

mary  
& ryan







thanks  
for opening our book





# hello

We are so happy to meet you and grateful to you for taking the time to learn a little about our family. We are Ryan and Mary and we have two amazing children: a 5 year old daughter, Addison, and a 2 year old son, Oliver.

We are honored that you are considering us to be your child's family. We can't even begin to imagine the pain and difficulty of the decision you are making and we hope that you have all the love and support that you need during this time.

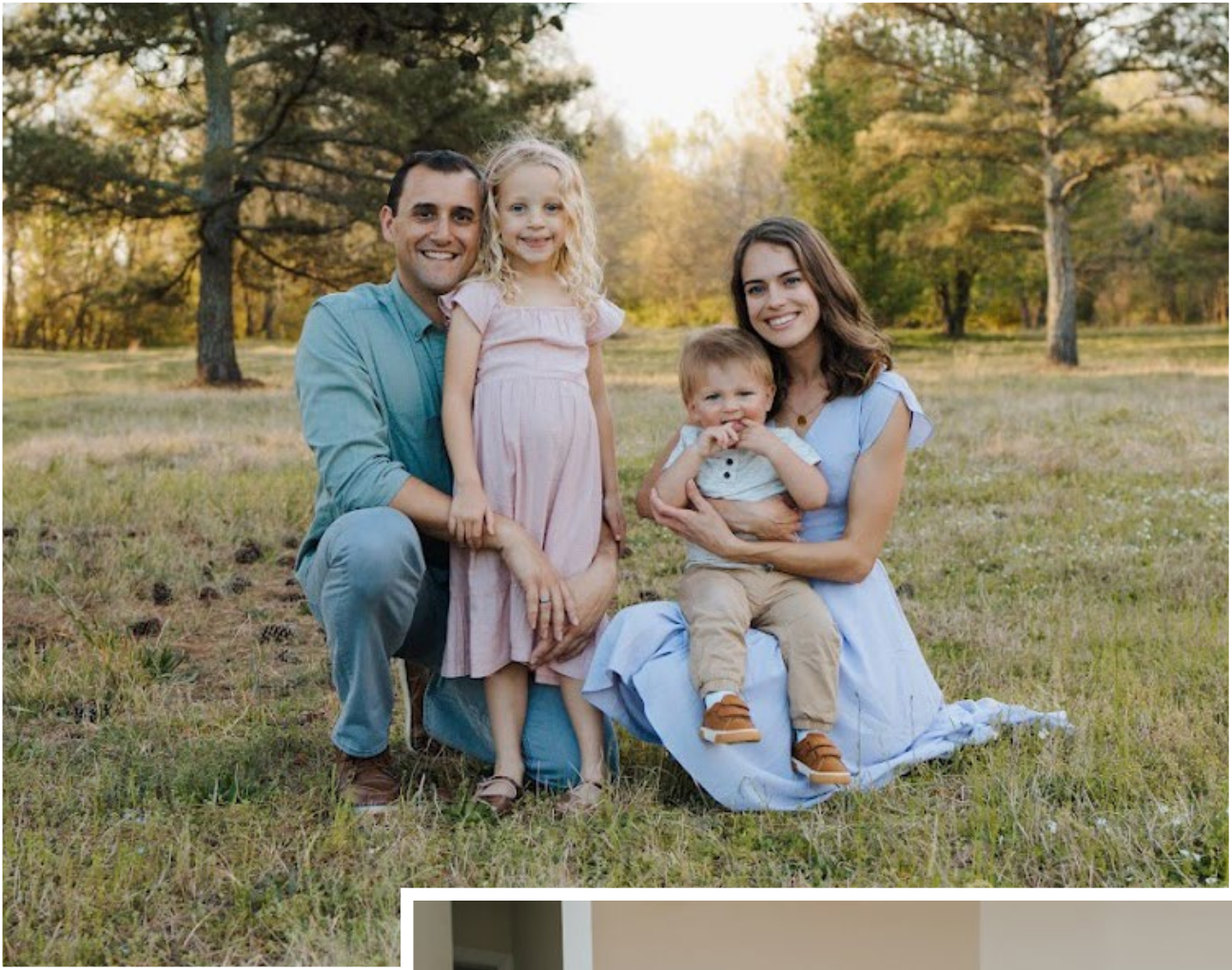
We were blessed beyond measure when our children joined our family through adoption and we have been dreaming of the day our family would grow through adoption again. **If you choose us to be your baby's family we want you to know that we will love you and your child unconditionally for the rest of our lives. We will make sure your child is always provided for and has everything he or she needs to be happy and successful in life. We will always encourage your child to chase their dreams and fully support them in all that they do.**

