

Ryan and Emily

A Loving Adoptive Family

est. 2013



Hello!



Thank you for reading our story and for entrusting us with your beautiful child. We will provide a home built upon unconditional love, stability, and security. We will strive to be supportive and nurturing daily. It is also important to include fun, spontaneity, surprises and room to grow, and we believe this balance will provide a home life that is stable, safe, balanced, healthy, fun, and rooted in love. We are so excited to welcome a little one into our home!

We look forward to sharing our interests and hobbies with our child. We enjoy camping, hiking, traveling, and cooking. Ryan is excited to share his love of surfing, reading, swimming, history, writing, and playing the ukulele. As a former pastry chef, Emily loves baking with her nieces and nephews and is excited to impart her love of food and baking. Emily is also eager to share her penchant for arts and crafts, including crochet, needlework and sewing. We both love music and enjoy listening to albums on our record player on Sunday morning. We enjoy watching movies, going on picnics, going on bike rides, and family dinners.

We are fortunate to live in a cozy beach cottage two blocks from the beach in California. We share our home with our six year old dog, Otis. He is a poodle-terrier mix and he loves children of all ages, especially the ones that will play catch with him for hours! The weather here allows us to spend most of our time outdoors. We have a community area with BBQs right across from our house where we spend time socializing with family and friends. There are two parks half a block from our house, complete with a playground, tennis courts, handball courts, basketball courts, and a community center. Our small town is very family oriented and we walk almost everywhere since the library, grocery store, restaurants, and year round community events and festivals are all just a short walk away. The local school district is excellent with lots of parent participation. It is a wonderful place to grow up!



Our Story

We met in college and have been together for twenty years, and married for ten of those years. We were married underneath the redwood trees in Southern California in the middle of summer, which is our favorite time of the year.

Having navigated the ups and downs of adulthood together, we are each other's best friend. While we are very different people (Emily learns the life story of strangers at the grocery store while Ryan memorizes poetry on hikes in nature), we share the same interests and hobbies. We also both have a genuine love of living large and experiencing the world. Together, we achieve balance, draw out each other's strengths, and provide unwavering support. Above all, we are each other's biggest fan and steadfast companion. Our love and appreciation for one another is immeasurable, and we are thrilled to have a strong partner with whom to navigate the journey of parenthood.

We both love experiencing new places and new things but we also enjoy being home and the comfort and routine of our own cozy household. We have flexible work schedules with a lot of time spent working-from-home. It is common to find Emily in the kitchen cooking or baking something delicious and Ryan in the water, surfing or swimming. We spend every meal together and enjoy quiet evenings reading, crocheting or watching a movie. Weekends are full of social activities with family and friends, backyard BBQs and birthday parties. A three day weekend will find us either working on a fun project around the house or on a quick overnight trip to the mountains or the desert. We love road trips and all forms of travel and hope to teach our children to love it as well.



Meet Ryan

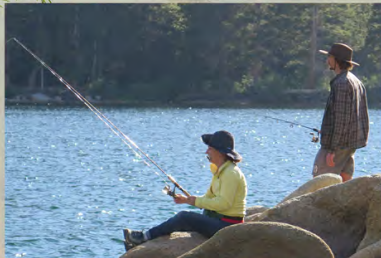
Ryan has been teaching history at the high school and community college levels for almost ten years. He loves igniting a spark in his students, uncovering a passion for stories, and cultivating critical thinking.

We are both service-oriented at heart in our vocations and we value finding meaning and purpose in our professions, as well as in our daily lives.

We are excited to foster creativity, imagination, and curiosity in our child. We will teach them a love of nature, people, and culture. We will make every opportunity available to them to help them become a vibrant and thriving individual.

What Emily Says...

"Ryan is easy-going, thoughtful, adventuresome, athletic, intelligent, calm, grounded, fun, silly and devoted. He is always making me laugh. He makes everything lighter and more fun with his playfulness and humor. He is very athletic and loves to be active. He played baseball growing up and surfs every day. One of my favorite things about Ryan is that he is a learner. He is always reading and listening to podcasts. He loves to learn about anything he doesn't know about, which makes him the best travel companion and the best life partner. My absolute favorite thing about Ryan is how deeply devoted he is to me and our relationship. I know he will be a devoted and loving father to our child."



