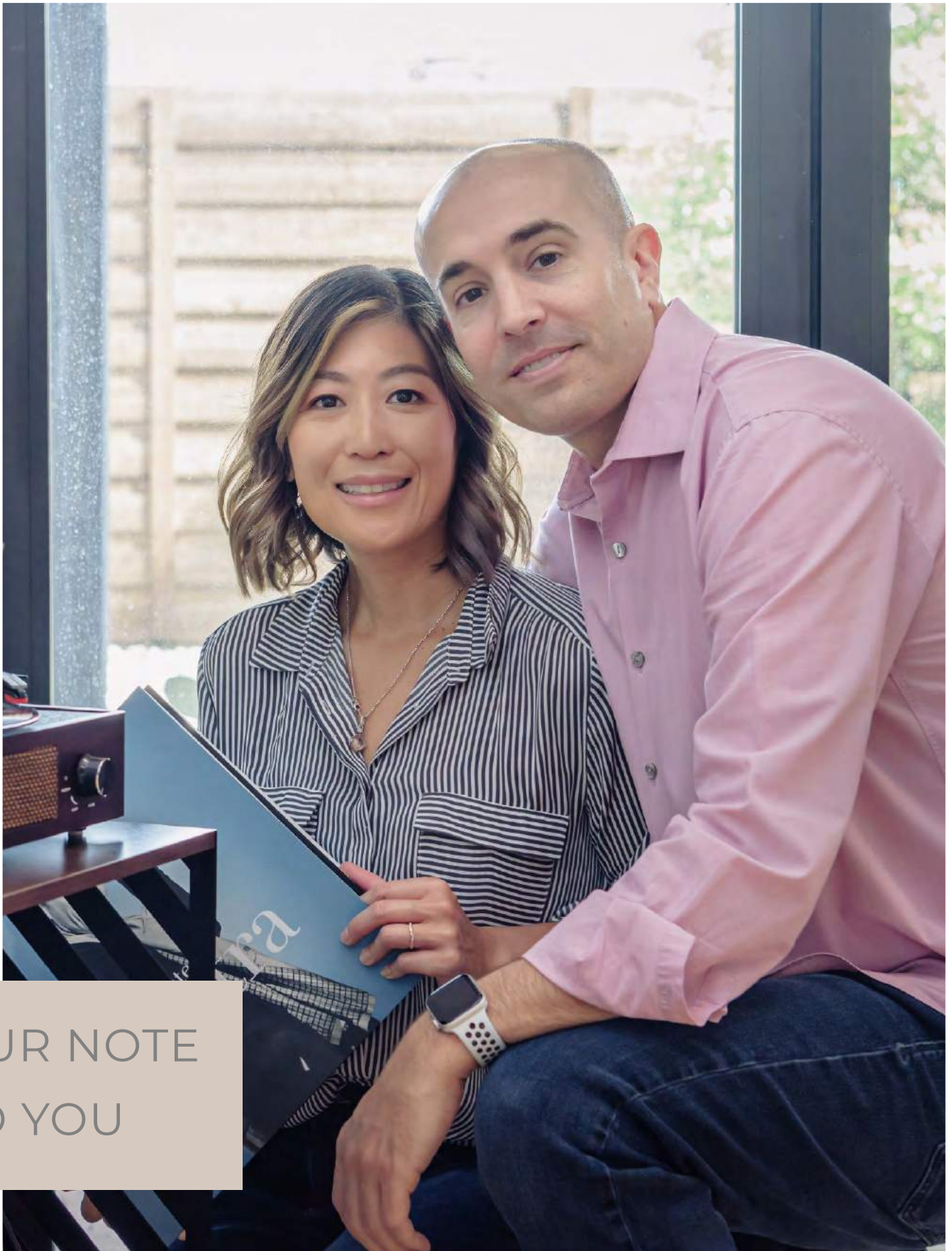


CAROLINE + MATTHEW

“WE ALL HAVE DREAMS. IN ORDER TO  
MAKE DREAMS COME INTO REALITY, IT  
TAKES AN AWFUL LOT OF DETERMINATION,  
DEDICATION, SELF-DISCIPLINE, AND EFFORT.”

- Jesse Owens, Olympic medalist





OUR NOTE  
TO YOU





HELPING OTHERS AND FINDING GRATITUDE THROUGH OTHERS' ACHIEVEMENTS IS REALLY AT THE CORE OF WHAT WE DO.