We hope to have the chance to meet you and get to know you more. We know you are considering all of your options and that you will make the best decision for you and your child. We want you to know that you are in our hearts and prayers as you make this journey and we will support you and love you through it all.

With Gratitude,

*Ryan and Mary*





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# our story

We met in Texas when Mary was in college and Ryan was attending undergraduate pilot training with the Air Force. Mary was drawn to Ryan's personality and easy-going nature from the start. He is the type of person who gets along with everyone and is just fun to be around. Ryan was immediately drawn to Mary's smile and bubbly personality – talking to and relating to Mary was just easy and we fit together right away.

We have been married for a little over 11 years now and we have both grown and learned so much during these years. We have learned to lean on each other in difficult times and to encourage and support each other through good times and bad. **We have learned to live every moment to the fullest and appreciate all the things life brings, from the mundane, everyday moments to the big occasions, because there is beauty in every day if we just look for it.**

Through marriage and parenthood we have learned the importance of sacrifice and putting the needs of others above our own.









why we are

# adopting

We want to welcome another child into our home, raising them with all the love and devotion they deserve and giving them a lifetime of beautiful memories.

Adoption has always been on our hearts, we knew before we got married that we hoped to adopt someday. We do have an infertility diagnosis, but that is not the primary reason we pursued adoption. We have always felt that adoption is the way our family is meant to be grown and it was such an easy decision for us to start that process once we were ready for parenthood. We are so excited to grow our family again and watch our children eagerly step into their big sibling roles. **We love that adoption expands our family by more than a child alone, but also by adding you and your extended family. We always want you to be known and loved in our home and to acknowledge that your story and ours are forever intertwined.**









meet  
**mary**

**FRIENDS SAY I AM:**  
Dependable, genuine,  
caring, and kind

**FAVORITE PLACE:**  
Garmisch in Bavaria,  
Germany (ski town in  
the Alps)

**INSPIRED BY:**  
My parents, their dedication  
and love for their family

My father was in the Air Force so I grew up living all around the world. I loved moving around and living in so many different places helped shape me into who I am today. Living in different countries, experiencing new cultures and meeting people from so many different walks of life gave me an appreciation for the diversity in our world that I don't think I would have grasped as much without those experiences. Of all the places I've lived Texas feels the most like home.

I am a stay at home Mom right now and loving every minute of it. I plan to stay at home until our children are school-aged and then eventually return to work; I hold a bachelor's degree in Nutrition Communication and I hope to work in that field again one day. But right now my days are spent raising our children, playing with them, getting our daughter to kindergarten and working on preschool activities with our son at home. I am so grateful to be able to guide them both as they grow, learn and thrive. I love being at home with our children and





feel so blessed to be able to spend all of our days together. As a Mom, my greatest joy is seeing my kids learn and watching as their personalities develop. Being able to witness their lives is nothing short of amazing and I don't take a minute of it for granted.

**I am very passionate about being an example of kindness and charity to my kids, teaching them to love and be kind to everyone they meet. I want them to learn the value of helping out others every chance you can by practicing those values every day in my own life.**

**HOBBIES:** Traveling, reading, running, hiking, home decorating, cooking, and trivia/board games.



meet  
**ryan**

**FRIENDS SAY I AM:**  
Trustworthy, caring,  
and easy going

**FAVORITE PLACE:**  
Waikiki Beach, Hawaii

**INSPIRED BY:**  
Mary's kindness and  
optimism, my parents'  
devotion to family, my  
brother's work ethic



My dad was also in the Air Force, so as a military family we moved around every few years. Growing up I lived in eight states and got to visit South Korea, England, and Germany which provided an amazing opportunity to experience so many different cultures and meet a diverse range of people! I lived in Las Vegas, Nevada longer than anywhere else in my life, so I call that “home”.

