



# Hello!

WE'RE SO HAPPY YOU'RE TAKING A MOMENT TO GET TO KNOW OUR FAMILY, MADE UP OF

Ryan, Marcia and our daughter, Mia.



From the beginning of our marriage, we've been drawn to adoption as the way to grow our family and were incredibly blessed to become parents through adoption 6 years ago. Now we're ready for our adoption journey to continue yet again.

Thanks for using this book as a first step

IN GETTING TO KNOW US.





#### 444

### We met while working at a

SMALL AIRPORT, WHILE WE EACH EARNED OUR PRIVATE PILOT'S LICENSES.

On the day we met, Marcia wrote in her journal that meeting Ryan felt very important and as we worked together over the next year and then started dating, we became inseparable. We laughed all the time together, and were married on a sunny day, with a sweet, small wedding in the woods behind Marcia's parents' house under a canopy of trees. After 15 years of marriage, we still laugh and smile all the time, looking to each other as partners in adventure and comfort when times aren't easy.

EXPLORING A FORT IN THE MORNING WITH COFFEE TOGETHER





DATE NIGHT IN OUR

HOMETOWN

We have a strong, stable marriage and hold certain routine, simple things as prized gifts. For instance, each Friday night, it's movie and take-out night on the couch, followed by stove top popcorn with yummy seasonings. On Saturday mornings, we eat fluffy eggs with toast, and then sip coffee as we talk about the weekend to come. We divide up household chores evenly and talk about everything together, from something hilarious we saw that day to something frustrating at work.

Even when we learned we couldn't have children "the old-fashioned way"

(biologically), we moved toward adoption together, with open hearts and readiness for God to open this next chapter in our lives together.





# Marcia

WHAT RYAN SAYS ABOUT HIS WIFE

#### 4444

### Marcia is my best friend

AND THE LOVE OF MY LIFE.

eople often ask me if she's always smiling and my answer is "Yep!". She's kind to everyone she comes into contact with.

I feel lucky to be married to such a God-fearing, intelligent, and hard-working woman. We have so much love for each other and for our daughter.

I can't wait for us to share that with our growing family.







WE LOVE TAKING WALKS TOGETHER AS A FAMILY - EVEN ON VACATION



MARCIA SIPPING HER COFFEE BEFORE THE DAY BEGINS

# Fun Facts



#### **BEST PLACE TO TAKE A CHILD:**

Library - books are full of possibilities!

#### **FAVORITE SHOW:**

Great British Baking Show and The Office

# FAVORITE SHOWS TO WATCH WHILE RUNNING ON THE TREADMILL:

Chopped

#### **FAVORITE CHILDREN'S BOOK:**

"If You Give a Mouse a Cookie"...tells you so much about humanity:)

#### **DREAM JOB:**

My job now

#### **ICE CREAM FLAVOR:**

Mint chocolate chip

#### WHAT I LIKE TO COLLECT:

Hugs from my daughter

# WHAT DOES A PERFECT DAY LOOK LIKE:

Assuming it's a weekend, I would sleep in a bit, then make breakfast with fluffy, cheesy eggs, and crusty bread. Next, we'd sip on coffee watching the day begin. On sunny days, I love to head to the park with Mia to play or check out some books at the library on rainy days. As the day winds down, I'd cook a hearty meal for dinner and watch a movie together with popcorn afterwards.

#### **SPORT I LIKE TO PLAY:**

Running



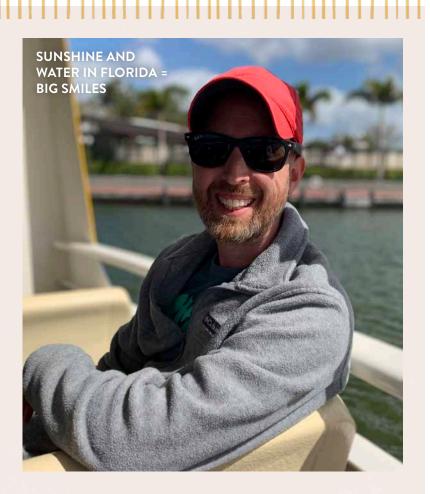
WHAT MARCIA SAYS ABOUT HER HUBBY



## I have adored watching

RYAN BE A DAD!