# HELLO

so nice to “meet” you

Hi and welcome to our story!

We’re Caroline and Matthew, best friends, husband and wife living in North Texas for the past 5 years after moving from California. We’re lucky to have fulfilling jobs, and we love exploring the world and staying active so we can live healthy together. **We actually have a “team name” Team Caratthew (cue eye-roll). So much of what we do is tied to a good future, whether it’s helping our communities, improving our environment and mentoring those at work.**

Helping others and finding gratitude through others’ achievements is really at the core of what we do, and we hope to channel this kind of energy and attitude to the next generation as supportive parents.

Whether you move forward with an adoption plan, we hope you find peace in whatever you decide. We can’t imagine what you are feeling or going through right now and we hope you have the support you need during this time.

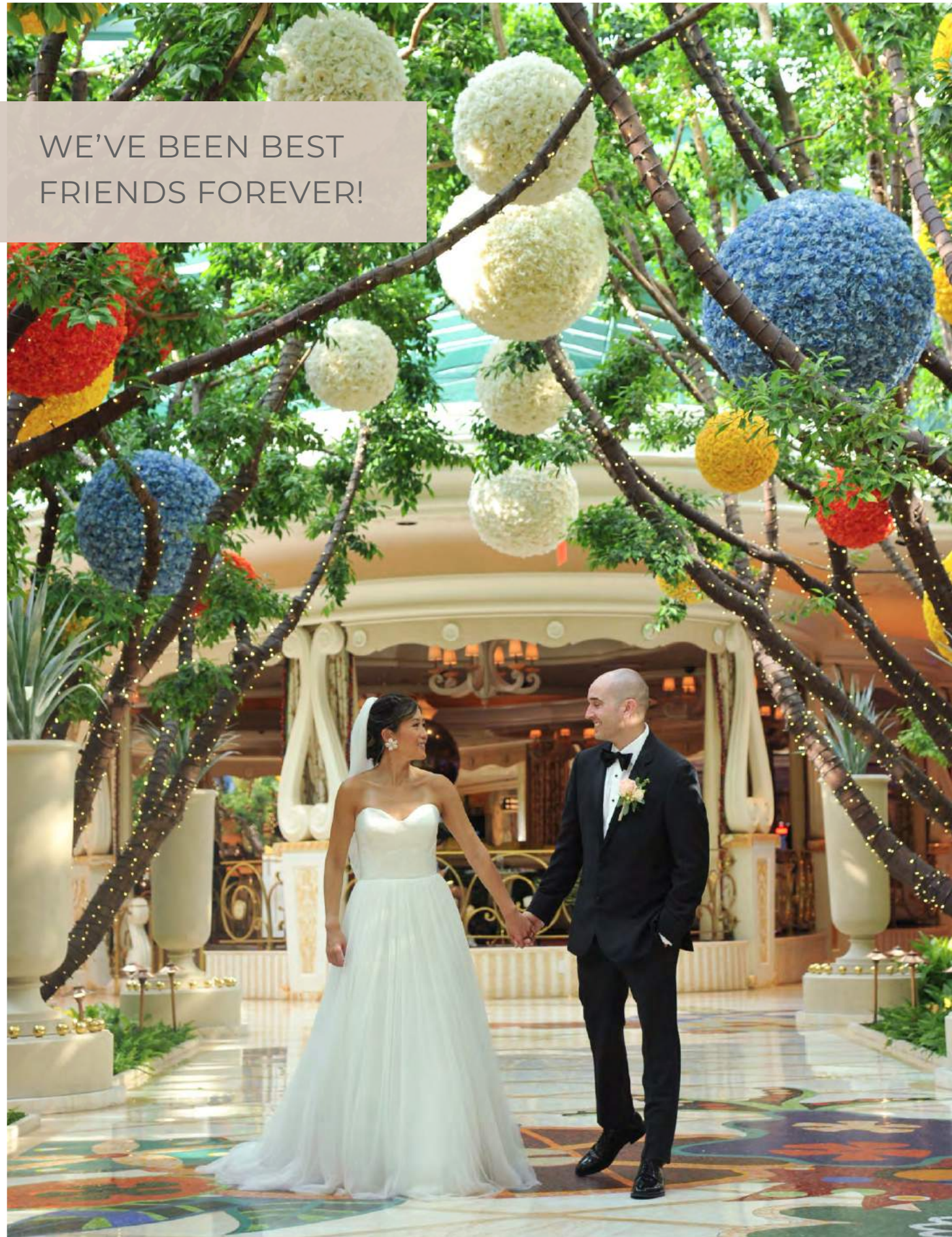
We want to support you and thank you for taking the time to read our book and get to know us!

