



# Christine – and – Luke

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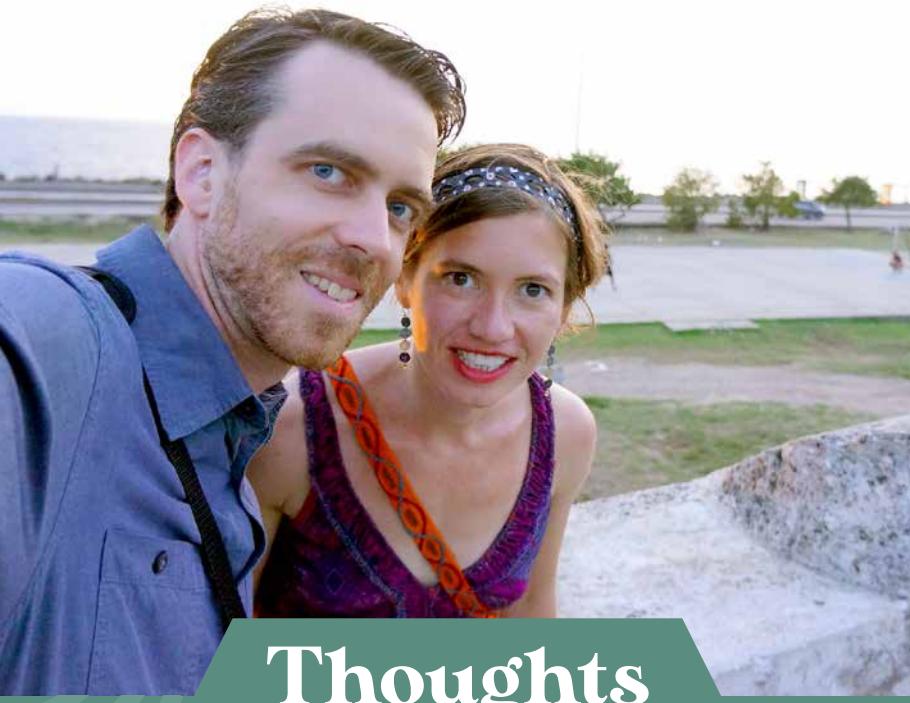


HELLO!

## Thank you

so much for the opportunity to share a bit about our family. We wish you well **as you decide what feels right for you and your child.**

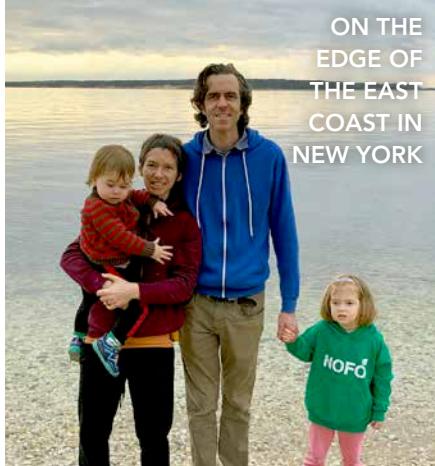
Each member of our family is excited to be on the adoption journey, and we welcome the chance to build a relationship with you at whatever level you feel comfortable.



## Thoughts on Parenting

WE ARE TRYING TO RAISE CHILDREN WHO RETAIN THE BEST PARTS OF CHILDHOOD AS THEY GROW: WONDER, CURIOSITY, SILLINESS, AND EASY LAUGHTER. Daily, we attempt to cultivate empathy in our children, for each other and us, but also for the new friends they make and the strangers they meet. We want our children to be self-confident and grounded, to trust themselves. We hope that as they grow into adulthood, they try to do good in the world they encounter.

ON THE  
EDGE OF  
THE EAST  
COAST IN  
NEW YORK



## Our Story

WE FIRST MET IN 2002 AT A TINY RALLY OPPOSING THE WAR IN IRAQ. On the surface, we connected through quirky books and movies but underneath we had an immediate love for each other that we've nurtured for 20 years. We've held each other's hands through highs and lows, including countless moments of joy with our children, preceded by two very complicated pregnancies. **Both the highs and the lows have reaffirmed our desire to grow our family.**

WE ARE THRILLED TO START  
OUR ADOPTION PATH!



WE'VE BEEN ON  
MORE HIKES THAN  
WE CAN COUNT!



FAMILY FUN AT OUR ANNUAL BLOCK PARTY

## Home Sweet Home



WE LOVE WHERE WE LIVE. OUR HOUSE IS A WARM AND INVITING PLACE THAT IS OFTEN FILLED WITH THE LAUGHTER AND NOISE OF PLAY-DATES, COUSIN SLEEPOVERS, AND FAMILY DINNERS.