He's a great listener and a confident man of God. One of the gifts I'm so thankful I get to share with our children is the example Ryan sets of what a good man is. I often say marrying Ryan is the best thing I've ever done. Raising a family together has become our next best thing.





RYAN LOVES LEARNING ABOUT AND TEACHING MIA ABOUT SPACE





THE BEACH SUNRISE

St. George Island, Florida and Walt Disney World

#### **ICE CREAM FLAVOR:**

Chocolate chip cookie dough

#### **FAVORITE AUTHOR:**

C.S. Lewis

#### **FAVORITE HOBBY:**

Travel hacking and financial planning

#### **FAVORITE MOVIE:**

Home Alone (1 & 2)

# INTEREST THAT HE'D LIKE TO DO MORE:

Sailing and kayaking

#### **FEELS LUCKY TO HAVE:**

Lifelong childhood friends

#### **FAVORITE PLACE TO TAKE A CHILD:**

Our neighborhood park

#### **SPORT I LIKE TO PLAY:**

Running



**MAGIC TEACUPS!** 

# Our Home & Community

WE LIVE IN A FAMILY-FOCUSED NEIGHBORHOOD FULL OF parks, pools, and — even a lake.





VIEW FROM OUR LOFT, LOOKING DOWN INTO OUR LIVING ROOM



There are sidewalks connecting every home and yards just flow from one to the next. At Christmas, the homes are adorned with twinkly lights and each Halloween, the sidewalks are filled with families dressed up for trick or treating. Ryan's parents live in our same neighborhood with their own pool. It's so special to be able to walk up for family birthdays and holidays, or just stop by after Mia's day at school for a visit. In the summer, we spend all of our free time at the pool, splashing and playing with cousins who live close-by. The parks are also a special treat, often full of laughing kiddos for Mia and our future children to play with.



We love our neighborhood! 📶



Even though we make plenty of wonderful memories together at home, we enjoy traveling to experience new and different places together throughout the year.



Whether it's beaches, Walt Disney World, historical landmarks, or the mountains, we love the relaxation and excitement of exploring different places. Our family loves the whole travel experience, from the airport and planes to long road trips, just being together along the journey is the best part of all.











IS A SMART AND FUNNY 6-YEAR-OLD.



### We have no doubt that Mia

WILL BE AN AMAZING BIG SISTER!

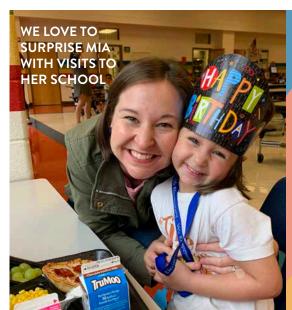




hen we were given a blank picture frame one time, she drew a picture of her holding her baby brother or sister that we'll adopt some day to fill the frame.

That picture sits on Ryan's bedside table as we all look forward to meeting that special baby some day.

Mia loves animals and is often heard shouting, "can I pet your dog?!" to neighbors as they walk by our house.



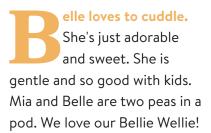


**Love God** Love each other **Travel often Keep learning Stay healthy** 

MEET OUR DOG,

# Belle!

She's a wiener dog.





BELLE IS SUCH A GOOD SPORT



100% CUDDLES, 100% OF THE TIME



BELLE LOVES CUDDLES



# Meet Our Extended Family

OUR EXTENDED FAMILIES ARE FULL OF FUN AND FULL OF LOVE!



