



RYAN *and* KATE





Hello!

WE ARE RYAN AND KATE!

Thank you so much for giving us the opportunity to introduce ourselves and tell you about our family. It is already evident the wonderful mom you are! The following pages are just a snapshot of who we are. If you were to get a glimpse into our house, you would see the many pictures that hold memories with family and friends and that laughter illuminates the walls. We know your child would not only be loved by us but also by our amazing support system of family and friends.

We cannot begin to imagine what you are feeling right now, but we hope you find peace in knowing you will make the right decision for your child, and we support whatever that may be. We will be sending you continued strength and comfort during this time.

All our love, Ryan, Kate and Ro



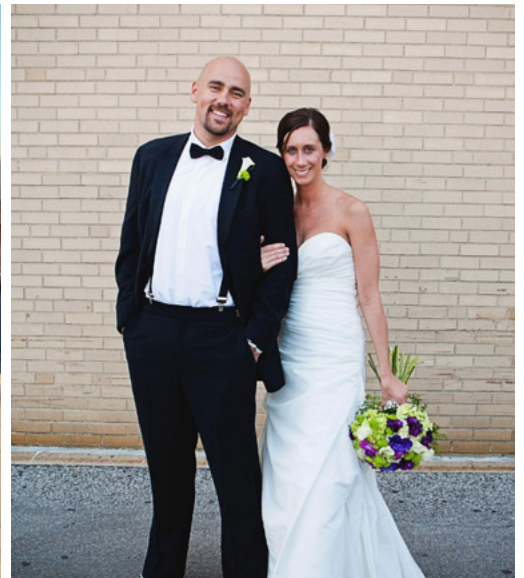
the story of us

IN THE SPRING OF 2009, WE MET THROUGH A MUTUAL FRIEND – WHO CONTINUES TO REMAIN A PART OF OUR LIFE TODAY!

She invited us to a concert and while there, we had a lot of fun and bonded over our mutual love of music. Throughout that spring, we found ourselves at the same social events and quickly became friends. The day we both realized there was something special between us, we spent hours sitting on the floor in Ryan's tiny apartment, listening to music while sharing great conversation and laughter. We started dating shortly thereafter, as they say, "the rest of history."

"Ryan's personality is super contagious! He is the type of person where you immediately feel energized from being with him, which is one of the first things that attracted me to him." – Kate

"I was drawn to Kate's pretty eyes, beautiful smile and contagious laugh." – Ryan



We have been married for almost 12 years. We have a very loving relationship and approach each day as a team. We are each other's favorite person to be with and have been so fortunate to have many great memories from traveling, attending live music, spending time outdoors, sporting events, exploring our city, volunteering, spending quality time with family and friends and much more!



why we are adopting

WE HAVE ALWAYS DREAMED OF HAVING A FAMILY.

Our journey to start a family began in 2013, but we quickly ran into difficulties with trying to conceive. We did pursue fertility treatments for about 3 years but stopped before doing more invasive treatments as we decided that was not what we wanted our journey to be. We spent about 4 years soul-searching as to the next steps and always kept coming back to adoption. In July of 2021, we adopted our incredible daughter, Ronin. *Since then, there has been no question that we wanted to adopt again. Adopting our daughter and gaining her birth family as our family has been the greatest blessing in our lives!*



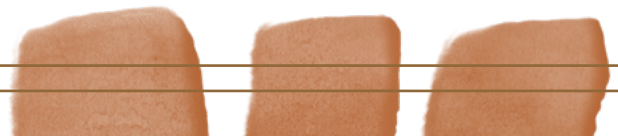
all about Kate

I would say that I'm spontaneous, authentic, enjoy living life to the fullest, empathetic, compassionate and outgoing. Oh, and I love to laugh! Being outside - regardless of the weather is my happiest place to be. When it is sunny, Ryan loves to say, "It's a Kate day" because he knows regardless of temperature, sunshine and being outside, absolutely fills my soul. By nature, I am a caretaker, which is certainly something I get from my mom. Relationships are very important to me, so spending time with family and friends is one of my favorite activities. In addition to that, living an active lifestyle and exercising is also a very important part of who I am.



IN RYAN'S WORDS...

Kate is extremely loving, caring, fun and thoughtful and a great partner and mom. Kate was born to be a mom, and It is amazing to see the bond that she has with Ro. Kate is extremely goofy and fun-loving, which makes every day a fun adventure. The genuine joy she has when she is with Ro is so fulfilling to see. Kate also has the ability to light up an entire room with her smile and laugh and is typically the highlight of any social gathering we have. The world is a better place with Kate in it!



all about Ryan

I am a proud father, husband, coffee enthusiast, live music lover and learner. I enjoy time with family and close friends and love to laugh and have a good time. I love to travel and explore new places, and learn about new cultures. I spend my free time reading, listening to music or podcasts, volunteering, being active and playing basketball.



