



Dear Birth Mom,

We never thought we would be writing this letter, as we are sure you never thought you would be reading a letter such as this. Life takes us down unpredictable paths, but here we are...this is the most difficult decision you have ever made, but the fact you are making it, makes you very brave. We have no idea what you are going through right

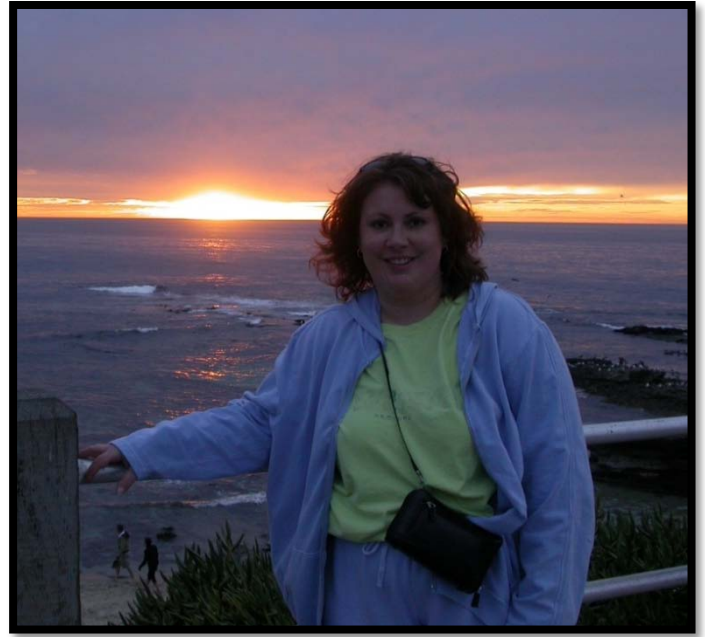
now; however, we are thankful you are getting to know us and giving us the chance to show how we can be a blessing to you and the child you are carrying.

We are Brad and Amy. Neither of us ever pictured our life without children. But here we are, after two years of fertility specialists, testing, procedures, shots, hormones, disappointment, and tears, we are writing a letter to you. We both grew up with two loving parents in very similar environments and understood that was how life was supposed to be...we would graduate from high school, then college, get married, and follow that with two children and a dog. As you know, life does not always go as we plan.



We first met when Amy was in high school, and Brad was in college. We spoke very little. We didn't see each other again for 13 years! A lot happened in those 13 years, as our lives took different paths. We both met new people and learned the ups and downs that the single life has to offer. Finally, when we began dating, we realized God had been using those 13 years to prepare us for one another. We could not wait to get married and start our family after our honeymoon. Now, 3 years after our honeymoon, here we are. We have grown so much in the last few years. Although it was difficult to always believe it, our struggle with infertility actually made our marriage stronger and brought us much closer together. We can't help but wonder if somehow these last 3 years were used to prepare us for you.

I am Amy, and I'm 35. I am an administrative manager at a local hospital. In those 13 years as I lived my single life, going to college, working, and buying a home, I surrounded myself with family and friends. I am very close to my parents, and also my sister Lori, who is 6 years older than me. Lori has a daughter, Katie. Katie means the world to me! I have always had a special bond with her. Katie is now 17 and a junior in high school. I am so proud of her. Brad is an awesome uncle and equally proud of her! We go to her volleyball games and cheer for her. When Katie was little, I spent a lot of time with Lori and Katie, going on vacations and hanging out. I babysat whenever I could and always made a point to do something fun with Katie when I had the chance. My goal was to be a cool aunt! Lori is very anxious to be an aunt. She is a registered nurse and will always be my first call when our child is sick or hurt.



My parents and I are also extremely close. We love to vacation together, and we enjoy being together as much as possible. I have grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins whom we are lucky to see quite often. Your child will have two cousins close in age, so the holidays with my side of the family will be a chaotic blessing!

