

MATTHEW & BARRY



we are

MATTHEW
&
BARRY

from QUEENS

A PART OF
NEW YORK CITY



ALL SMILES DURING A CRUISE

Dear
BIRTH
FAMILY →

➔ **WE CANNOT THANK YOU ENOUGH** for learning about us and considering us as the parents for your child. We first met each other online in July 2013 and have been married since May 2016. Both of us are deeply committed to our immediate and extended

families and we want to acknowledge from the beginning that you and your family would become part of that circle of love. **It takes a great deal of courage, strength, and even faith to consider open adoption, and we cannot wait to meet you and thank you for the priceless gift you would be giving us.**

FUN WITH GOOFY AND MICKEY



imagining our
LIFE
AS PARENTS

BOTH OF US BELIEVE VERY STRONGLY THAT GROWING UP WITH LOVE IS KEY, AND WE PLAN TO GIVE YOUR CHILD AN ENDLESS AMOUNT OF IT! After reflecting on our own upbringings, we hope to show as much compassion and support as our parents showed us. Faith and religious traditions will certainly be a big part of our child's life, and we look forward to finding creative ways to integrate your family traditions with ours. We believe that an open adoption is in the best interest of a child and, thus, is something that we value highly; we want to ensure that your child has ample opportunity to have a relationship with you and your family to the extent you are comfortable.

HALLOWEEN AT DISNEY



who WE ARE



WE LOVE EXPLORING THE OUTDOORS

➔ **LUCK MUST HAVE BEEN ON OUR SIDE WHEN THE TWO OF US MET**, as we clicked with one another right away; in 3 days, we went from a text conversation to a phone conversation, and then to a first date! Right off the bat, we learned about each other's interests and quickly took an interest in the things that brought each other joy—Matt's interest in public service and Barry's passion for religious traditions. **Early on in our relationship, we knew that this was something special, sharing each other with our extended families after only a few weeks! Three years**

after we met, we got married, and then about 3 years after that we began the adoption process in earnest. Both of us adore children, especially our niece and nephew, and we look forward to raising a family of our own—one that is full of love, laughter, joy, and celebration. Nothing would give us a greater sense of purpose and fulfillment than helping someone discover the world and realize their place in it. And of course, our future child's grandparents are looking forward to their arrival!

hobbies WE ENJOY TOGETHER

- ➔ **WE LOVE TO TRAVEL**—visiting Disney World 2-3 times per year and taking 1 or 2 vacations to other destinations.
- ➔ **MATT LOVES TO COOK**, which means Barry has become very skilled in cleaning up the kitchen.
- ➔ **WE ENJOY CUDDLING ON THE COUCH** as we watch a favorite show or sports game on TV. We love to spend time with family, go to the movies, binge-watch a series on Netflix, and find new restaurants.
- ➔ **WE ENJOY GOING TO COMMUNITY EVENTS**, festivals, and museums.
- ➔ **WE OFTEN HAVE PEOPLE OVER** for a dinner party, or just enjoy spending time with family and friends.



➔ **I STRONGLY BELIEVE IN TRYING TO MAKE THE MOST OUT OF LIFE**, whether that means traveling, sitting on the couch and watching a movie, or participating in a community event. I care deeply about the welfare of others and love to participate in social justice work to affect positive change in the world. Giving 1000% to everything that I do is a fact that I pride myself on, and friends comment to me on how much they appreciate all that thought and effort! I love to laugh, but my sense of humor can definitely use some work; my “dad jokes” often result in lots of eye rolling and shaking of heads. Still, the levity that I bring to a room is often appreciated by all who are there—even if they say otherwise.

meet
BARRY

➔
I HAVE A ZEST AND PASSION
for life!



AT A FOOTBALL GAME

A FEW OF *Barry's* FAVORITE THINGS

- ANIMAL **Dogs & Cats**
- ATHLETE **David Ortiz**
- AUTHOR **Yossi Klein HaLevi**
- CANNOT LIVE WITHOUT **TV**
- CHILDHOOD ACTIVITY **Video games**
- CHILDREN'S BOOK **Sammy Spider series**
- CHILDREN'S TV SHOW **Bubble Guppies**
- DREAM JOB **Walt Disney World frontline cast member**

WITH OUR NIECE AND NEPHEW



Things THAT MAKE ME HAPPY ➔

- ➔ MOVIES
- ➔ A DELICIOUS MEAL
- ➔ TRAVELING
- ➔ PRAISE FROM MY SUPERVISOR
- ➔ HAPPY CHILDREN

➔ **WORK LIFE INTEGRATION**

BOTH OF US ARE LUCKY TO WORK IN JOBS THAT WE LOVE: Matt is a top-tier employee at a company that helps low-income and less fortunate people find jobs, and Barry runs the the education program at a synagogue. Fortunately, both