IN KATE'S WORDS...

Ryan loves Ro and me in a way that I know our best days are his best days. He is very devoted to us and shows his love in many ways, but one primary way is through acts of service. His amazing dimples practically greet you with a hug. Oh, not to mention his hugs – they are the best! Ryan is very loyal, present, welcoming, easy to talk to, fun, laid back, intelligent, a born leader, open-minded, and has the best laugh! Ryan has the ability to remain calm in all situations, and it is one of my favorite qualities about him. He is very optimistic and will always look for the good in all situations.



Ryan is a dreamer, in the best way possible, and I know he is the type of dad who will encourage our children to pursue their dreams. He is also a dad who will learn anything and everything he can about whatever interests the child. I know our children will be able to approach Ryan anything, and he will meet them with open arms and understanding.

meet our daughter



Where do we even begin?! Our daughter, Ronin, who we most often call Ro, is 2.5 and is the coolest little human! We adopted Ronin when she was ten days old. Ronin was her birth name, which we kept to honor her birth story as this was something we were very passionate about and also was very important to her birth parent.

Her teachers have always shared how joyful she is. In fact, one of the teachers calls her "sunshine girl." Ro is curious, independent, smart, laid back, SO fun, and such a light in our lives. Ro loves the color green, listening to music, water play, dancing, painting, riding her bike, and nature. She also loves the moon! In fact, most nights, we go outside to see if the moon is out. She is a confident gal and her bravery to try new experiences is always astounding.



We really believe that Ro will love being a big sister. At school, she shows interest in visiting the babies in the nursery. Ro is very gentle and helpful, so we think she'll fulfill the role of a sibling very well.

Ro's birth family

We are so fortunate to have a really close relationship with Ro's birth family, who we consider as our family as well. We have a relationship with Ro's birth parent, who we call Mapa, her birth grandma, and birth great-grandma. We communicate on a weekly basis and see them at least quarterly. We celebrate Ro's birthday and also Christmas with them. Ro's birth family not only outpours love to Ro but to us as well. It's been so fulfilling to see our relationship prosper!



"It is an absolute privilege to have Ryan and Kate in our lives. The love they and their family have for Ronin is amazing to witness. They are a family filled with kindness, thoughtfulness, and so much love. And I love them dearly." - Ro's Birth Grandma

"Kate and Ryan are some of some of the most loving parents that I know. The life they lead provides their first daughter Ronin, with amazing life experiences, even at a young age. I know whoever they add to the family will be blessed. The love they share is abundant. I am so grateful to be a part of the family. They are so inviting and supportive of our relationship. They encourage Ronin to know who I am and I feel very respected and loved. I couldn't have chosen a better family." - Ro's Mapa

where we live

WE LIVE IN A HISTORIC CULTURAL DISTRICT IN INDIANA THAT WE ABSOLUTELY LOVE.

Our home was built in the 1940s and was remodeled about 13 years ago. Our home is over 3,000 square feet with a finished basement. We have 4 bedrooms and 2.5 baths. Our house has an open concept design and one of our favorite features is the dining room as it was previously a one-car garage, so it has a peaked ceiling with a chandelier that illuminates the room and a great farmhouse table. We have shared many meals around that table and have wonderful memories with family and friends.



Our house is on 1.5 lots; therefore, we have a large yard and an upper yard area where we have a playhouse and a big chalkboard. Our backyard is also fenced in and includes a patio area where we have comfortable patio furniture and string lights draped from a tree in our backyard to our house.





We live in a neighborhood that is very walkable. With the uniqueness of our location and our love for reading, we added a Little Free Library to our front yard. It gets so much use and we enjoy the interaction it provides with our neighbors. We live close to the Monon Trail which allows great connectivity to all over the city. We have multiple parks within blocks of our house. Additionally, we live within walking distances to several schools including the school that Ro attends. Our neighborhood is very welcoming and culturally diverse. We are so fortunate to live on a block with closely connected neighbors who are a big part of our life. Several of them also have kids and are families who we spend a lot of time with!





Meet our pets

WE HAVE A CAT, HOBBS, AND A DOG, MURPHY, WHOM WE ADORE!

Hobbs isn't your typical cat in that he's a complete socialite. We joke that Hobbs has a curfew because he's only allowed outside when it's light out. He has many friends on our block and is loved by everyone. He's a one-of-a-kind cat who we love very much!