Although Brad will tell you about himself, I would like to share from my own perspective. One of the things I love about him is his passion for family, teaching, and music. He loves his family which is one of the many things that drew me to him. He also loves kids of all ages, and they love him, too. We will be grocery shopping and hear little voices everywhere shouting his name to tell him, "Hello." Brad is also a very talented musician and guitarist. Because we enjoy music so much, I like to dance whenever possible. Although I tease him about dancing like Bill Cosby, I love him for trying anything and for making me laugh! He wrote a song that a jazz quintet played at our wedding reception. He has a wonderful voice, and I beg him to sing to me! Instead of serenading me with romantic tunes, he ends up singing children's songs that he teaches his students! I also know that I happen to be his passion. I love knowing that when something good happens, I'm the first one he tells. If something bad happens, he comes to me for comfort. When he hears a funny joke, he wants to tell me. I know I am his best friend, and he adores me. I am so lucky!





My name is Brad. As Amy stated above, I am a teacher. I often say to my students that I am the luckiest guy in the world because I get to work with them. My heart leads me to do what is right for kids. Sometimes things don't always go the way I want, but that's ok. My students know that I will always be there for them - even if we get a little frustrated with each other. I will not give up on them, and they know it. They know that I want the best for each and every one of them and that I expect them to succeed. In my opinion, being a teacher is the most rewarding job - hands down. And, I actually get paid to do it! One of my favorite things to do is go fishing. Amy is not as passionate about fishing as I am, but when she goes with me, she puts everything into it. It's funny because she will not bait a hook or touch a fish. Actually, I think she only goes because she wants to be with me, and that thrills me! Amy is my world. I cannot imagine my life without her in it. You know that feeling you get when you wake up on Christmas morning, and the excitement of

the day fills you with anticipation and joy? That is how every day is for me with my wife. She has the ability to make everyone around her feel that they are important - she is genuine in this respect. Nothing would make me happier than to raise a child with Amy. She would be the best mom because she puts her heart into everything she does. I also love her sense of humor. She absolutely loves to laugh, and her laugh is contagious! I believe God has a plan for each of us on this Earth. When He introduced Amy into my life, He presented me with a precious gift that I will cherish forever and not take for granted. Amy and I are unable to conceive a child. Being told this has been hard to take, but I believe that we have endured this disappointment in order to gain a better understanding and appreciation for life itself. I feel that through our challenges we have become stronger. When a child is placed into our life, we will cherish that child as the most precious gift that anyone could ever get!

We live in a fairly large, Indiana town, out in the country, but minutes from shopping, restaurants, hospitals, and our parents! We bought our house 2 1/2 years ago with the intention of starting our family soon, so we chose an excellent school district. Our home has 3 bedrooms, a pool, fenced in back yard, and a swing set.



Presently, our family includes our dog, a Cocker Spaniel named Manley, and a calico cat named Mocha. They are like brother and sister. We continually refer to them as "the kids". Our parents live in the same town. We see them and talk to them often. We have lots of room at our house for cookouts and Wii parties. We love having our extended family over too, with children swimming and playing on the swing set, and for wiener roasts and picnics. Our mothers are anxious to be able to take turns watching our baby while we are at work so we can avoid using daycare. We are fortunate, however, to have an excellent, certified daycare and preschool available to us at the hospital where Amy is employed, if needed. We attend church regularly with a wonderful Sunday School program where kids can learn and play together in a wholesome and safe



atmosphere. Amy has also been a teacher at the Sunday School and found joy in being with the kids whenever possible. We also love to travel and long for the day we can take our child to new places, like the ocean, zoo, museums, mountains...you name it, we want to go! This past summer we traveled to Savannah, Georgia, for a week. We visited forts, played on the beach, fed baby alligators, walked through historic Savannah, and we took a river boat cruise. We would have loved to take our child on that trip . . . someday! We would sit on the beach and watch the little toddlers take their first steps in the cold surf and squeal, and then watch the older kids building sand castles and playing Frisbee. How fun! We plan to encourage our child in his or her talents and interests. In the town where we live, there are opportunities for youth to participate in almost any sport imaginable. We are minutes from youth softball, baseball, and soccer fields, gymnastics and dance studios, and indoor tennis! There are also music activities that cater to the smallest of children. We believe that our child will be able to try anything he or she wants to try, and we will be there to cheer them on, no matter what! We also believe that education is important and we already anticipate visiting colleges in 18 years!

