



thank you
FOR OPENING OUR BOOK



hello there

OUR NAMES ARE CRYSTAL AND ALEC

Thank you for taking the time to read through our profile. We cannot imagine how overwhelming this might be for you but know that we want you to feel seen and that your experience is important to us. It's not easy trying to sum up who we are in a short book, but we will do our best to give you a glimpse into our lives. **We hope to have the opportunity to get to know you too, but we know the decision you make, whether that's adoption or parenting, will be the right decision and you have our full support.** Whatever you decide, whether that is choosing us, another couple or choosing to parent your child yourself, it will be the right decision.

We have been happily together for over 9 years and married for over 2 years. We are both lawyers trying to make the world a better place. Crystal works for a nonprofit law firm where she represents women trying to escape from domestic violence situations. Alec is a criminal defense lawyer and works as a public defender for Dallas County. While our jobs are intense, we work hard to maintain a good work life balance. We both have flexibility in our jobs that allow us to take time off and we rarely, if ever, work over 40 hours a week.

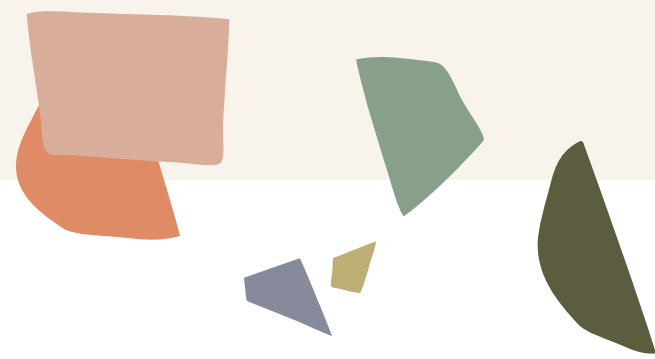
In our free time, we enjoy spending time together traveling, visiting family and trying new things. We have taken various classes together such as pottery and painting. Alec loves to cook and is trying to master the art of bread baking. He also loves games like poker, chess and PokemonGo on his phone. Crystal loves to garden, read and paint. We cook and eat dinner together every night. We don't currently have any children, but we have a dog and two cats that we treat as part of our family and spoil relentlessly. **Alec is a teacher at heart. Crystal is a learner and nurturer. We are very joyful people and can be quite goofy at times.**

We have always shared a strong desire to adopt and it seems the most natural way for us to grow our family. We both grew up in a loving, two-parent home with siblings and through adoption, we desire to share the love we experienced growing up. **We love each other so much and we promise to extend that love to your child, unconditionally. We also promise to laugh with, learn from, and empower your child every single day we are lucky enough to be their parents.**

Thank you again for taking the time to review our profile book. We know you are considering all options and are making the best decision for your child. We hope to be a part of this journey with you and would be honored to meet you.



Crystal and Alec 3



THIS IS OUR love story

In 2012 our passion for helping people brought us together. We met in Texas while working together as attorney advisors for the federal government helping people whose homes and businesses were destroyed by natural disasters. Alec had worked at the agency a bit longer, and was sometimes tasked with training Crystal, spending time with her while showing off his love of teaching. **Alec thought Crystal was very cute and smart, while Crystal was drawn to Alec's intelligence and passion for helping others.** In 2014, Alec built up the courage to ask Crystal on a date to a local museum. There was only one problem...she didn't think it was a date! At the museum, she quickly realized how much he liked her, and we have been together ever since. Alec proposed during the total lunar eclipse in 2017 while on a road trip to get to the ideal viewing spot. We were married in 2021 with a small ceremony in our backyard, surrounded by our closest family and friends.

We are extremely loyal and committed to each other, always supporting the other's happiness and dreams. We have a high degree of mutual respect for each other and believe in each other's potential. We also find one other hilarious, and our home is always filled with laughter and goofiness. **Travel is our favorite thing to do together, and we have traveled across the world and around the U.S.** We also love eating out, watching TV, walking our dog, and spending time with family and friends. On nights at home you can find us enjoying playing card games together and just talking about the world and life.