Growing up in a military family let me find my passion in aviation and so I worked to become a pilot in the Air Force and now am an instructor pilot in the F-15E Strike Eagle. I love flying and I love teaching and getting to share that passion with my students. Outside of work, my passion is my family. We enjoy taking little family trips when we can; often to



the beach or other nearby sites where we live. My favorite activity with our kids is riding bikes together which we do often after I am home from work.

That passion for family is why we are hoping to grow ours again. **As a dad, I love getting to watch Addie and Oliver explore new things and see how they learn and grow every day. It's an honor to be their dad and to share my life experiences as they grow while teaching them both how to be kind, respectful people. Our dream is to see our family grow and to have the honor of loving and raising another child.**



## HOBBIES:

House projects, exercising, hiking, traveling, and building model airplanes





## mary in Ryan's words

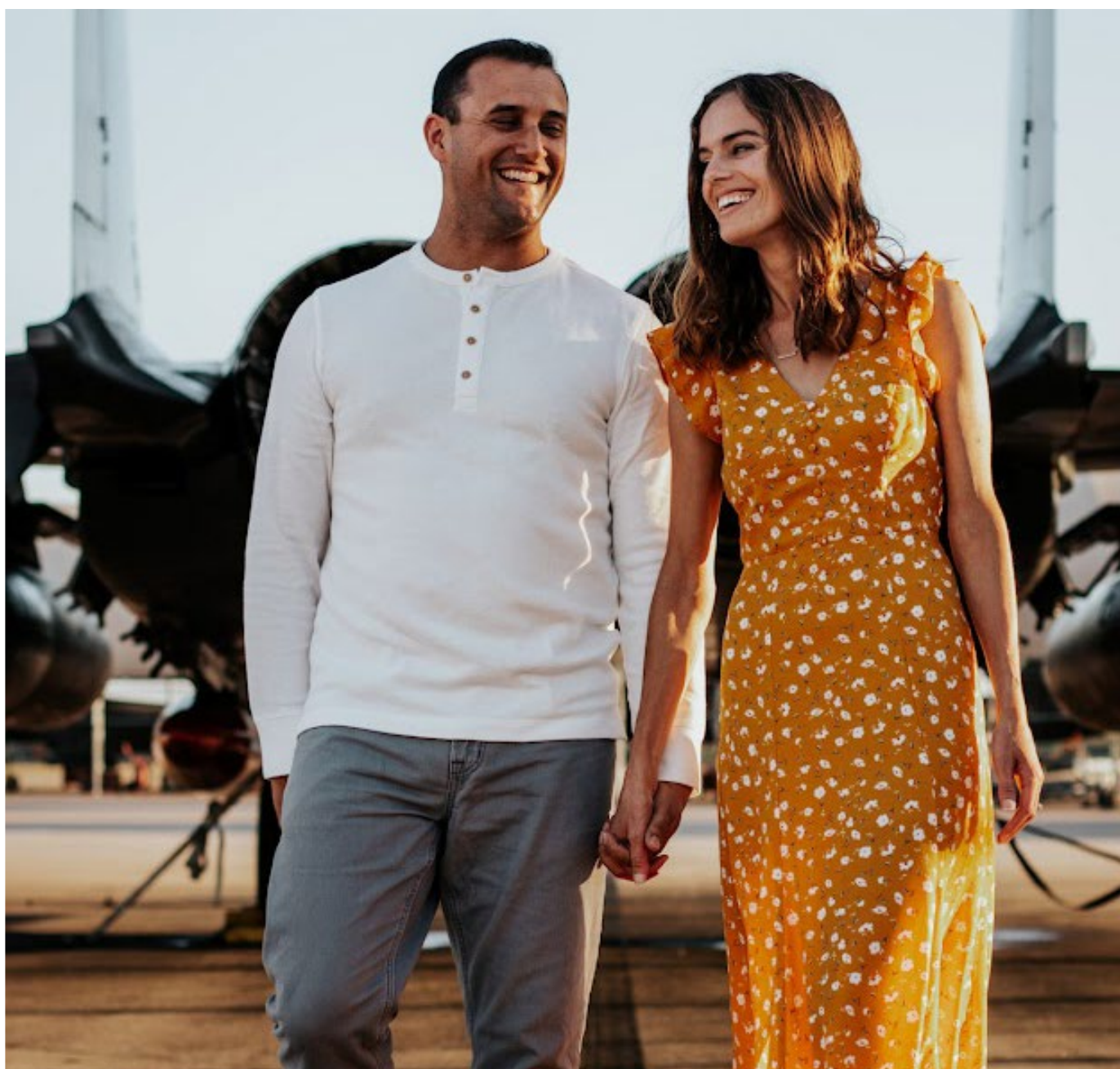
**“Mary is a genuinely good person and always has been. Her kindness, generosity, patience, and compassionate nature define her relationships with everyone, whether it’s someone she just met or her friends and family. These qualities make her an amazing mother as well and she provides a happy, joyful and fun environment for our kids and any future children to learn and grow in, all while imparting those same qualities to our kids.”**



