

## HANDS ACROSS THE WATER WAITING FAMILY

# Laura and Stephen



Hello, and thank you so much for considering us. We met at the University of Michigan as we started our PhDs in history. We immediately became friends, and began dating about one year later. We've shared terrific adventures, traveled around the country, lived overseas, and built a family in Ann Arbor.

In 2017 we brought home our wonderful daughter, Clara, through an open adoption. She has been the light of our lives and now we are incredibly excited at the opportunity to continue to expand our family. Clara is a social butterfly, loves other children, and is very excited to welcome home a baby brother or sister — though when asked, she requested a baby badger. Everywhere we go, she greets new kids, asks to help push baby carriages, and always wants to comfort little ones who cry with a backrub. We are so grateful and never forget that we were chosen to be her parents.

Our lives are made better by all the children we spend time with. We live on a street where the neighborhood children play basketball and skateboard together. Clara always wants to join in with the bigger kids, demanding her own turn to shoot the basket. We have dinners with our close friends and their kids and see our adorable niece and nephews as often as possible. Becoming parents ourselves, experiencing the joys children bring firsthand, and sharing these experiences with our friends and family have been the greatest source of happiness in our lives.

We know that making an adoption plan is one of the hardest decisions you will ever make. We know that the love for your baby is guiding this process. If you choose us, we look forward to welcoming you into our family and together surrounding this baby with love.

### About Laura

- **Age:** 38
- **Career:** Stay-at-home mom
- **Favorite Movie:** Dreamgirls
- **Favorite TV Show:** Crazy Ex-Girlfriend
- **Plan:** Excited to stay home with our daughter and the new baby.
- **Favorite Food:** Anything chocolate
- **Childhood Memory:** Summers in the mountains with my grandparents.
- **Where I grew up:** Boston

### About Stephen

- **Age:** 37
- **Career:** Safety consultant
- **Favorite Food:** Fried Catfish
- **Favorite Movie:** Notting Hill
- **Favorite Childhood Memory:** Playing video games with my brother.
- **Favorite TV Show:** The Magicians
- **Favorite Book Genre:** Science Fiction
- **Family Philosophy:** when faced with two equal choices, we always pick the one that makes for the best story to