*with love and gratitude,*  
CAROLINE + MATTHEW





WE'VE BEEN BEST FRIENDS FOREVER!



# this is our STORY

Oh wow, where do we start? We've been best friends forever!

We met in Boston 14 years ago. We were both in graduate school—Matthew was getting his MBA in Accounting/Finance and Caroline was an eager medical student. After several years of training we both landed in Texas where Caroline found the job of her dreams as a surgeon and Matthew landed a great job at a top telecommunications company.

**We are both go-getters. Admittedly we are little nuts with scheduling (Matthew is an Excel-pro) and Caroline loves planning trips. Matthew is the analytical one and Caroline is adventurous and extroverted although she thinks she is an introvert.** We got married in Las Vegas during the pandemic and canceled what was going to be an epic wedding because... you know, COVID. Marriage is amazing, but it is a job too! We both have to put in the same amount to make it work, and we are up for the challenge.





why we are

# ADOPTING

**We have always talked about the future, including having a family, for a long time. We have been best friends for over 14 years, married for 3 and are ready for the next step in providing the absolute best for a child in a loving, warm and nurturing home. We believe the future is in supporting children and providing the right environment for them.**

We've had a few struggles with infertility and after trying many IVF cycles, we accepted it wasn't meant to be and are ready to move on. But we realize that happiness is not 'just having a family,' it's being grateful for what we have now, our health, our support systems, a bright future with responsibility. It's fostering a warm, comfortable place for a child to grow and for us to continue to grow with them.

We both have siblings and yes there are definitely some \*moments\* but we love our families and we remain close and chat almost daily! We adopted two cats during the pandemic (Vellie and Neutron) and we'll just say they are our fur-babies. But we felt that as family, something was missing, and we were ready for the next step. We moved to a great kid-friendly neighborhood during the pandemic and chose our house because of the school, the diversity of the neighborhood and future opportunities for the arts, sports, you name it. It is our dream to become parents and give our child a safe, loving, and supportive home. We would provide a supportive learning environment, a place in which to grow and run around—be a kid.



IT IS OUR DREAM TO BECOME PARENTS  
AND GIVE OUR CHILD A SAFE, LOVING,  
AND SUPPORTIVE HOME.







Friends say I am:  
Devoted

Favorite Movie:  
The Matrix

Inspired By:  
My Parents

# meet CAROLINE

I was born and raised a New Yorker and you guessed it—I am a bagel snob! College and medical school and surgical training were all in the Boston area, but I eventually did make it out to California for fellowship (specialized training) as a trauma surgeon. **I am a surgeon, yes, but my schedule is not as crazy as people think!** I have office weeks (which is a hybrid of office and remote) and I'm really thankful to be part of a group that has a lot of moms and dads (in fact there may be more moms than dads and my closest work friends are moms!). It means a flexible work schedule and group mentality. When I'm not operating and teaching (which is half the month), I spend the other half preparing lectures or research since I'm at a university-based hospital.



### What I do in my free time:

When I'm not working, I'm staying active, learning new recipes, and reading and planning our next trip. Lately I've been reading a lot about Asian American culture and the rich stories between generations. Since we're huge multi-taskers, I tend to combine a race with a vacation, the most favorite that comes to mind is a half marathon we ran in San Diego last year that started downtown and ended near the beach—we like to walk a lot and support small businesses and spent the rest of the week hopping around beaches and watching the sunset.