# ryan

in Mary's words

**“Ryan is dedicated and devoted to his family and passionate about everything he does in life. He is the kind of person who works hard and achieves his goals, never giving up on anything.** His perseverance is a great example to our kids of working hard to achieve their dreams. He is happy, outgoing, playful and silly; he and the kids have so much fun together and I love seeing the special bond they have.”



meet

# our kids

Addison & Oliver

**Addison is our beautiful, brilliant, funny & feisty little girl.** She is 5 ½ years old and we are forever grateful that adoption brought her into our lives. Addie is always happy and full of energy – excitedly showing us the cool rock she found, or her latest drawing. She is incredibly smart and has the sharpest memory. Addison loves being outdoors, riding her bike or scooter, being at the playground with friends, and has recently found a passion for coloring and drawing. She has the spirit of a leader and a heart of gold, both qualities which make her friends wherever she goes.

We are so excited to watch Addison become a big sister again and she is so ready to take on that role again. **She is so caring and gentle with babies and toddlers** and is the best big sister and protector to Oliver.







**Oliver is our sweet, gentle, funny and brave little guy!** He is 2 years old and loves telling everyone that. He is as much of an outdoors lover as his older sister and could easily spend a whole day outside. He loves riding his bike & scooter, anything having to do with trains, and trying to keep up with Addie and do everything his “big sissy” does. In his eyes, she hung the moon and he is always thrilled to try and keep up with her. His favorite part of the day is when Addie comes home from school.

**Oliver will be the most amazing big brother. He has a gentleness and sweetness to him that is so endearing.** He loves playing with baby dolls and taking care of them and will cradle them so tenderly when he plays. We love watching his personality unfold a little more every day.



# our home

We live in Alabama near where Ryan is stationed. We live in a well-established neighborhood that is quiet and cozy. Our home has four bedrooms and a dedicated playroom with an awesome collection of toys and books. We have a large, fenced-in backyard where Addie & Oliver love to play on their playset or explore muddy puddles. **The neighborhood is very diverse and is home to a number of other military families as well; including several families with young children. We have several close friends in our neighborhood that we meet at the playground with or hang out at each other's houses.** We love where we live and Addie and Oliver have so many friends in our neighborhood!