In 2020, we rescued our dog, Murphy. We believe he had a difficult past, and it took awhile for him to enjoy the luxuries of being a dog! He is super laid back and friendly. We walk Murphy every day, and on his best days, he goes to the dog park.

Ro has a special relationship with both Hobbs and Murphy. She loves petting and playing with them and they are both wonderful with her.



things we love



KATE LOVES: BEING A MOM • ANIMALS • MUSIC • SWEET, SLOW MORNINGS • HOUSEPLANTS • TRADITIONS • THE MOUNTAINS • SPORTS



RYAN LOVES: BEING A DAD • DRINKING COFFEE • LISTENING TO MUSIC • TRAVELING • COOKING • PLAYING BASKETBALL • THE PACERS



AS A FAMILY: BIKING ON THE MONON TRAIL • GOING TO PARKS • MAKING DINNER TOGETHER • BEING SILLY AT HOME • RO LOVES BLOWING BUBBLES IN THE BACKYARD • AS MUCH AS WE LOVE TRAVEL AND LOCAL ADVENTURES, OFTEN SIMPLE, SLOW MOMENTS AT HOME ARE OUR FAVORITES!

Our families

KATE'S FAMILY • We have a very close bond with my family; in fact, my parents watch Ro one day a week, and it is the highlight of their week, Ro's too. My mom is a retired teacher, so she's always coming up with creative ideas for Ro or cooking with her. Ro is definitely a grandpa's girl, who she lovingly named "Papa." He is her number 1 playmate. My sister is Ro's godmother, and this is a role she puts so much love into. Ro has a unique bond with each of my siblings, including my brother's wife and looks so forward to seeing them. Even though my siblings live states away, we prioritize seeing each other multiple times a year and communicate as a family throughout the week.



We have many special traditions, including our love of Notre Dame sports, especially football. At Christmas, my parents spend hours decorating the house inside and out, turning it into a winter wonderland. My dad has read "Twas the night before Christmas" on Christmas Eve for as long as I can remember. My mom creates fun games to play that are similar to minute to win it, but we call them "the reindeer games." Faith has always played a big role in our family and continues to be a part of our lives. My family is one of my greatest treasures.



RYAN'S FAMILY • We are so fortunate to have the love and support of my family. My mom, sister, and brother-in-law all live close to us, and we get to see them often. My dad lives in Ft. Myers, FL, with his girlfriend, and we see him a couple of times a year. Ro has a very special relationship with my family and often asks about seeing them. My family has always been so supportive of me, whether it was playing basketball at Wabash College or welcoming their first grandchild to the family.

Holidays are a special time for our family. We host Easter and Thanksgiving for my immediate and extended family and Kate's parents. We have a blast during our annual easter egg hunt on Easter, and Thanksgiving is an all-day celebration. We run in the drumstick dash in our neighborhood and have brunch at our house after. Then we clean up and prepare to host Thanksgiving dinner. It is one of our favorite holidays.

Our friends

We are incredibly lucky to have a vast and close-knit group of friends, some of whom live close and others who live out of state. It is nearly impossible not only to describe how important our friends are to us, but their families as well. Most weekends are filled with seeing them and it is something that we look so forward to. One of our best friends, who we consider as family, also adopted and has a son who is 6 months younger than Ro. We know they will forever be a part of our life and are thankful to share this special bond. We'd definitely say that we have the most loyal friends, and our fun times together are unmatched!





we love to adventure!

As you can see, traveling is something we really enjoy! Ro has been to 8 states and Mexico in 2.5 years and has been the best travel partner. She's even sat in the cockpit of an airplane! It is so fun to experience the world through her eyes. We love travel destinations that boast unique cultural experiences and opportunities for both exploration and relaxation. We foresee travel always being a big part of our life.





our promises

If you decide to move forward with an adoption plan and choose us to raise your baby, we will honor your decision and promise to do everything to protect, care and love your child with all our heart.

We promise to **unconditionally love your child while also communicating your unconditional love.**

We promise that **your child will not only know love from us but also from our abundance of family and friends.**

We promise to **respect the boundaries you feel are appropriate while always holding a place in our lives and hearts for you.**

We promise to **be a safe space, where their individuality is celebrated, and they are able to flourish into their own person.**

We promise to **respect your child's cultural identity and commit to experiences that will allow them to connect with who they are**

A lifelong relationship with you is very important to us. We envision **communicating on a weekly basis with picture sharing and updates. We'd also enjoy having visits about 4 times a year. We are open to suggestions you may have, as respecting your hopes and wishes is very important to us. We believe we could achieve a very healthy, closely connected relationship with open lines of communication. Just as Ro's birth family is, you would be family to us as well!**

All our love, Ryan, Kate and Ro





Adoption



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