### Why I want to be a mom:

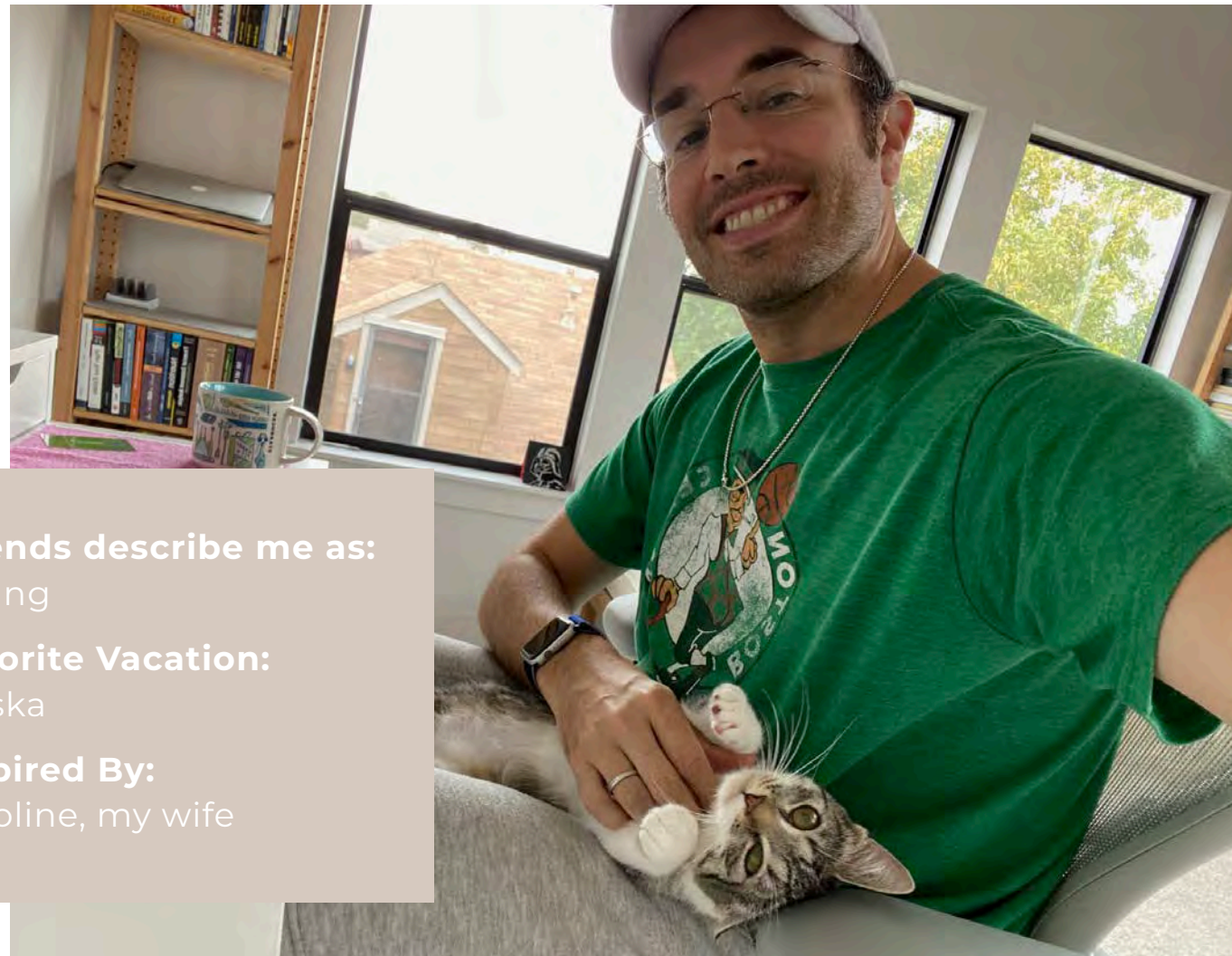
I want to be a mom because I know I am a loving, hard-working person—I care for people all the time at work and each person I care for has a story and leaves an imprint on me—and it's so fulfilling. **I know that being a mom would be a tremendous task but would also be the most rewarding one.**

### Some of my hobbies include:

fitness (running/cycling/pilates), watching football and HGTV



meet **MATTHEW**



**Friends describe me as:**

Caring

**Favorite Vacation:**

Alaska

**Inspired By:**

Caroline, my wife

I was born and raised in Massachusetts, but voyaged to Connecticut for my bachelor's degree. However after graduating, I promptly returned to Massachusetts for a master's degree in accounting and to also begin my career at a public accounting firm. A few years later I went to California with Caroline and then moved to Texas when she finished her training.