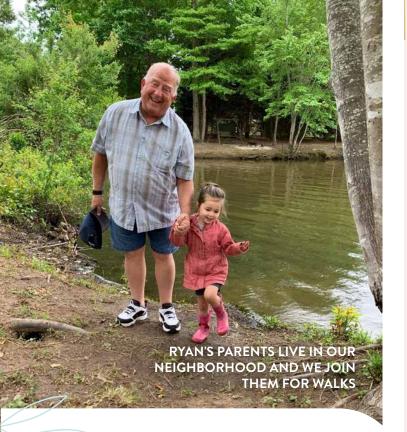
With a growing bunch of cousins just waiting to play with another addition to the group, our future child will be hugged and smiled at constantly whenever we all get together. Just as when we brought Mia into the fold, our families will welcome any adopted child with so much love and support, he or she will always feel completely welcomed and loved.



We are lucky to spend a large amount of time with our parents, siblings and their families. Not only do we get together often in each others' homes, but we also vacation together, usually to the beach in the summer or the mountains for Thanksgiving.

We feel truly blessed to be a part of our family.







# Fun Family Traditions

**BEACH TRIP EVERY SUMMER** 

DECORATE THE HOUSE FOR CHRISTMAS AS SOON AS HALLOWEEN IS OVER (YES, NOVEMBER 1ST!)

MOVIE NIGHT EVERY FRIDAY (CHICK-FIL-A FOR DINNER)

**CHURCH ON SUNDAYS** 

LIBRARY TRIPS EVERY OTHER
WEEK



GIRLS SHOPPING TRIP WITH MARCIA'S MOM, SISTER, MARCIA AND MIA





Parenting is fulfilling, beautiful, and challenging. We promise to hold your baby each day with appreciation and wonder for your decision and sacrificial love.



We promise to share with your baby that we're all adopted into God's family and continually strive to model Christ's love every day. We promise to take your baby on adventures, both near and far, introducing a world that's ever-changing and new every day. We promise that every single decision we make will be rooted in love and protection for him or her. And we promise to be open to openness with you and your family as your baby grows.

As parents in an open adoption already, we understand how beautiful and special these relationships are. While they're not easy for everyone, they're important and can be very strong. We hope to have an open relationship with the family of our next child, too. Some examples of what that might look like are trips and visits, FaceTime video calls, texts with loads of pictures, a shared social media account, or holiday cards exchanged together. We don't know exactly what that will look like for our next adoption, but we're eager and ready to find out and will be flexible to learn what each family needs together.

TOGETHER!



# **Family Information**

FATHER'S NAME: Ryan

**OCCUPATION:** Stay at home Dad

**EDUCATION:** Bachelor's Degree in History

**RELIGION:** Christian

**DATE OF BIRTH:** 03/26/1982

HAIR COLOR: Blonde EYE COLOR: Blue HEIGHT: 5' 7"

Date of marriage: August 4th, 2007

Children: Mia, born August 17th, 2016, ours through adoption. Mia is very outgoing, loving, and smart. She is so attentive to animals and small children, loves helping with their care, and is full of energy! Mia loves coloring, playing on the playground with friends, and enjoys playing with her many cousins that live close-by.

Interests and hobbies: As a family, we love traveling together, with our favorite destinations being Orlando's theme parks and the beach. Traveling on planes is a special perk of Marcia's job that we feel so lucky to have. Marcia also enjoys baking, cooking, watching cooking competitions, reading, and is an avid runner. Ryan is interested in being outdoors, reading, running, fixing up our house, and finances.

Home: Our home is a well-maintained townhome with a view of our neighborhood's lake, plenty of sunshine all day, and surrounded by kind neighbors. Our neighborhood has several parks with playgrounds, a pool with a lazy river, and beautiful walking trails along the water. We love going on walks as a family and meeting our friends in the parks to play. Ryan's parents live on our same street! We love being able to visit with them throughout the week and just walking up the road, along the sidewalks, to attend family birthday parties, holidays, and just because.

Pets: Our miniature dachshund, Belle, is about 14 years old, with her paws and chin turning white and her eyesight fading, but she is still one of the sweetest, most cuddly little dogs you will ever meet. She loves to burrow in her blankets and will snuggle on our couch with us every single chance she gets. She is our precious "Belly Welly"!

