

HANDS ACROSS THE WATER WAITING FAMILY

Rochelle and Patrick



For your courage, your selflessness, and for even considering adoption at all, we're already incredibly grateful to you. We would love the opportunity to meet with you and properly introduce ourselves, but until that time, we'd like to provide you with a small glimpse into who we are and the life that we hope to one day share with a child.

We fell in love in 2005, have been married for nine years, and can confidently say that our marriage and our friendship are the best things about us. We've built such a strong and supportive partnership, filled with a crazy amount of love, that will serve as the foundation of our future family. Reading is a big part of who we are, and we've each pursued careers that allow us to work with books every day. We already have a closet full of children's books waiting, and there will always be a parent at home and ready to read them, because Rochelle is lucky enough to work from home.

We live in a warm and welcoming neighborhood in an exciting and diverse city, where we can raise our own family. Our home is on the most charming block that leads right into our favorite park. We're looking forward to countless visits there with our child, but for now, we enjoy walking through it with our adorable little wiener dog, Huckleberry.

Any child we're lucky enough to parent will be loved beyond measure, not only by the two of us, but by our big, wonderful families. As grandchildren go, our child will have the best of both worlds: on Patrick's side, they'll have plenty of cousins to play with (seven and counting!), and on Rochelle's side, they'll be extra spoiled as the first grandchild and great-grandchild. Adoption is already a familiar and important part of our families. Both of Patrick's brothers are adopted, and two of his cousins have adopted more recently, so our child will have uncles and cousins who can directly relate to their experience. You will be an integral part of our family's story, and a cherished part of our lives, and our baby will always know how loved they are by all of their parents.

We love our life together now, but we know that soon our baby's hopes and fears and favorite things will become our new hopes and fears and favorite things, and our life will look a little bit different, in the very best way.

About Rochelle

- **Age:** 32
- **Career:** Book Marketing Consultant
- **Childhood memory:** Camping at music festivals with my big extended family
- **Holiday traditions:** Celebrating NYE in different cities around the world; Spending 4th of July at Patrick's parents' house on the lake with all of our nieces and nephews
- **Fun fact:** We read the Game of Thrones series aloud while we drove down the coast from Seattle to San Diego, and our road trip read-alouds have become a favorite tradition
- **Favorite authors:** Zadie Smith, George Saunders, and JK Rowling
- **Favorite movies:** Almost Famous, It's a Wonderful Life, Space Jam
- **Favorite food:** Movie theater popcorn, breakfast burritos, any and all ice cream
- **Favorite places:** our old NYC neighborhood; Luang Prabang, Laos; and on the couch next to Patrick

About Patrick

- **Age:** 34
- **Career:** K-12 Education Specialist
- **Childhood memory:** Playing backyard sports with my brothers and sister
- **Holiday traditions:** Decorating the Christmas tree the day after Thanksgiving (while eating Thanksgiving leftovers); Hosting our annual Halloween party
- **Fun fact:** I've run 3 marathons (Detroit, New York City, and Denver), and Rochelle made me a custom playlist for each one, complete with messages from my friends and family
- **Favorite authors:** Kurt Vonnegut, Chuck Klosterman, Ernest Hemingway
- **Favorite movies:** The Sandlot, The Dark Knight, and most Will Ferrell movies
- **Favorite food:** Poutine, Reese's, Detroit-style pizza, and my mom's brownies
- **Favorite places:** Central Park, Barcelona, or watching baseball at any ballpark