Meet Emily

Emily has been working in development for a non-profit health organization for five years and works primarily from home. She loves raising money and planning events for an important cause and is very passionate about being an advocate for people with chronic disease. She volunteers every summer with a kids camp for heart patients and is also an advisor to a young adult group. Among our family and friends, we have a large community of young people who we are actively involved with. We go to baseball games, dance lessons, plays, Christmas performances, birthday parties and more! We love having our nieces and nephews over for sleepovers at our house or special one on one dates.

Emily grew up in a family with a strong church tradition and we both value the role of a church family in creating a community and supporting shared values for our child. We currently attend a community church within walking distance of our house. Our church has a vibrant youth program with a lot of young families. There are other adoptive families in our church and we know our family will be lovingly supported in our community.

What Ryan Says...

"I can't wait to see Emily as a mother. Emily is the kindest, most generous, and selfless person I have ever known. Emily is so loving and thoughtful. She is the kind of person who, no matter how stressful her day has been, will reach out to her family and friends to ask how they are doing. Emily will be such a loving and fun mom. She is all about the simple pleasures in life, laughing, playing games, going for a walk, hanging out with friends and family, laying out a blanket for a picnic in a park, or tea, cookies, and a movie on the couch. She loves to crochet, cook, bake, garden, and travel. Emily is smart, responsible, and hardworking and she will teach these qualities to our children. Most of all Emily will be a loving mom. She has so much love to give."



Friends & Family

Our large and loving community of family and friends is at the center of our life. This wonderful group of people has supported us through the highs and lows of life and they are ready to lovingly welcome and embrace a new baby into their lives. Most of our friends have started families of their own the past few years and will definitely be a wonderful support system as we enter parenthood.

Our parents all live locally, with one set living only a block away. They all are excited to love, care for, and spoil another grandchild! A few of our siblings and ten nieces and nephews live nearby, while others live a long car ride away. That doesn't stop all of us from spending holidays and vacations together every year. We make that a priority!



Family is central to our lives. We have wanted to adopt a child for a long time. Adoption is close to our hearts as we have several cousins and close family friends that were adopted. We also recently experienced the other side of adoption as we were reunited with Emily's birth half-sister, who was placed for adoption when their mother was a teenager. This reunion made us appreciate both sides of adoption, especially the birth mom's perspective. In seeing Emily's mother's own pain and grief we have realized how essential an open adoption is to a healing and positive experience for everyone.

About Us!


Emily...

Favorite Book: Of Mice and Men
Way to Relax: Puzzles and Board Games
Favorite Food: Pie
Hobby: Crochet
Sports Team: Los Angeles Dodgers
Music Genre: Americana
Vacation Destination: The Sierra Nevadas
Holiday: Thanksgiving
Movie: The Princess Bride
Ice Cream Flavor: Pecan Praline
Color: Green



Ryan...

Favorite Book: Walden
Way to Relax: Family Meals
Favorite Food: Tacos
Hobby: Reading
Sports Team: Los Angeles Dodgers
Music Genre: Classic Rock
Vacation Destination: Catalina Island
Holiday: 4th of July
Movie: A River Runs Through It
Ice Cream Flavor: Chocolate
Color: Green



Thank You

Thank you for your bravery. We know that we will never fully understand what you are going through, but we want you to know that we think that you are strong and selfless. We will teach your child about your strength and bravery. We would like to have an open adoption that allows you to maintain contact and knowledge of your child's life. Through Emily's mom's experience with adoption, we appreciate how important an open adoption is in creating a positive and healing experience for everyone. It is important for you to know that your child is well loved and it is important that they always know they are loved by you. We are humbled by the gift you will be giving us and your child. We will always consider you a part of our lives. We will make sure they grow up to honor you and to understand that making an adoption plan is truly an act of selfless love.

We promise that we will always love, protect, and care for your beautiful baby. We promise that we will give them the best life that we are able to give. A life of unconditional love, family, and friends. A life rich with nature, travel, good food, books, stories, poetry, and art. We will work to instill in the values of love, kindness, gratitude, and faith, but also an attitude of fun, playfulness, laughter, lightheartedness, and wonder.

We are fully open to you maintaining a relationship with your child and with us, dependent on your level of comfort and without pressure or judgment from us. We will forever be grateful for you.

Love, Ryan and Emily



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