

*Hello!*

*We are*

**RACHEL,  
DAN, &  
LAIKA**



# Rachel & Dan





*Hello,*

As we write this letter, our hearts are full of love and excitement. We know that as soon as we finish this, our lives could forever change in the best way possible.

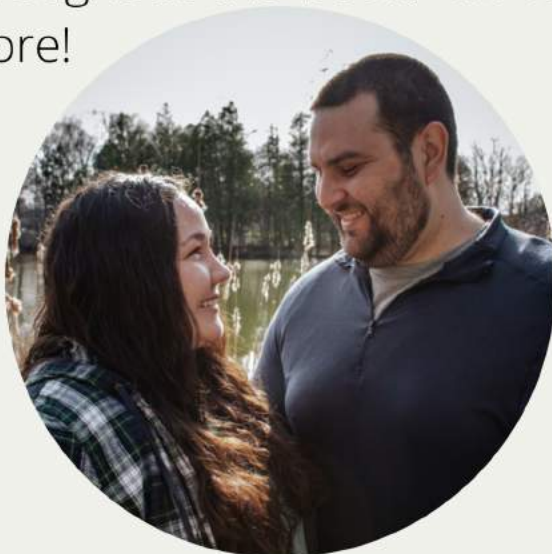
We may not know your name, but we hope you get to know us throughout this book. We have known we wanted to grow our family through adoption since we started dating in college.

We cannot imagine the challenging situation you are in and won't try to. What we want you to know is that we will love every member of our family unconditionally. We are incredibly excited to welcome a new family member into our home.

# About Us

We met heading into our sophomore year of college. Dan went to Milwaukee School of Engineering, and Rachel attended Marquette University. We became quick friends and eventually started dating. We dated from 2011 until 2016 when Dan proposed. We were married in October of 2017, surrounded by friends and family. Dan works as a systems integration engineer, and Rachel is a technical writer.

We both come from loving families and have siblings, which is something we want our children to have too. We have always known we wanted to grow our family through adoption and are excited to add a new member to our pack! Our son Laika was adopted in 2022 and will make a great big brother. We also have a dog and three cats which you will see throughout the book. We love our family and know we have plenty of love and room for more!





# Rachel



# A Little about Rachel

Written by Dan

Rachel is the best person I know. She is kind, loving, and thoughtful and loves reading, coaching, and playing volleyball. You will never find Rachel without a book on her. She is always reading something new.

Rachel is a great mom! She loves Laika with all her heart. She even has Laika being a little bookworm too.

Rachel is our town's high school volleyball coach and is a great role model to those kids. Rachel challenges me to be a better person every day.



# Dan





# A Little about Dan

Written by Rachel

Dan is my favorite person in the entire world. He is my best friend and is an incredible dad. I fell in love with him because he is kind, funny, patient, and a bit nerdy.

Dan has the biggest heart of anyone I know and will go out of his way to help friends and family. He is willing to move mountains for those he loves.

As a dad, Dan is goofy, loving, and snuggly while also being a steadfast and calming presence. I may be biased, but he is the greatest dad in the entire world.



# Laika



# A Little about Laika

Laika is an awesome little 18-month-old. He is so curious and adventurous and wants to help out with everything!

He loves to play, go on adventures, and read before bedtime. Laika plays with our cats, his friends at daycare, and our friends' children his age. His favorite book is "Where is Spot." Laika loves to climb and dance!