We are lucky to have a yard that has room for bouncy castles and slip and slides, but also wildness that hides a tucked away "fairy land." We love that we're a short walk to the beach and woods, and a quick train ride away from NYC. Our town has Asian, Latino, and Jewish communities, and our neighborhood is filled with young families.



HIKING NEAR  
OUR HOME



## FUN FACTS ABOUT CHRISTINE

TRAINING for the  
NYC marathon

Learning how to  
PLAY THE PIANO

PERFECT DAY: Going  
to a fall festival with  
my family

Favorite place to take  
our kids: WOODS OR BEACH

I have a massive  
PEZ COLLECTION!



## About Christine

BY LUKE

HAPPY AT  
LEGOLAND



CHRISTINE IS VASTLY OPEN AND CURIOUS, AND HAS A KNACK FOR FINDING NEW AND GOOD THINGS IN THE WORLD. SHE IS AN AMAZING MOTHER: **CARING, CURIOUS, CREATIVE, AND LOVINGLY PRESENT TO OUR TWO CHILDREN.**

She supports their fun-loving ideas, which results in "grocery shopping" trips from the living room to the playroom, silly characters like "Stinky," and just a world of imagination that fills our home. We've lived in our community for four years, and she has led the charge making new friends, for our children and for our whole family. She is involved in a parent collective that aims to promote the cultural, linguistic and racial diversity of our school district by **ensuring equity and inclusivity**. Most importantly, Christine knows how to laugh until she cries.

← HOLIDAY BAKING WITH SAMAYA



RELAXING AT  
THE BEACH

LUKE IS THE BEST OF THE BEST. HE'S  
**THOUGHTFUL AND GENEROUS** AND ALWAYS  
QUICK TO SUPPORT ANYONE IN NEED.

## FUN FACTS ABOUT LUKE

Speaks **ENGLISH**  
AND SPANISH  
—  
Can't live  
without  
POTATO CHIPS  
—  
Sport to play:  
BASKETBALL

PERFECT DAY: no  
plans, let the  
day unfold

—  
Hobby:  
learning  
about PLANTS

Over the years we've been together, I've witnessed him go out of his way to support a friend or family member through a difficult period countless times. These qualities combined with his **endless energy** and affinity for silliness makes him an incredible father. On an almost daily basis, he builds elaborate pillow forts, wakes up at all hours of the night to soothe a crying child, and embraces ANY feeling our children might have. When our kids' friends come over, they often look for "Mr. Luke," because he's so **fun-loving** and energetic.

## About Luke

BY CHRISTINE

ADVERTISING OUR  
YARD SALE WITH  
THE KIDS



# Our Family

GRATEFULLY, WE ARE CLOSE WITH BOTH OF OUR FAMILIES. It's rare for a week to go by without seeing some mix of Christine's mom, brother, sister, in-laws, & 8 nieces and nephews. **Kid performances**, lechon made by our Cuban sister-in-law, BBQ, and **water fights** are standard when we gather. Luke's parents are **present, loving, and devoted** to their grandkids. They saved us by moving in during the pandemic and now visit monthly. Samaya and Eli love the endless arts and crafts, walks, and matchbox car races from room to room.



CARROTS AND CRACKERS ON A ROADTRIP STOP

WE SPEND A WEEK EVERY SUMMER IN WEST VIRGINIA WITH CHRISTINE'S FAMILY



HIKING WITH LUKE'S PARENTS

## Our Kids

SAMAYA is an imaginative and thoughtful five year old. She LOVES all things art, climbing, and tae kwon do. Samaya is an incredibly **devoted** and **protective** older sister and is **longing for another baby brother or sister!**

ELI is a **friendly, energetic** 3-year-old. Some of his happiest times are going on walks, playing with cars, and cuddling up with a pile of books. He **LOVES babies**, and is eager to have a younger sibling.

## In Closing →



HOT AIR BALLOON RIDE!

THANK YOU FOR  
TAKING THE  
TIME TO GET TO  
KNOW US.

It means the world to be considered. We embrace the chance to learn about you, your hopes and dreams for your child, to share photos and updates, and to visit with you. **We will meet you at your comfort level** when it comes to how open you want to be. We promise that your child will know where they come from and we will speak about you with love and respect. **WE WISH YOU PEACE AND STRENGTH, NOW AND ALWAYS!**

## WHAT WE DO FOR WORK

CHRISTINE WORKS AS A PART-TIME PSYCHOTHERAPIST. She helps people process their trauma and grow their capacity for positive experiences. **She loves her work**, and also how her part-time schedule affords her so much time with the kids. LUKE IS A RESEARCHER AND WRITER AT A UNIVERSITY, and is elected to run the political department of the union that represents the faculty and staff. He loves that his flexible schedule enables him to be a **full and present parent**.

A LOVELY FAMILY HIKE  
IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