**MOTHER'S NAME:** Marcia

**OCCUPATION:** Corporate Airline Manager **EDUCATION:** Bachelor's Degree in Business

**RELIGION:** Christian

**DATE OF BIRTH: 01/26/1986** 

HAIR COLOR: Auburn EYE COLOR: Green

**HEIGHT:** 5' 5"

#### Why are you interested in building your family

through adoption? We have more love to give and feel like our family is not complete yet. We were excited to adopt for our first child, maintain a loving and patient relationship with Mia's birth family, and look forward to growing our family more through adoption again. As we were looking to grow our family further, a second adoption was a natural and easy decision for us to make.

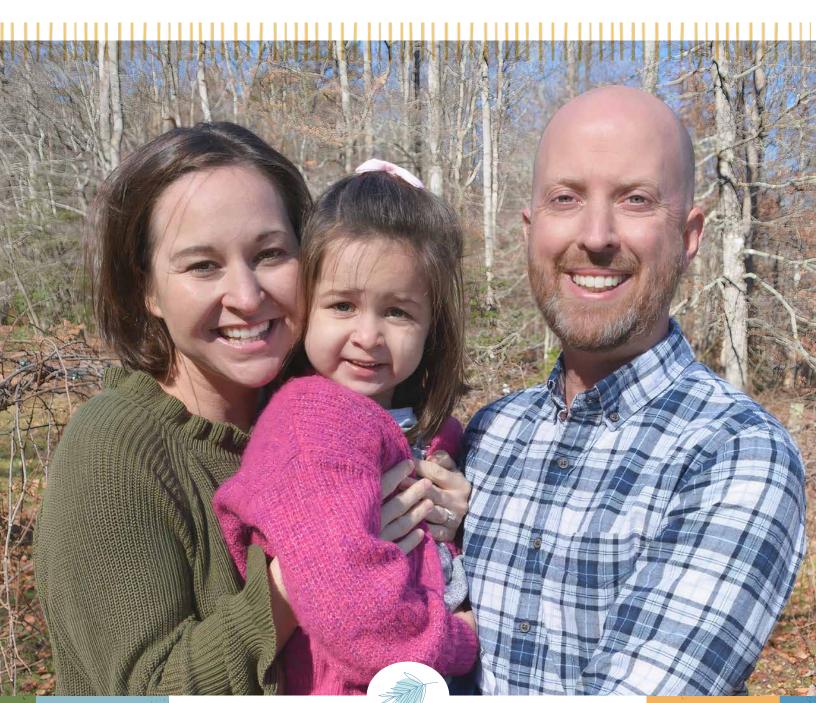
Openness to birthparent(s): In the same way we have an open relationship with Mia's birthmother and brother, we will encourage openness with the family of our future adopted child, as well. We would appreciate sharing pictures between both families, phone calls or FaceTime, and regular visits throughout the years. We understand that every adoption is unique, and we would never expect our children's birth families to communicate in the same ways, but will be open to whatever each family needs, as our children and families grow over time.

Childcare plans: Similar to how Mia was cared for when she was placed with us, Ryan will stay home to care for our next adopted child full-time, as well. Marcia's work also allows for paid time off for adoptive parents, along with flexible work schedules and the ability to frequently work remotely from home. She will take full advantage of these generous allowances when our next child is born so we can create the most loving environment to both care for and bond with our growing family.

e're all at a turning point where life has taken a twist we didn't initially expect. It's not necessarily good or bad, just different than we expected. You are pregnant and wondering what to do, we are unable to grow our family biologically. From the beginning of our marriage, we've been drawn to adoption as the way to grow our family and now we're ready for this part of our journey to continue. Your decisions may bring our paths together or maybe not. But whatever happens, we're praying for your life, that you'll be lead from this turning point to an amazing journey, too.

### Thank you

FOR SPENDING
SOME TIME WITH
US. We'd love to get to
know you even more and
we pray that you know
you're not alone.



### **Nightlight Christian Adoptions**

CALL (502) 423-5780 OR EMAIL IMPREGNANT@NIGHTLIGHT.ORG