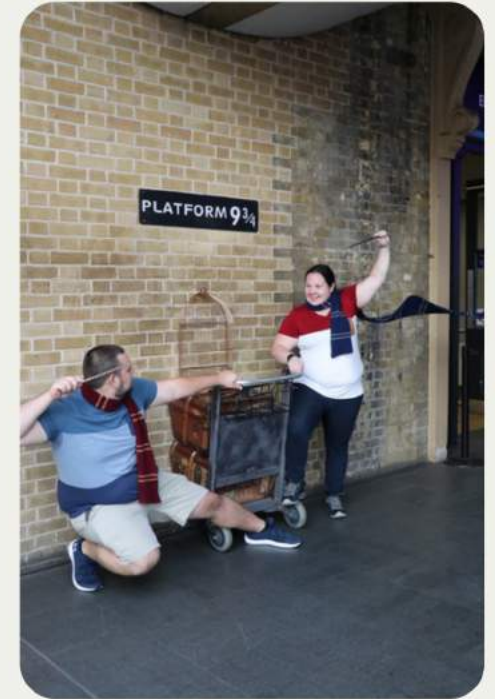
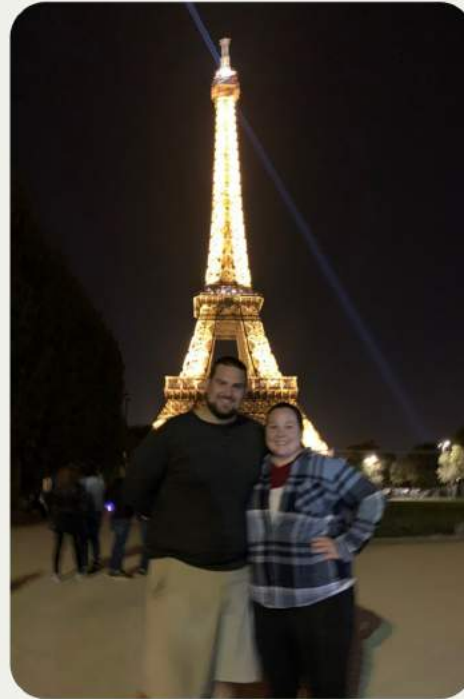
During the high school volleyball season, Laika is in the gym nearly every day! He loves chasing down balls and having fun with the athletes.

Laika loves other kids and will be the greatest big brother. He is very gentle with our pets and loves to give hugs and kisses.

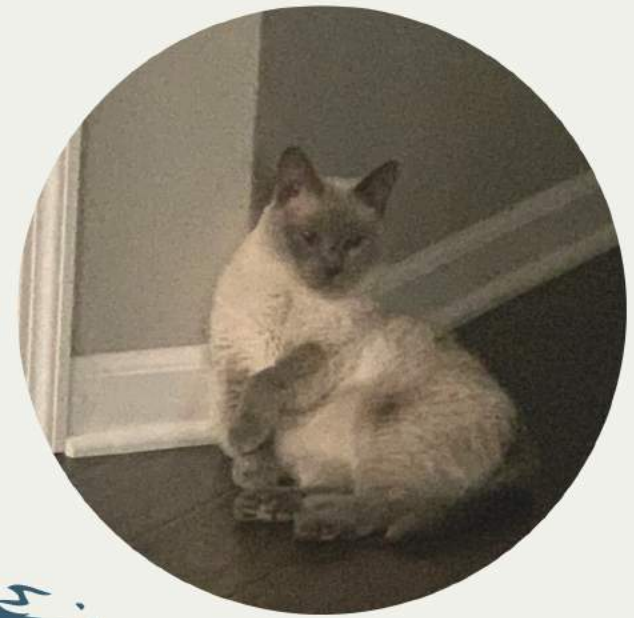


# Adventures

We love to take adventures. Whether we are exploring a local bike trail, backpacking across Europe, or going to sporting events, we have a blast creating new experiences with each other and as a family. We love to be outdoors year-round (even in Wisconsin!). Whenever possible, our son Laika and dog Luna join in on our adventures. We usually go on a few bike trips every summer around Wisconsin. In addition, we regularly hit up local dog parks and beer gardens with our friends and their families.





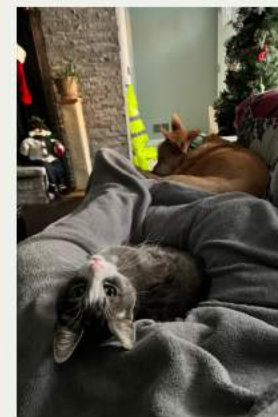


*Our Pets*



We are very passionate pet parents. Our family includes Branson (cat, 17), Luna (dog, 9), Louie (cat, 8), and Sven (cat, 2). All of our pets have been adopted from rescues.