"OUR HOME IS ALWAYS FILLED WITH LAUGHTER AND GOOFINESS."



why we're adopting

Choosing adoption was an easy decision for us. **We have been together for over eight years and are very ready to share our love with a child and start a family.** We don't take this lightly and are both at places in our lives and careers where we are ready for adoption and the time and attention parenting requires. Adopting a child would add so much richness to our lives. Our dream for our future child is that they feel happy and loved. **We want to raise a child who has the skills to navigate the world and practices empathy and generosity with others.**

In this process, we value openness. We know that there will be difficult times and our child will have questions at various stages of their life. Openness is one of the many ways we will help our child understand where they came from and how their unique personality, strengths, and background fits into the world.



“Our dream for our future child is that they feel happy and loved.”



MEET *Crystal*

FIVE THINGS CRYSTAL LOVES:

- Gardening
- Painting
- Reading
- Learning new things
- Trying things I am going to be terrible at (such as skiing)

I grew up in Sachse, Texas in the same house my dad grew up in. My favorite childhood memories involve playing outside. The house that I grew up in was small and old but we had quite a bit of land. We always had horses, dogs, and cats. The horse that I was given as a gift as a teenager is still alive and lives at my parents' house with their other horse. I visit him often. My brother and I both had go-carts and my dad made us our own go-kart track. We loved racing around the track with our cousins and friends.

I am passionate about making the world a better place for those who are vulnerable and helping women live the lives they want to live. I work as an attorney, providing aid for women in a domestic violence unit. I love my work and feel like it is an honor to advocate and fight for incredibly strong women who are doing everything they can to make a better and safer life for themselves and their children. **I work from home quite a bit and plan on taking as much time off as possible to be home with the baby when they arrive.**



I want to be a mom to share my love and life with a child. I want to help guide a child to becoming the best version of themselves. **I believe that raising a child will be the greatest privilege of my life.**



FAVORITE BOOK:
A Tree Grows in Brooklyn by Betty Smith

BIGGEST CHALLENGE I'VE FACED:
Running for U.S. Congress

MY FAVORITE MEMORY:
Our 34 day trip to Italy in 2022

FRIENDS DESCRIBE ME AS:
Passionate and loyal





MEET **alec**

FIVE THINGS ALEC LOVES:

- Cooking
- Baking bread
- Playing Poker and chess
- Traveling
- Hanging out with my Little Brother (Big Brothers and Big Sisters of America)



I believe helping a child grow and develop will be the best accomplishment of my life and the most rewarding experience I could ever have. I want to be a parent, so I can teach a child and help them learn. I want to share my values and make the world a better place by sharing those values with a child.

My parents moved our family to Dallas, Texas in 1990, from Toronto, Canada where I grew up. It was quite an adjustment for me! I was schooled in Canada in a French immersion school, so I had to adjust to the Texas way of doing things.

I started my own criminal defense practice in 2017. I love helping people and mostly represent people who can't afford a lawyer. **The most fulfilling part is knowing my clients feel they had someone in their corner fighting for them.** I have a very flexible schedule and plan on taking time off to care for our child when they arrive. For fun, I love to play games! My guilty pleasure is playing poker. I play in a tournament once a month and try to outsmart my opponents and sometimes win some money! **I do a lot of cooking, and enjoy exploring different cultures through food and honoring my cultural heritage through its cuisine.** I have recently become obsessed with mastering the art of baking bread and am on a sourdough baking journey. **When I am not cooking, I enjoy spending time with Crystal, exploring the world, talking, or just watching TV on the couch.** I also enjoy spending time with my Little Brother as part of the Big Brother Big Sisters of America program.

