



THE RAGANS-STAUFFER FAMILY

*Help Our Family Grow*



Alexi (Left) & Regina (Right)

Hello,

It is a strange thing to sit & write a letter to someone we have never met. We're aware of the challenges of finding a family you trust to raise your baby with values similar to yours since all you have to go on are the family highlights

put in a book. First & foremost, we value open & honest communication, so the child will always know they were adopted. Just as they will know how hard a decision it was for you to make this choice.

We want to raise a child in a loving home full of Art & Adventure. We don't want to raise a child addicted to a screen who only experiences life through the T.V. & the internet.

We want to take them outside to experience the wonders of nature, go on hikes & camp, do sports, music & art, but not force them to do activities or sports they hate. We want to raise the child to understand that their likes & opinions are valid. We believe in the power of a good education & will do everything we can to help the child succeed in life. Being raised in a loving home is essential to us; we have a lot of love to give.

Thank you for taking the time to go through our book.

With love and respect,

Alexi & Regina







Gina & Alexi met at a birthday party in Chicago through mutual friends who were trying to fix Alexi up with Gina's roommate. Despite their failed attempt at matchmaking, they still take credit for our relationship.

As you are looking for a happy home and somewhere that your child will grow up loved and supported, I hope you take the time to read about our family.

Alexi received her bachelor's degree in Social Work and is working with both middle and high school students. As assistant director, she is running after-school and summer groups and programs. Regina is working with youth aged 13-21. in a behavioral health facility as an overnight shift lead and off-campus program supervisor.

Regina grew up in Chicago with her mother, father, older sister, and younger brother. Her family lived in the same home until her parents retired to Georgia in 2014 with both her siblings. Her older sister was born with severe autism and loves WWE, her brother is currently saving for a place all his own. Regina's father worked in a mental health ward in a hospital in the city, and her mother ran her own business as a seamstress until they moved to Georgia in 2017.

Alexi grew up in a suburb of Chicago with her mother, older brother, and older sister. Alexi's mother worked jobs in a variety of fields including retail, non-profit agencies, and education while pursuing higher education. She received her Doctorate in 2021. Alexi's brother is married with 3 kids in Québec, and her sister is married and living in Australia.

Regina spends her leisure time creating art in a range of mediums and watching documentaries. Alexi spends her leisure time playing video games and reading graphic novels and mysteries. As long as we don't have to work late, we make sure to eat dinner with one another every night, talk about our day and watch something together before bed. We make sure to have at least two days a month for dedicated family time, just us no extended family. In the summer we like to go to the beach at least twice a month, and look for cool rocks and lake glass that Regina uses in her art. We also enjoy taking walks with our dogs in the forest preserves in our area.













We have three dogs. Avi the Maltese is our protector, Zoe the Cockapoo is our snuggle bean, and Ruby our sassy girl loves to play and run.

Our two cats love to be around us and the dogs. Gene the all-black cat loves food & Louise our tuxedo cat loves to hunt and play. Their favorite activity is to keep Gina from making her art all on her lonesome.



Less than three blocks from our home are a park and a grade school. There is a lovely walking path that goes through the park near our house where we take our dogs. Being so near to the grade school means we are surrounded by families and there are frequently kids playing outside all over the neighborhood.

Our home is the perfect size for a small family, we get a lot of natural light throughout the day so we can sit in any room to do the things we love.

During the Illinois Covid lockdown, Gina painted a beautiful jungle scene throughout the nursery.

We might not spend hours baking, but we will spend hours creating art and reading with one another.

















Our two favorite holidays to celebrate are Christmas and Halloween. Every Christmas we go to a local tree farm and cut down our own tree. Gina loves to cook a big meal for the holidays and Alexi is there to lend a hand. During Halloween, we love to dress in costume and hand out candy to the trick or treaters, extra candy for the kids in costume.

Alexi's half of the family likes to do a holiday Nailed-It challenge. Each year an edible decoration is picked, and the family gets together and competes to make their own fondant holiday topper. Anyone not able to participate that year becomes the default judge. Our family is very close and excited to meet the new addition to our family.









