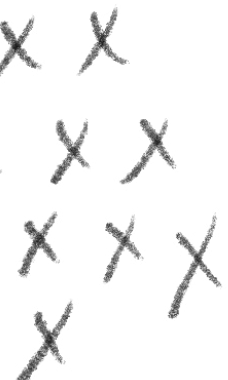




— KERRI + JAMES —



# HELLO

Thank you for taking the time to get to know us through the pages of this book.



Falling in love with each other was the best experience of our lives.

We don't know what it's like to be in your shoes, but we see you and we honor you for making a decision that is right for you. Regardless of if you decide to parent or to place your baby, we are full of gratitude to have this connection. **You are so loved.**

We are excited to become parents and to start our family. Our journey hasn't always been easy, but it has been full of love and commitment to each other and the family we want to create. We started our journey of trying to get pregnant two years ago, but we haven't been able to conceive on our own. While it's been a disappointing (and overwhelming at times!) process, about a year ago we decided that adopting children is an option that feels good in our hearts. **It would be the greatest honor to be chosen to love and parent a baby.**

One thing that we've learned throughout the years is that life is not perfect - it is full of twists and turns, good times and bad, heartache and joy. And no matter how hard we try... we aren't in control of what's happening here. We are full of trust and hope about our story. It is a humbling experience for us to think about being chosen as adoptive parents - something that will change our lives forever.

# OUR STORY

Our story together began with a kitchen island! In 2016, after recently moving to Arizona, I (Kerri) was looking for someone to help build a kitchen island for my home. A friend told me about a guy who owned a custom furniture business, and I decided to reach out to him. When James walked through my door the first time there was an instant connection! He built me a beautiful piece of furniture but then we parted ways. Six months later a friend asked if she could set me up with someone and by sheer luck that person was James! We went on our first date a few days later. **By our third date, we both knew we wanted to walk through life together.**

Falling in love with each other was the best experience of our lives. We got married exactly one year later under a full moon, surrounded by our closest friends and family. It was a weekend full of love, laughter, joy, and togetherness!

**The kitchen island has become the heart of our home. It's where we gather with friends, share conversations over morning coffee, enjoy homemade pizza on Friday nights, remember how our story together began, and dream about what comes next!**

We appreciate you spending time with us by reading through the pages of this book. It is a privilege to connect with you.

WITH LOVE,

*Kerri & James*



Met

First Date

Engaged

Married

October 2017

May 2018

February 2019

May 2019

# MILESTONES





# MEET KERRI

**Friends say I am:** Loving, generous, supportive

**Inspired By:** The beauty of this life

**A few of my favorite things:** Being in nature, fresh flowers, reading + learning, traveling + exploring, spending time with friends and family & going on morning sunrise walks



I grew up in a small town in Ohio. Over the past twenty years, I've established a career focused on building and running businesses and leading teams of people. Presently, I work as the Vice President for a tech start up. I am also currently in two training programs to further my education in Soul work, which is focused on understanding the unique and individual worthiness of a person and helping them live their very best life.

**My purpose is to be a vessel of love.** This shows up in the way that I love my life, how I love people, and how I love my connection to something greater than me. I am passionate about doing things that bring me joy, simply for the sake of bringing me joy!

I want to be a parent because I want to support and guide another human through life. I want to nurture their inherent gifts and raise them to know that they are worthy of any dream they have for their life.

**I want to be a parent who shares unconditional love.**



## KERRI IN JAMES' WORDS...

"What I love most about Kerri is her kindness, positivity, and capacity to love. She is so excited about being a parent. She will go above and beyond to be understanding and nurturing, while still teaching and guiding a little human."



# MEET JAMES

**Friends say I am:** Hard working, funny, smart, creative

**Inspired By:** Music

**A few of my favorite things:** Woodworking, playing the guitar, listening to records, being out in nature & art

I grew up in a small town in Northeast, Ohio. Growing up, I loved playing in the woods surrounded by trees and swimming in the lake. Presently, I own a small business and am proud of the brand I am building, which is inspired by music. **I am a maker and designer and enjoy bringing new ideas to realization.** It is an honor to get to create products and pieces of art that add enjoyment to people's lives. I'm passionate about creativity, music, the arts, engineering and design.

**I can't wait to be a parent!** I am excited to share with a child the things I've learned, to support them in the things they love, and to encourage them to continue to learn and grow. **I'm looking forward to creating a new life as a family.**



## JAMES IN KERRI'S WORDS...

"What I love the most about James is his kind and generous heart, his open mind, his creativity, and his sense of humor. As a dad, I believe James will have a deep and loving connection with his kids. He will keep them safe, love them fiercely, and join them in exploring an imaginary world where creativity comes to life."

# OUR HOME

We live in Arizona in a three bedroom condo. **Our favorite part about our home is the way it feels when we are in it!** We love the environment we have created because the design is simple and we've filled it with some of our favorite things -- a gold velvet sofa, art and furniture made by James, a vintage guitar, a record player, and our growing collection of our favorite albums.

We live in a small condo community that has four buildings positioned around a pool and palm trees. Our neighbors are lovely, a mix of ages and backgrounds. There are a few families with young kids in our complex. Our streets are walkable, with locally owned restaurants two blocks away and two parks nearby.

We are excited to start our family here and look forward to moving to Texas soon, so that **our kids can grow up closer to their cousins, Aunt and Uncle, and Grandparents.**



In our family we love each other unconditionally



In our family we we are creative and have fun



# OUR FAMILIES

I (Kerri) am really close to my family! My parents and my sister and her family live outside of Dallas, Texas. On my side, we have a nephew (12) and niece (7) who we love dearly! **We visit them in Texas about once a month and also spend holidays and go on Summer vacations together.**

I (James) am an only child. We get to see my parents often, because they live in a suburb of Phoenix. **We love to get together for meals and to play games.**

Both of our families will be involved in the baby's life. **They are very supportive of our decision to adopt and are so excited for us to grow our family!**



We are so excited to start growing our family here



# BEFORE YOU GO

## WE WANT YOU TO KNOW

Thank you for taking the time to get to know us. We hope that through the pages of this book you've been able to learn about our big hearts, our love of life, and how important it is for us to raise kind, creative, fully expressed, loving children. If you move forward with a plan to place your baby for adoption, and if you choose us, these are the commitments we will make to a child:

- To love them unconditionally for who they are
- To honor their background, story, and biology, and celebrate their unique identity
- To nurture their unique interests, talents, and passions
- To raise a child to know that they are worthy of their biggest dreams and they are here to bring their gifts to the world
- To create a safe, supportive, loving home and community for them
- To focus our family time on having fun, being creative, listening to music, going on adventures, communicating honestly, and truly experiencing the joys of life

**It's not lost on us what a big decision you have to make, we are thinking about you and sending love to you every day.** While we don't know what it's like to make a choice like this, we do know what it's like to face a big challenge. In moments of challenge in our own lives, we've learned that getting quiet and connecting to our highest selves has always allowed us to make the best next decision. Taking care of yourself, listening to the voice in your heart, trusting your own inner wisdom - those are the ways that we navigate challenging times, and we offer that to you as a way to send our support. Oh, and music.... listening to our favorite songs or records has always helped us through our toughest times. **We really hope we get to meet you. You are so, so loved.**

WITH LOVE,

*Kerri & James*

If you would like to speak with us or have any questions for us, please contact your case worker at AdoptHelp by calling 1-800-637-7999, toll free.