During the week, Caroline and I typically get a quick workout in, talk about our day over dinner, and then watch a little TV (we are big sports fans!) before preparing for the next day. During the weekend we really enjoy running by a lake and talking about our future

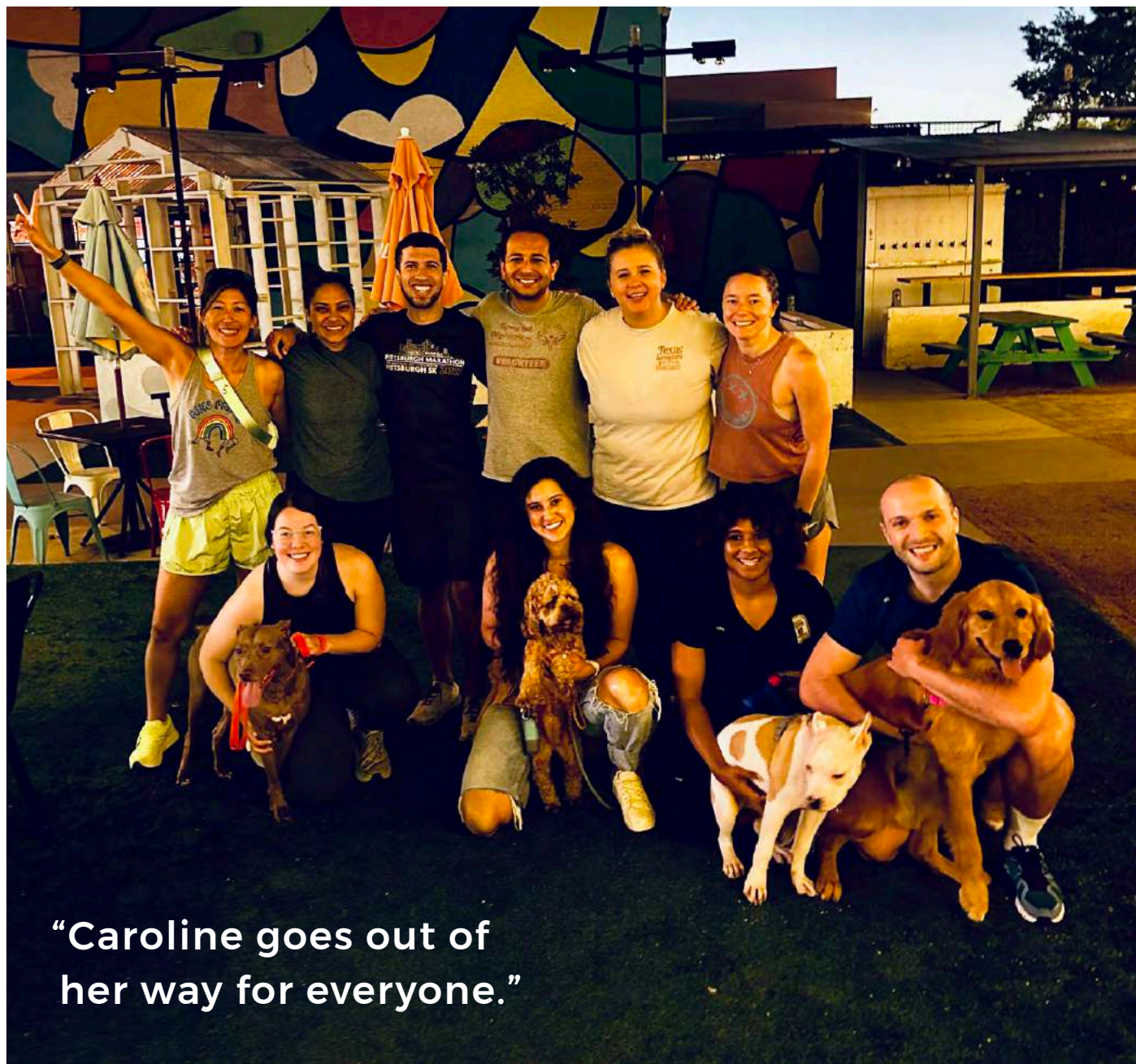
during brunch. We also enjoy window-shopping in malls, supporting small businesses, and walking around garden centers with a coffee in hand. Once back home we're usually playing with our cats and building up our outdoor garden.