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# meet our families

## **Mary's Family:**

I come from a large family (I have nine siblings) and we are all very close with each other. Most of my family lives in Colorado and we visit with them multiple times a year. Addie and Oliver have quite a few cousins close in age that they love spending time with, and they both love their grandparents and all of their aunts and uncles. My family absolutely adore Addie and Oliver and have loved them both from the moments they first joined our lives. They are so thrilled for us to be adopting again and cannot wait to love and spoil another sweet little baby. **When we visit we make a point of going on hikes and outdoor adventures together, but our favorite thing to do is just be together at my parent's house, hanging out in the backyard and making memories together.**

## **Ryan's Family:**

I come from a family of four. My parents still live in Las Vegas, and my brother and his family of five recently moved to Virginia. He's in the Air Force too, so they move a lot as well. Being spread out means we don't get as many visits as we used to, but when we do it's a lot of fun! During those times it's like still being home. There are bike rides, and hikes, and of course trips to the pool when the weather is right. **Addie and Oliver have 13 cousins all close together, so trips home to visit everyone are always so much fun! Both of our families are ecstatic and very supportive of us adopting again and will, without a doubt, welcome any new child into the family with open and loving arms!**

They are so thrilled for us to be adopting again and cannot wait to love and spoil another sweet little baby.





# before you go

## we want you to know

We want to humbly thank you for considering us and taking the time to read and learn about our family. We hope this book has given you a glimpse of who we are and what our family life is like. We know you are considering all of your options and we hope that we will have the opportunity to learn more about you and walk alongside you in this journey.

### **IF YOU CHOOSE US TO BE YOUR CHILD'S FAMILY, THESE ARE OUR PROMISES TO YOU AND YOUR CHILD:**

- Your child will always be loved unconditionally
- We will always maintain the level of contact and openness that you are comfortable with
- You will be spoken of with love and your child will always know their story and roots
- We will always emphasize the importance of education and do all we can to set your child up for success and happiness in life
- We will raise your child with the values of Christianity
- We will be intentional in our parenting and never take a moment for granted

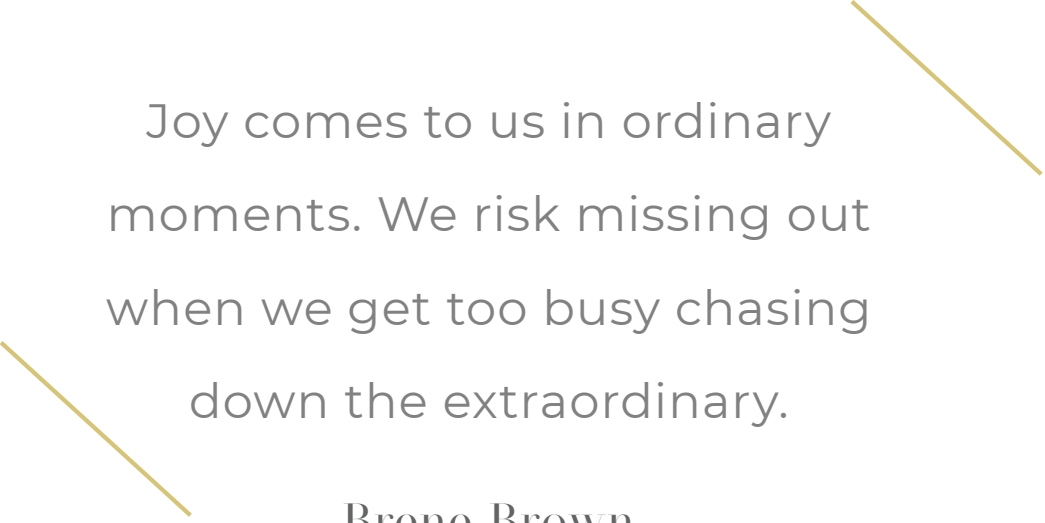
We truly feel that adoption grows our family by more than one person and you will forever be a part of our family as well. We will welcome you wholeheartedly into our lively little family. We are praying for you to have all the love and support you need as you make this decision. We wish you all the best that life has to offer.

with gratitude.

*Ryan, Mary, Addison & Oliver*







Joy comes to us in ordinary  
moments. We risk missing out  
when we get too busy chasing  
down the extraordinary.

Brene Brown