



Because of René's and Tristan's adoption, we know firsthand that blood, genetics, and skin color make no difference in the amount of love between parents and their children.

Hello, we are Matt, René, and Tristan. We want to thank you for taking the time to read our letter. We admire your strength, courage, and determination as you try to decide whether adoption is the right decision for you, and, if so, who would be the best parents for your baby. We can only imagine what you may be thinking and feeling at this time. Adoption is meaningful to our family as René was adopted as a newborn, and we adopted our son Tristan as a newborn in 2008. We hope to share with you why we are so thankful you are considering us as the parents for your precious baby.

How We Met:

Matt and I met in high school through our group of mutual friends. From the first time we smiled at each other and held hands nearly 12 years ago, we have been inseparable. It doesn't seem possible that we will celebrate our seventh wedding anniversary this July.

Why We Want to Adopt Again:

We have talked about adopting children for as long as we have talked about having children. About four years ago, we learned we could not give birth to a child. However, we had no desire to seek fertility treatments because we have always known adoption is a wonderful way to begin our family.

In April 2008 we were blessed and so excited to have been selected by a birthmother. Tristan is such an incredible gift to us, and we absolutely love being parents. Tristan is bi-racial, and is so handsome! We are now ready to adopt again to expand our family. We have always desired to have more than one child given that we both grew up with siblings and know what a significant relationship that can be in life. Tristan is almost two years old and we are excited about the opportunity to have siblings close in age and that will share a special bond through adoption.



René knows firsthand what an amazing blessing adoption is in her life and feels that she would have a special connection with the children we adopt. We have already told Tristan his adoption story. We want him to know his incredible story and the journey to bring him home to us as we want your child to know his/her special story as well.



We want to provide your child with all the love and happiness possible, as well as a safe home environment where all of his or her needs will be met. Your child will always know that he or she is adopted and what a miracle that is for us, you, and your child. The unique thing about our family is that not only are René and Tristan adopted, but your child would be also. What a special bond to share together!

Where We Live:

We live in a suburban community just west of Indianapolis and only a short drive from both of our parents, which is great for visits with grandma and grandpa. Our community has several family friendly activities. We look forward to exploring the many great parks, playgrounds, walking and biking paths, and splashing around in the local water park with our children.

Our neighborhood is filled with young children. This is especially evident around Halloween. It is so fun to see all the kids dressed up. There are several young children close to Tristan's age as well. Our neighborhood also has another family similar to ours with two African-American children.

Our home and "family" would not be the same without our two cats, Tommi and Max, rescued from the local humane society. They each have unique personalities -- Max is very snuggly and loves to give kisses, while Tommi is more independent and vocal. The cats have been great with Tristan. Tristan is especially fond of Max, while Tommi seems to keep to herself. Max gives Tristan "kisses" and they often chase each other.

Our Families:

Matt's parents and his younger brother and wife live in our community. They are all excited about another addition to the family. Matt's older brother, his wife, and their two sons live in Boulder, Colorado. Matt's grandparents and several aunts and uncles live within our town, as well.



Rene's parents also live very close. Ren e's mom is retired and often sees Tristan at least 2-3 times per week. Rene's sister and brother-in-law live about three hours away with their two sons.

Matt's family is diverse with two African-American cousins on his father's side and two bi-racial cousins on his mother's side. Additionally, Matt's grandfather was also adopted. We gladly cherish Tristan's culture as we would your child as well by exposing him to culturally appropriate toys, books, and playing with other biracial and African-American children in our neighborhood and at church.

Hobbies, Activities, & Interests:

One of our favorite activities during the spring and summer is to go boating at Rene's parents' cabin. We normally head down immediately after work on Friday and spend the entire weekend boating, napping on the screened in porch, and playing games on the beach. Matt loves to water-ski and tube, while Ren e prefers to relax on the beach. There are many pictures of Ren e, as a young child, buckled into her car seat in the boat, and we can't wait to have similar pictures of our children doing the same thing!



We also enjoy going to and watching Colts games. We have been going with Rene's parents and her sister and husband for several years. It will be great to share this fun with little ones when they are older. We tease Rene's dad that he needs to purchase more tickets so that all the grandchildren can attend.



Physical activity is also important to us. We love to go for walks and exercise on a regular basis. Matt plays intramural sports such as basketball, football and softball throughout the year. We were both involved in sports, and Matt would enjoy coaching a team someday as his Dad did while he was growing up.

Ren e loves to relax and read books as well as listen to music. She is currently learning how to play the guitar and would love to share her love of music with our children.

Most importantly, as parents we want to encourage your child to pursue his/her own interests, including as much education as he/she may desire. We never want your child to feel pressured

to have to enjoy the outdoors, sports, or football games, or whatever. We will expose them to lots of different activities so they can find their own passions and interests.