**I really want to be a dad to share experiences, provide support, and give guidance to ensure a happy and healthy life. I look forward to spending quality time with them and watching them mature.**



**Some of my hobbies include: running, investing, learning about sustainability**





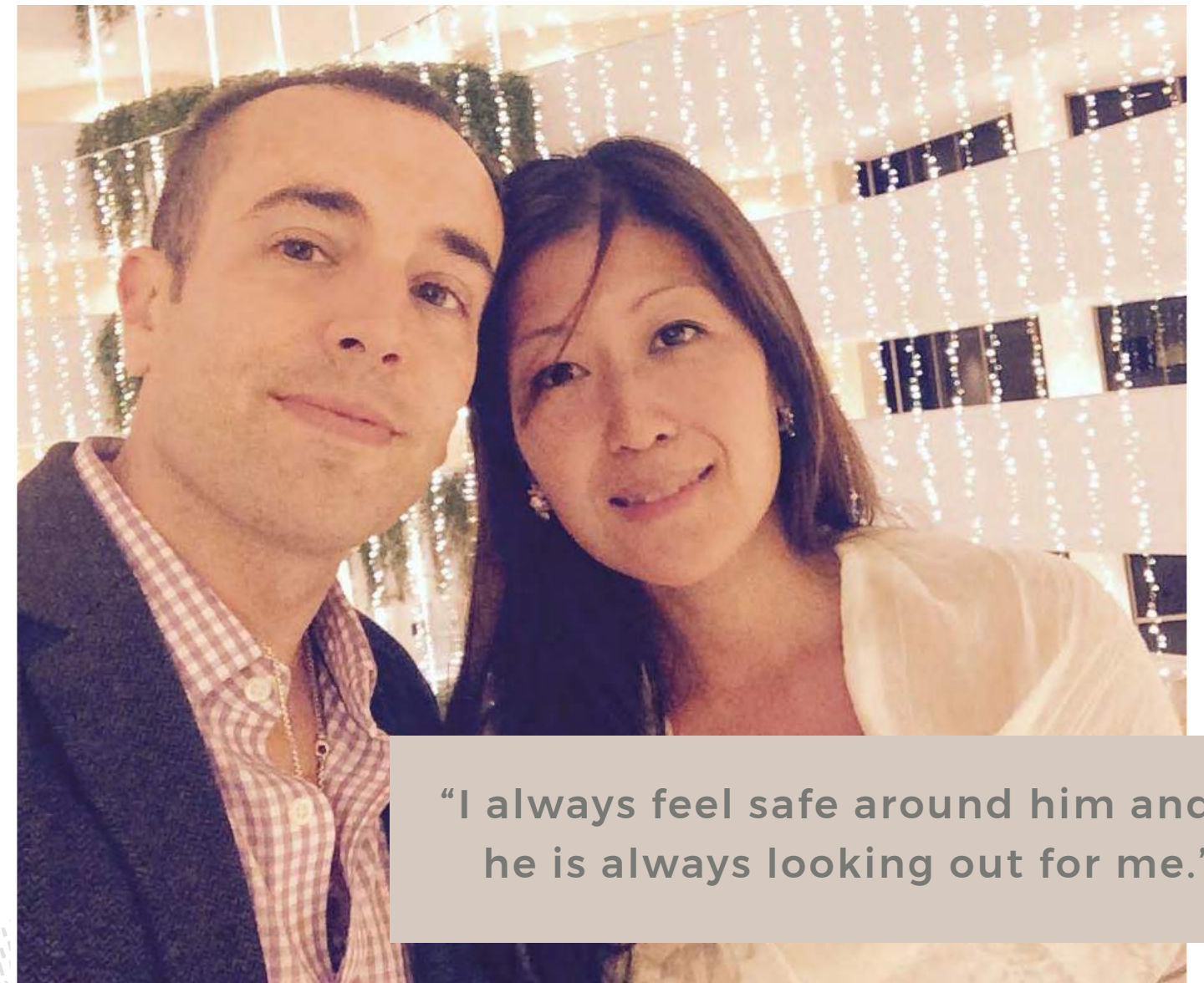
“Caroline goes out of her way for everyone.”