HANGING OUT WITH R2D2

AT DISNEY'S ANIMAL KINGDOM



meet

MATTHEW



I AM AN EXTREMELY ACTIVE
Person

➔ I AM NOT THE TYPE TO SIT AROUND AND DO NOTHING. I like to spend time with friends and family. I am also a very socially involved individual. I belong to many community and civic organizations. One of my passions is to help make a difference in this world. I enjoy traveling, cooking, and going to the movies and Broadway musicals. I also love to just get in my car and drive. Family is super important to me. I grew up in a close family that always did things together. Even to this day, we see our families often.

of us have supervisors who value the importance of family and have included us in their family weddings! Like any job, ours can be demanding at times, but **we love what we do and know that the skills from our professional roles will help us as parents.**

A FEW OF *Matthew's* FAVORITE THINGS

ANIMAL Cats & Monkeys

ATHLETE Michael Jordan

AUTHOR JK Rowling

CANNOT LIVE WITHOUT Macaroni and Cheese

DESSERT Chipwich

CHILDHOOD ACTIVITY Playing outside with friends

CHILDREN'S BOOK The Rainbow Fish

CHILDREN'S TV SHOW Peppa Pig

DREAM JOB Walt Disney World Imagineer



PUPPY LOVE!



LUNCH WITH OUR NIECE



➔ TRAVELING

➔ COOKING

➔ MY HUSBAND'S HUMOR

➔ FUNNY REALITY SHOWS

➔ BROADWAY SHOWS



WITH BARRY'S SISTER & HER HUSBAND

FAMILY

&
Friends

➔ When we got married, both sides of our family sat together in the ceremony. It was a deliberate attempt on our part to ensure that we showed our loved ones our combined family!

While Matt's mother passed away before the two of us met, his dad is a large part of our lives and we see him regularly—he helps us look after our cats!

Matt's sister, her husband, and our niece and nephew live about 30 minutes away and we see them at least once per month.

Barry's parents, his grandmother, and his sister and her husband all live about 30 minutes in the other direction, and we get together with them, usually for dinner and to watch a big sports event on TV, once a month!



WITH OUR NIECE AND NEPHEW AT DISNEY

And then there are our close friends, whom we regard as family, with Matt's mentor, Debbie, and Barry's friend and colleague, Jim, whom we try to see as often as possible. **There aren't enough chairs in the world when we have everyone come over!**



FAMILY FUN AT DISNEY!



WE LOVE FAMILY TRIPS TO DISNEY



our RELIGIOUS FOUNDATION

We were both raised Jewish and remain committed to raising our children as Jews. In Judaism, we find traditions which keep us connected to our families and friends. We also find a rich history of moral and ethical guidelines to frame our interactions with the world. But we also recognize the importance of honoring your faith, should it be different. **OUR CHILD WILL BE ABLE TO CELEBRATE THE BEST OF ALL RELIGIONS!**

WITH BARRY'S FAMILY





WE LOVE EXPLORING OUR COMMUNITY TOGETHER

where
WE PUT
OUR FEET UP

WE LIVE IN THE
NORTHEAST CORNER
OF QUEENS, AN AREA
OF NEW YORK CITY.

➔ In anticipation of our child's arrival, we recently moved into a bigger apartment in the same building in which we'd been living. Our new home has lots of windows, plenty of sunlight, water views of the Long Island Sound, and brand new kitchen appliances. We have all the creature comforts of home—computer workstation,

TVs, a comfortable couch, pictures, and more! We live in a great neighborhood with excellent schools, lots of racial diversity, parks, a library, community organizations, and restaurants. Even though it's a major urban city, our area feels very much like suburbia!



WE LOVE OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

AND IT WILL BE AN AMAZING PLACE TO
RAISE OUR FUTURE CHILD!

we both enjoy hosting



FAMILY + FRIENDS

at our home and can't wait
to have playdates with our
future child's friends!



THE PLACE WE CALL HOME

MEET OUR *Furry* FRIENDS MILO + ZORRO

Both of us grew up in homes with pets, and believe strongly that they add love to our home. Milo was rescued 9 years ago from a local shelter by Matt's parents, and we proudly took him in! We also had Cali, but she passed away in April 2020 at the age of 16. We quickly noticed a void in our home with one cat, and a month later we adopted Zorro, an affectionate and playful tuxedo-colored short hair breed. Milo is quite familiar with children, as our niece and nephew, Mia and Ryan, come over to visit quite often; we anticipate that Zorro will share the same love with children that she shares with us.



ZORRO HAS MADE HERSELF AT HOME

MILO IS A LOVING CAT



Thank
YOU!



WE CANNOT THANK YOU ENOUGH FOR TAKING THE TIME TO LEARN ABOUT US AND CONSIDER US AS PARENTS FOR YOUR CHILD. **Being parents and having a family is a dream for us, and your faith and belief in us will help to make that a reality.** We cannot begin to process what it must take for you to create an adoption plan, but being your partners in this journey is something that we look forward to with great anticipation.

WE WOULD *Love* THE OPPORTUNITY
to meet you and provide a loving home
FOR YOUR CHILD!

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