As you can see, we are physically, emotionally, and financially ready to be parents. We have so much love ready to give, and we hope that you will consider us as adoptive parents. We admire you so much for making this decision and pray you have peace throughout this process. We would be happy to send you letters and photographs, letting you know how your child is getting along, if you wish.

If you would like to know more about us, please call us any time at 877-236-0329, or e-mail amyandbrad09@aol.com. Leave a message if we do not answer the call, and we will call you back as soon as we possibly can. Also, you can call Steve or Joel Kirsh at 800-333-5736.

Sincerely,

Amy & Brad



Notes About Us	Amy	Brad
Favorite Color	Yellow	Red
Favorite Flower	Daisy	Rose
Favorite Tree	Dogwood	Tulip Poplar
Favorite Dinner Food	Italian	Baby Back Ribs
Favorite Restaurant	Olive Garden	Smokey Bones
Favorite Ice Cream	Coffee	Chocolate Peanut Butter
Favorite Fruit	Strawberries	Banana
Favorite Vegetable	Green Beans	Potato
Favorite Midnight Snack	Cheese and Crackers	Pretzels and Peanut Butter
Favorite Candy	Sweet Tarts	Reeses Peanut Butter Cup
Favorite Soft Drink	Coca-Cola	Coca-Cola
Favorite Hobbies	Our dog, Manley	Fishing
Favorite Stores	Dress Barn and Lowe's!	Bass Pro Shop and Best Buy
Favorite Vacation Spots	Oregon Coast, Gulf Shores, AL, and Savannah, GA	Anywhere on the beach, Savannah, GA
Favorite Season	Fall	Summer
Favorite Smells	Baking Cinnamon Rolls, Coffee	Chocolate, Italian food
Favorite Sounds	My nieces laughing	Children singing - no matter how out of tune it is!
Favorite Book	The Shack and Janet Evanovich series	Quiet Strength by Tony Dungy
Favorite Board Game	Moods	Monopoly
Favorite Video Game	Wii Cow Racing	Wii Sports
Favorite T.V. Shows	Two and a Half Men, CSI, Food Network	Two and a Half Men, NCIS, Criminal Minds
Favorite Cartoon	Smurfs	Bugs Bunny
Favorite Movies	Vince Vaughn movies, While You Were Sleeping, Oceans 11, 12, 13, It's a Wonderful Life	Star Wars, Longest Day, The Outlaw Josey Wales, Mr. and Mrs. Smith
Favorite Scary Movie	The Shining	The Shining
Favorite Music	Michael Buble, Harry Connick Jr., Black Eyed Peas	Black Crowes, Van Halen
Favorite Actors	Vince Vaughn, George Clooney	Clint Eastwood, Vince Vaughn
Favorite Actresses	Julia Roberts, Jennifer Aniston, Sandra Bullock	Sandra Bullock
Favorite Sports	Olympics, Football, Volleyball	Football
Favorite Sports Team	USA!, Colts	Colts
Favorite Athlete	Payton Manning	Reggie Wayne, Jeff Saturday, Dallas Clark
Favorite Holiday	Thanksgiving	Christmas
Favorite Holiday Memory	Picking out our Christmas Tree at a tree farm and decorating it with my family.	Grandparents coming over on Christmas morning.
Favorite Gift	Precious Moments Nativity	First professional guitar
Favorite Zoo Animal	Dolphin	Lion
Favorite Time of Day	Late Morning	Early Morning
Favorite Outdoor Activity	Swimming	Fishing
Favorite Day of the Week	Saturday	Saturday
Biggest Pet Peeve	Negativity	Bad Drivers
Talents	Used to play trumpet and French horn; enjoy singing	Most musical instruments, particularly guitar and singing
What we wanted to be when we grew up	Veterinarian	Astronaut
Our Zodiac Sign (if you believe in those!)	Gemini	Scorpio