## CAROLINE in Matthew's words

“ Caroline goes out of her way for everyone. Whether it's spending time with a sibling or friend going through a difficult time, buying bagels and coffee for her medical unit on a weekend shift, holding voluntary training sessions for medical students after work, or even making sure the outdoor community cats have enough food during the week, Caroline always carves out time in her schedule to help others. **Her generosity and ability to balance her schedule will make her an amazing mother.**”

## MATTHEW in Caroline's words

“ Matthew is the voice of reason. He is practical, conservative and reasonable. “Let's play it by ear” or “let's add it to the excel sheet!” are popular Matthew-isms. I always feel safe around him and he is always looking out for me. When he has a busy week, he lets me know in advance so we can plan out our schedules and prepare for things instead of reacting to issues. He is the oldest brother, role-model within his family as a brother and husband. **He is doting, careful and kind. He loves to teach and learn new skills, and most importantly, remains so patient the whole time. I know he would be so great at being a father and doing the same for our child. I couldn't ask for anything more!**”



“I always feel safe around him and he is always looking out for me.”



# our HOME

Welcome to our home! We live in a new two-story home in the suburbs. The neighborhood is a mix of diverse families and young couples and a lot of pets! **We chose this neighborhood because of its proximity to an awarded public elementary school. It is also walking distance to a large park and walking/running/biking trail.**



Allow us to introduce our two fur babies (both are sweet little babies and fully vaccinated).

**Vellie** - our first pandemic fur baby who is a little diva but loves snuggles and is the biggest floofball and likes to cackle at the birds.

**Neutron** - our second pandemic fur baby rescue who is a total goof and loves to chase around feathers.



# our FAMILIES

## Caroline's family:

Caroline chats daily with her sister and brother on a group chat called 'Puppies n' stuff' which is...mostly about puppies, but real-life updates and other sibling chatter. **We just told them about our adoption journey and we're so happy to say they are thrilled!** Caroline's sister gets to regularly visit our cousins in NYC and is literally the best Auntie ever. I can't wait for them to meet our future adopted child, whenever that happens. We have annual 'reunions' where we meet and catch-up and it's like we haven't been away at all.



## Matthew's family:

Matthew's parents are retired and live in Massachusetts. We typically catch up on video calls and celebrate Thanksgiving and Christmas in person. **They couldn't be more thrilled about finally becoming grandparents.** Matthew's brother loves cycling so he moved to Colorado for the amazing scenery, clean air, and challenging altitude. We periodically text each other funny throwback messages from our childhood and visit him on our trips to Vail. He can't wait to introduce his new niece/nephew to the Colorado lifestyle.

BOTH OUR FAMILIES WILL WELCOME OUR NEW SON OR DAUGHTER WITH OPEN ARMS.



in our **FAMILY...**



WE PRIORITIZE HEALTH AND THE FUTURE. WE MAKE SURE THAT WE ARE BALANCING OUR NEEDS, PHYSICAL AND EMOTIONAL, WITH OUR WORK.



WE LOVE BEING ACTIVE AND EXPLORING THE WORLD SO WE LOOK FOR HALF MARATHONS AND MAKE VACATIONS OUT OF THEM!

WE ALSO LOVE TO KEEP LEARNING AND GROWING AND CHALLENGE OURSELVES TO KEEP AN OPEN MIND ABOUT CHANGE.

WE WANT TO HELP FOSTER AN ENVIRONMENT AND CURIOSITY OF A WORLD WHERE ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE.







# BEFORE YOU GO

we want you to know

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We understand you have many choices and are grateful you chose to read about us.

## **IF YOU CHOOSE US, THIS IS WHAT WE WILL COMMIT TO YOU AND YOUR CHILD:**

- Honesty - the best matches are when we are all on the same page
- Transparency - we honor clear communication and believe this is a critical aspect to healthy relationships
- Diligence - we are excited to work with our adoption agency in making sure all the right things are done, at the right time
- Compassion - life may throw curveballs, but there is always love and empathy! We promise to maintain compassion and to listen and learn
- Support - this comes in all forms: emotional, financial, psychosocial, and we are ready to provide to your child

**None of this could happen without you. You are a huge part of this journey! Please remember that throughout this time of your life. Support comes in all forms—through friends, family, social workers, caseworkers and whomever you trust to provide encouragement.**

We look forward to communication centered around the comfort level of all families and realize that it is an ever-changing process.

Thank you again for stopping by and listening.



*with love and gratitude,*  
Caroline + Matthew