FAVORITE MOVIES:
Watchmen and Rounders

I'M INSPIRED BY:
My parents

I'M MOST PROUD OF:
Getting my first "Not Guilty" verdict

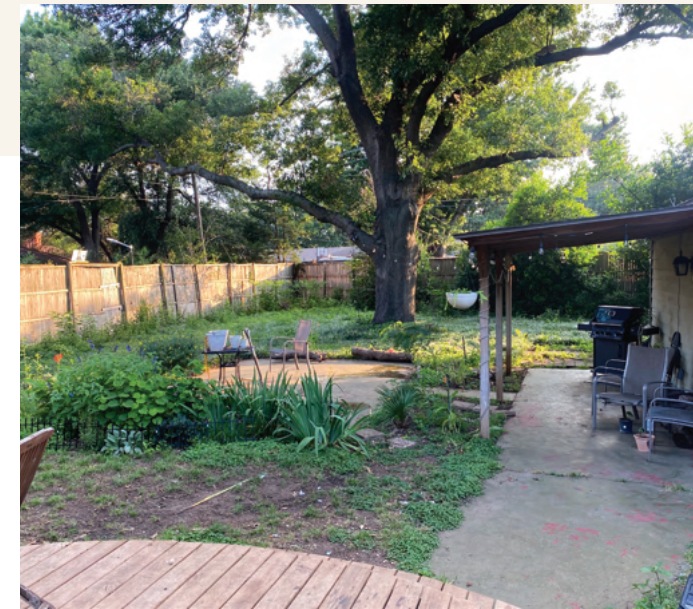
FRIENDS DESCRIBE ME AS:
Smart and goofy



welcome

TO OUR SUNLIT HOME AND TREE-FILLED NEIGHBORHOOD

Our home is in Texas in a nice, quaint neighborhood. Our three-bedroom home reminds us of a cute gingerbread house and was built in the 1940s. It's quite spacious with 1,800 square feet, tons of windows to let the sunlight in, and an open concept kitchen and living room. **Our favorite part of our home is the backyard, where Crystal has put in a beautiful garden that she loves working on.** Alec is a fan of the huge 100-year-old oak trees in our backyard. We recently got a new cedar fence installed that brings us joy and allows our dog to run and play.



Our home is in an established, small, diverse neighborhood. We know and are friendly with a lot of our neighbors, many of whom have young kids. There is an elementary and middle school within walking distance and a few parks nearby. **We love that our neighborhood hosts a variety of activities including movie nights, ice cream socials, and live music. It's a great neighborhood for raising a young child!**

"IT'S A GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD FOR RAISING A YOUNG CHILD!"



our furry friends

MEET ACE, DEUCE, RYLIE AND SPANKY!

We have two 14-year-old cats named Ace and Deuce. Ace is the sweetest cat we have ever known. Deuce is ... less sweet - but still very affectionate! **They are super chill and mainly do their own thing around our home.** We also have Crysta's childhood horse named Spanky that we keep at her parents house.



We also have an almost two-year-old puppy named Rylie (or Reilly depending on who you ask). **She is cuddly and affectionate and loves to meet new people and dogs.** She can be very high energy but is also always ready to take a nap. She is not aggressive and always wants to give licks, even to total strangers.

our families

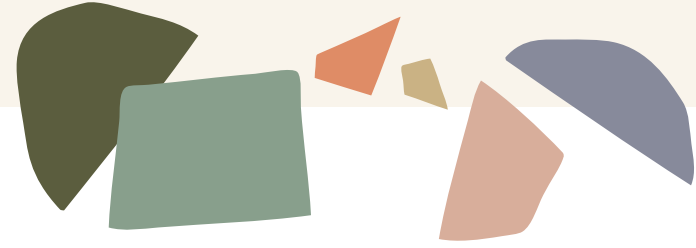
CRYSTAL'S FAMILY:

I am close with my family, who will all be involved in the baby's life. My immediate family includes my parents (still together) and a younger brother. My parents live in a small town about an hour from our house, and my brother lives about 30 minutes from our house. I do not have any nieces or nephews; however, I am very close with one of my cousins who has two sons that are like nephews. **My family is excited for us to welcome a baby into our family, and one of my aunts has already crocheted the baby's first blanket!** My mom and I love to take art classes together and go to dance performances and plays. My dad and brother work together, often on jobs not far from where I live, so we meet for lunch when we can. I see them about once a month and we often gather at my parents' house.

ALEC'S FAMILY:

My parents are both deceased, and I have one older sister who I see at least once a week. **We are extremely close. She lives 15 minutes away and will definitely be part of the baby's life. I love cooking for my sister or going out to eat.** She also loves new experiences, so going out to a play or music event is always on the table. She doesn't have any children, so no nieces or nephews. I don't have any close family otherwise; but fortunately, Crystal's family has become my second family and I know they will enrich the baby's life in addition to my sister. I have a few close friends who I see as family, and they too will be involved with the baby's life.