Louie and Sven are best buds who love to wrestle and play before coming to snuggle. Branson prefers to referee and is always ready for a nap on a lap. Luna is a fantastic dog who never leaves our side and is loving and patient with kids.



# Rachel's Family

I have a very tight-knit family. My immediate family includes my mom, dad, sister, Alexa, and her boyfriend, Andrew. We regularly spend weekends biking, swimming at our house, or having a family dinner. My sister and I are best friends and love playing sports, being in book club, and hanging out.

My grandma (95) and grandpa (86) are very excited to welcome a new family member. I am close with my extended family, including aunts, uncles, and cousins. We enjoy hosting Thanksgiving and Christmas at our home.







# Dan's Family

My family is very present and supportive in our life. My dad, sister, aunt, and uncle all live in the same community and are less than a 5-minute drive away. We are very close with my sister, Tiffany, and my dad.

My entire extended family is loving and will never miss an event. We enjoy having my dad over for dinner often.





# Community

We have an incredible community. Our friend group is very close, and we do everything together, from traveling to charity events to checking out local festivals. We love to have themed nights as friends and watch all sports, including professional and collegiate sporting events. Our group will go the extra mile for each other and are willing to drop everything to help each other out. They have been the greatest aunts and uncles to Laika and are excited for a new niece or nephew.







# Our Home

We inherited our home from Dan's grandfather. Dan's grandparents chose this community and built their home in 1972. We were honored to inherit the house and love the community for the same reasons his grandparents decided to raise a family here.

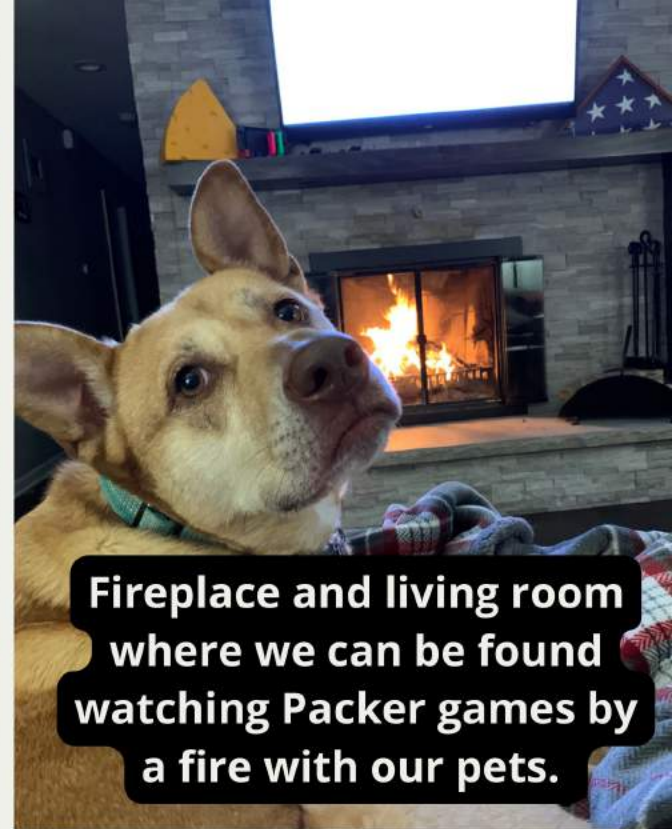
Our community is very diverse. Rachel coaches volleyball at the local high school and we are both very involved with village events. Our home is on a quiet street with many new families and kids. We have an in-ground pool and plenty of grass to run and play. We are close with their neighbors and are proud to call our community home.



**Pool in the back yard where we can be found relaxing most summer evenings.**



**Workout room in the basement.**



**Fireplace and living room where we can be found watching Packer games by a fire with our pets.**



**Our kitchen where we plan to have meals as a family and love spending time with friends.**



**Our home office and library where we work, read, and relax.**

# Thank you!



More than anything in the world, we want you to know that we will love your child unconditionally. We will do everything to provide a joyful, safe, and loving home. We want this child to know their history. You will always be a key piece of their life. We want them to understand your sacrifice and love and appreciate you. This child will be loved by our family, friends, and community. Thank you for considering us.