



## Laura & Albert

We understand that you are in the process of making an extremely important and probably difficult decision. We admire your strength and courage in your selfless act of love for your baby. We would like to share a little about ourselves and our desire to build our family through adoption.

This is just a brief introduction about us and our lives. We hope this will give you at least some idea of the kind of life we can offer a child – a life full of warmth, security and above all, unconditional love.



Our names are Laura, Albert and our daughter, Lucy. We met ten years ago and quickly became good friends. Our friendship developed into a deep love and we were married in the spring of 2003. We have been blessed with a very strong marriage rooted in this love. We have always genuinely enjoyed spending time together, whether relaxing at home, visiting with family or friends, traveling, enjoying outdoor activities such as hiking and bike riding, or taking day trips for local sightseeing. We are also active in our local community and our church, and enjoy participating in their many activities and events.

We had both always wanted children, and we had hoped to conceive early in our marriage. We were also both very open to the idea of adoption, as we had each always known we could love any child as our own, and we had also seen very positive adoption experiences by family and friends. After some time of attempting to become pregnant, it soon became evident that our family was meant to grow through adoption. We heartily embraced this opportunity, and we were enormously blessed to adopt our beautiful daughter, Lucy, when she was born in March 2008. She is a great treasure and has brought so much

meaning, joy and fulfillment to our lives. We are overwhelmingly grateful to her birth mother for having chosen us to be Lucy's parents.



We already talk to Lucy about her adoption, telling her what a tremendous gift she is to us, and how her birth mother loved her so much that she made an adoption plan for her when she knew she would be unable to take care of her.

We own and live in a 3 bedroom house in a historic and very scenic village along the Hudson River in New York. It is a very family-friendly environment; there are many child-focused activities in the village and in the surrounding towns. It is also near enough to New York City to be able to take day trips and enjoy the many cultural, educational and recreational offerings there.

Albert works in New York City as an architect, and is fortunate to have the flexibility to set his own hours in order to maximize his time with his family. Laura had worked in a senior management position at an insurance company on Long Island until we adopted Lucy; we have been fortunate to have the financial security from Albert's job to enable Laura to be a stay-at home mom since Lucy's birth.

We are both very close with our families and see each other frequently. We spend lots of time with our young nieces and nephew, all of whom adore Lucy and are very eager to welcome a new cousin to the family! Our families have been very enthusiastic and supportive about our decision to adopt again, and we are so excited that our new child will be received with so much love and joy upon his or her entrance into our family.

Laura's thoughts about Albert:

When I first met Albert, I was immediately attracted to his sincerity, generosity, kindness and great sense of humor. He is a true gentleman in every sense of the word – he puts others' needs before his own and is always willing to go the extra mile for his family and friends. I knew early on that he would make a wonderful father – he loves children and had always enjoyed playing with our nephew and nieces. I've heard it said about wives that when you and your husband have a child you "fall in love with your husband all over again". This definitely happened to me – Albert is such an amazing daddy to Lucy and I've been privileged to see a whole new side of him when he is with her. He loves playing with her, reading to her and teaching her things like her ABC's, counting and colors. He is a completely dedicated husband and father. And like me, he is very eager to add to our family!

While his character is what impresses me most, I must also mention that Albert is very smart! He has done well in his



job, but more importantly, he has excellent judgement and common sense in ordinary day-to-day life decisions. We rarely argue, as we are both good at communicating our concerns to each other with kindness and humor; Albert has never lost his temper with me (nor with Lucy for that matter). He is a very loving and patient husband and father, and in addition to being there for me whenever I need him, I know he will help guide our children to become well-adjusted, secure adults.

Albert's thoughts about Laura:

As I'm writing this, Laura and I are hanging out at home with Lucy on a Saturday morning. Laura's playing with her as I write this, then when I'm done we'll start planning the rest of our day. Lucy is a little bundle of energy; thankfully Laura and I are pretty energetic too, which is certainly essential to keep up with the natural vitality of a 2-year old! If the weather holds up we're planning to go on an easy hike later with Lucy in our backpack carrier. We all enjoy these outings, and Lucy particularly likes her "bird's eye view" of the world from my shoulders.



Even before Lucy came along, Laura was a natural with our little nieces and nephew and I knew that she'd be a wonderful mother. Laura never loses her patience with Lucy (or with me for that matter, a miracle in itself), and her kind, nurturing spirit pervades our family life and makes our home peaceful and happy.

When I first met Laura in the year 2000, I was struck by the cute dimples on her cheeks. Then I noticed her warmth, honesty, intelligence, and easygoing nature. We clicked right away and always had a lot of interesting conversations and a lot of fun together. Our relationship progressed and we were married on a beautiful spring day in 2003.

From that day on I have definitely been blessed with a very strong and beautiful marriage. Laura is an incredibly loving wife and she's truly my best friend. She has a very optimistic spirit and a great sense of humor; she's very good at not "sweating the small stuff".

We had always gotten along very well, and becoming parents has only strengthened our bond. We tend to be in agreement on most parenting issues, and are able to work through any differences by really listening to each others' thoughts and ideas, and then making a decision together. I'm really looking forward to adding a precious new child to our family, and continuing to grow closer to my wife and children in the years ahead.

Lucy:

Lucy was born in March 2008 and immediately took her place right in the middle of our hearts. She was born 7 weeks premature but "caught up" very quickly. She is very active and has always been very eager to learn everything she can about the world around her. She has a very outgoing, affectionate personality and enjoys spending time with the many children in our town, as well as with our nieces, nephew, and our friends' children. She understands the idea of a baby brother or sister by seeing our friends' families grow, and has been asking and praying to become a big sister soon. She loves little babies and dotes on the

infant son of one of our friends, handing him his “binky” and making all sorts of little silly faces at him to make him laugh. We know she’ll be a wonderful and loving big sister, and will rejoice with us in the addition of a new baby!



In closing, we thank you for taking the time to read about us. Whatever you decide, we truly wish you all the best in making this important decision for your child.

Please feel free to contact Laura or Albert at any time, toll free, at 800-284-5230. Also please feel free to contact our adoption attorney, Aaron Britvan, toll-free, at 800-966-2220 if you have any questions.