OUR HOLIDAY traditions

Crystal's favorite holiday is the 4th of July, and traditionally Alec will barbeque before we try to find a good fireworks show to watch. Alec's favorite holiday is Christmas, which for us is very traditional. **We get a real Christmas tree, and then buy a bunch of fruit which we dehydrate and make into ornaments.** It is so pretty, but also environmentally friendly! We visit Crystal's family in the country for Thanksgiving every year, and we celebrate most holidays as the rest of the world does.



in our family...

WE LOVE TO TRY NEW EXPERIENCES WHETHER IT BE TRAVEL, CUISINE, OR CULTURE.

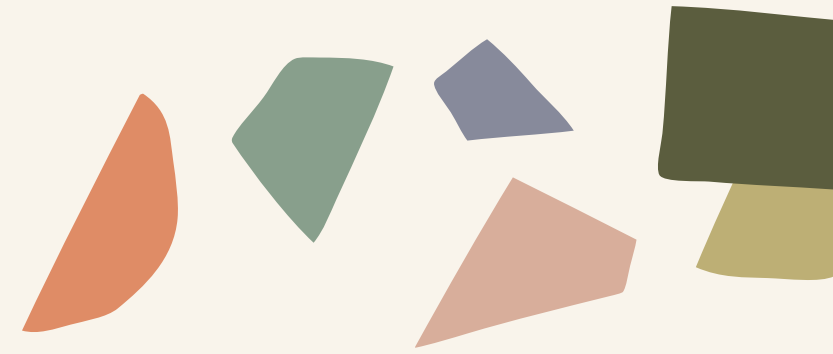


WE LOVE TO LAUGH.

OUR HOME IS TRULY A HOME – COMFY, COZY AND WELCOMING.

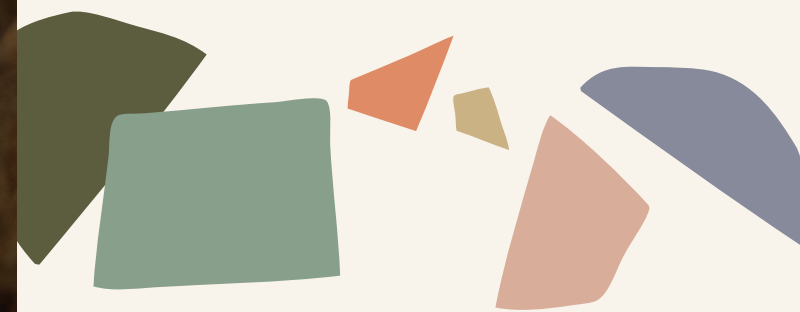


WE VALUE LIBERAL PRINCIPLES OF EQUALITY, EMPATHY, AND UNDERSTANDING.



thank you

FOR CONSIDERING US



before you go...

Thank you so much for taking the time to read through our profile book. Your consideration means the world to us, and we want to assure you that we approach this journey with the utmost respect, understanding, and love.

We want to make some commitments to you as you consider us to parent your child:

- We commit to **loving your child unconditionally**, cherishing every moment, and celebrating every milestone.
- We commit to **providing stability**, a home where your child will feel safe and loved every single day.
- We commit to spending quality time with your child, **creating cherished memories**, and nurturing strong family bonds.
- We commit to fostering an **environment where your child feels heard, valued, and supported**, where they feel free to express their thoughts and feelings without reservation.
- We commit to providing a **safe space where your child can explore, learn, and grow**, free from judgment or fear.
- We commit to **advocating for your child's needs** at every turn, whether it's in educational settings, social environments, or within our own family circle.
- We commit to **creating a sense of belonging**, a place where your child feels embraced, accepted, and loved for exactly who they are.

We understand how important it is that your child has access to their biological family and we desire to stay connected with you, however that might look for us. Your presence in your child's life cannot be replaced and we know that adoption is an extension of a child's network of support.

If you choose us, we promise to shower your child with love, laughter, and endless adventures. We can already envision lazy Sunday mornings spent cuddled up with books, spontaneous singing and dancing in the living room, and baking/cooking all kinds of disasters together. We believe that every child deserves to know they are loved beyond measure, and we are ready to provide that unconditional love to your child without reservation.

Thank you, from the bottom of our hearts, for considering us as potential parents for your precious child. Whatever path you choose, we wish you nothing but peace, love and happiness.



Crystal and Alec