About Renē (by Matt):

Renē gives of herself to others without exception. I'm amazed at her generosity. She is my best friend and a fantastic, caring wife. Rene quickly became a natural at being a mother to Tristan. She loves Tristan unconditionally, which is obvious by their interactions together and Tristan's constant calling of "ma-ma." I feel blessed that Renē is able to stay home with Tristan full time. I am amazed at his abilities to walk, run, point to different body parts, and talk. I am confident that much of this is given to Renē's attention to him.

Renē is a great Mom as well as a great wife, daughter, sister, and aunt. I know she will be great with all of our children. No matter how busy her day was or if Tristan had a bad day, she is always there to welcome



me with a kiss and usually dinner on the table too! Renē has always had a desire to have more than one child. I realize that she has and will have a special bond with our children due to her own adoption. The happiest moment of my day is coming home to my family. I look forward to seeing two little faces peering through the window for me when I get home, along with the face of my lovely wife.

The profession Renē has chosen, Physical Therapist, involves taking care of people. Even though she has cut back her hours to stay at home full time with Tristan, I can see that she still enjoys her work. Patients

routinely give her flowers, gifts, and thank you cards at work, and I can't help but believe it's because she does more than just treat their ailments. She has a genuine concern for their situation and often serves as a source of hope in otherwise difficult situations. I am so proud of her and cannot wait to see her continue being a great mom as our family grows.

About Matt (by Renē):

Over the past couple of years, I have had the opportunity to see Matt as a father. He is a natural! I had some idea how great of a father he would be after interactions with our nephews. However, there is no greater joy than seeing the way Matt's eyes light up whenever

Tristan loves to watch for Daddy out the window when he gets home from work and I can see they are both equally excited to see one another.



Tristan is around. Tristan loves to watch for Daddy out the window when he gets home from work and I can see they are both equally excited to see one another. Matt is a fun-loving, energetic, gentle, and caring dad. There are certain "games" that only Matt and Tristan play including "chase," throwing the ball up and down the stairs, wrestling, and even some yard work together.

Matt is also dedicated to his family. There is nothing he would not do for us. He works hard to provide for us, but is all fun and giggles when he gets home from work. I work 2 Saturday's per month which allows Matt to have special "dad/son" time. I do not always know what they do, but I know they have a great time by all the toys I see on the floor when I get home.

Matt grew up with 2 brothers close in age. We hope that Tristan will have the opportunity to grow up with a sibling relatively close in age and have a strong bond with him or her. To this day, Matt regularly talks, emails, and plays fantasy football with his brothers. Their relationship continues to grow.

Matt is a great father, husband, son, brother, and uncle. He has a wonderful sense of humor. This is one of the things that first attracted me to him. Wherever we go, he always makes me laugh with some cheesy joke. He is a great balance for me due to his methodical and thoughtful approach to decision making, while I may tend to act in the moment. Matt treats me as an equal partner in our marriage and is open to my thoughts, feelings, and ideas.



When I look at my husband, I continue to adore him and love him more everyday! I am amazed at how my heart continues to grow and fill with more love everyday for Matt. Becoming parents together has brought our relationship even closer, and I cannot wait to see him have even more fun with another child!

Our Work:

Matt works an Engineering Manager for an aerospace company in Indianapolis. He enjoys the problem solving, hands-on tasks associated with his job. His employer is family-friendly and hosts two events each year where families come and celebrate.

René stays at home full-time with Tristan, but continues to work as a Physical Therapist two Saturdays per month in an inpatient hospital specializing in helping patients after joint replacement surgeries. René loves being at home with Tristan, but also wants to maintain

her license as a Physical Therapist. She is outgoing and can always put a smile on the face of her patients and co-workers.

Our Values:

Faith is an important part of our lives. We regularly attend Sunday worship in the evenings after a family meal together in the morning at one of our favorite restaurants. We feel strongly that our faith has brought us to this point in our lives where we are ready to grow our family.

Summary:

Because of Ren e's and Tristan's adoption, we know firsthand that blood, genetics, and skin color make no difference in the amount of love between parents and their children. Adoption will be explained to your child from the earliest moment of your child's life, and like Ren e, your child will always know that he or she is adopted. Most importantly, your child will be loved, and hopefully we also can be a "gift" to him or her.

As we write this letter, it is difficult to express how much we admire you in this situation. We hope we have given you enough information to help you with your decision. Your child will always know about the "angel" birthmother who helped our dreams come true. We will happily send updates and pictures to you if you wish. .

If you are interested, please contact our attorneys, Steve and Joel Kirsh, at 800-333-5736. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely-

Matt & Ren e