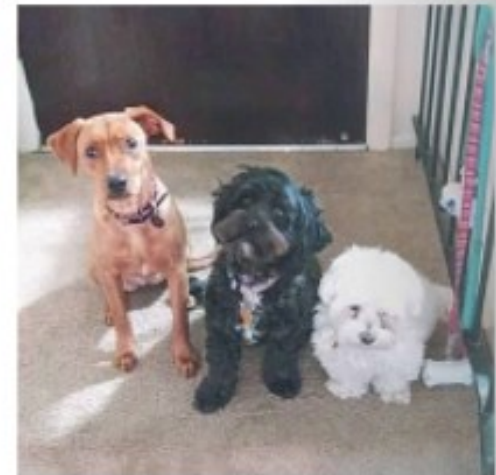
We have journeyed all over together. One summer we drove from Illinois to Detroit then to Canada visiting Toronto to Quebec to see family. We then visited the Museum of Modern Art in New York City and came home through the Pocono mountain range. We stopped and visited a museum in every major city we drove through. We are very excited to bring the kids camping to Southern Illinois when they are old enough. There are many beautiful hiking trails and state parks that we are excited to share with our future family.

We try to get to the beach twice a month during the summer as we both grew up swimming and have a deep love of water. Once a month we have a board game date night and try to beat one another for bragging rights.

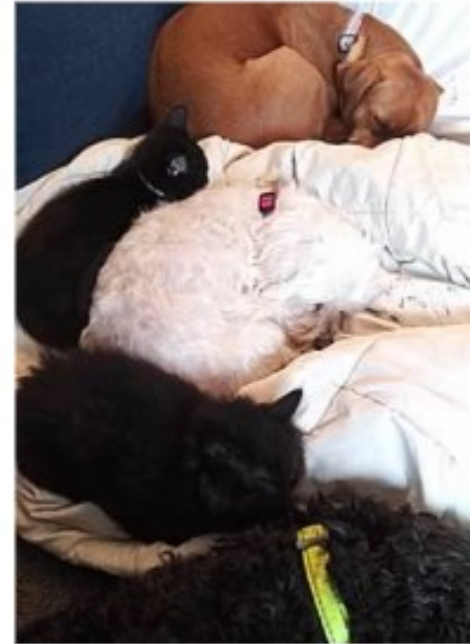
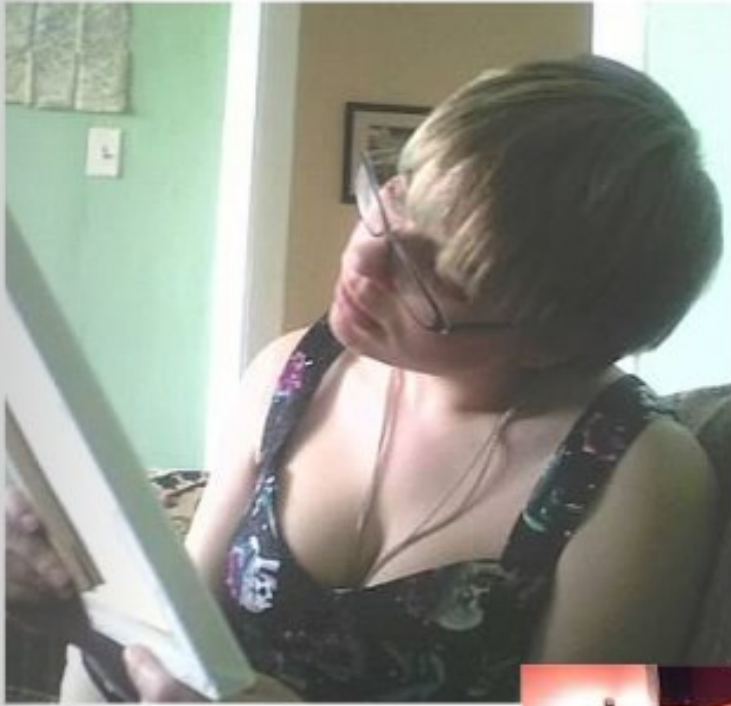
















We know this isn't an easy decision for you to make and we want to thank you for taking the time to get to know our family a little better. This book only skims the surface of our family's life and we are happy to talk to you and answer any questions you might have for us.

