

# ALI + CORRIGAN



# Hi!

We are so grateful that you're viewing our book and considering us to parent your child.

Adoption has been part of our family dream, even before we were married. We currently have a young daughter and cannot wait to grow our family and see our children bond as siblings.

We hope, pray, and will do everything we can to make sure that your child is loved, cared for, seen, and celebrated. We understand how important culture and ethnicity is for an individual, and we will do everything we can to help your child connect to their background.

We know that our family would not be complete without you, and that is a gift no one else could give us. We're committed to honoring you and respecting you. We see you and will stand here committed to you and your health and wellness.

*-Ali + Corrigan*





# WHY ADOPTION...

We have always wanted to adopt, even before we were ready to have children. Both of us have grown up around other families with adopted children and have seen that you can grow your family and love your children just the same whether or not they're biological. Our goal has always been to parent children together, not achieving a pregnancy. We believe that we were meant to be adoptive parents.





# OUR LOVE STORY



## How We Met

We met our freshman year in college through a leadership organization and were good friends for 7 years before dating. During our friendship, and even now, we have had a lot of the same close friends.

After college, we did a lot of the same things, like attending the same church and rock climbing. Eventually, we both thought our friendship might be something more, and we started dating in 2015. We were together for 2.5 years before getting married. Our period of dating was full of adventure, laughter, friends and family, and encouragement.



## How He Proposed

We got engaged in August 2016. We found a house that we loved around the time we were discussing engagement and decided to buy it together. We talked about throwing a backyard housewarming party the first weekend we owned the house. Both of our families were there as well as several close friends. To Ali, it seemed like a regular housewarming party, but at the end of it, Corrigan proposed!

After he proposed, he told her that everyone was inside waiting to congratulate us. It was such a fun night, and also a blessing to be able to celebrate our engagement with the love and support from our family and friends.



# Wedding Day!

In May 2017, we had our wedding at a beautiful contemporary art center near the college we attended and met. We were so excited to have so many people we loved from different moments of our lives in the same place to celebrate with us. We wanted our wedding to be a fun party not just focused on us, but all of the beautiful people in our lives. We wanted them to have a good time and understand how grateful we are for all of them!

Our friend officiated the ceremony which was so special to us. Our reception was an amazing dance party, kicked off by Corrigan and his groomsmen showing off a choreographed dance they had secretly prepared! Eventually, the evening had to come to an end but we look back at our wedding as one of the best days of our lives.



## Meet *Ali*

I would describe myself as easy going, empathetic, and organized (good at planning activities and events). I'm friendly, social, and adaptable to different environments and people.

I graduated with a degree in Business. After I graduated, I worked in marketing for 5 years before switching careers. Today, I design a globally used app which I really enjoy!

My childhood was joyful, nurturing, and creative. I grew up with one older sister, Crystal, and both parents in the same house. We were all close and shared a lot of interests, like cooking, listening to and playing music (all of us play at least one instrument), doing art, like painting and ceramics (my mom was an art teacher).

I have close friends where we live in Atlanta, but also still have many close friends spread around the country and even in other countries that I keep in touch with. Relationships have always been important to me, and I don't take them for granted.

### *My Favorite Things...*

Food: Sushi + Thai food

Dessert: Fruit pie + ice cream

TV Show: Parks + Rec, Seinfeld

Hobbies: Hiking, cooking, crafting

Games: Taboo, Code Names

Sport: Rock Climbing, soccer (to watch)

### *Corrigan Says...*

"Ali is creative, caring, genuine, laid back, fun and thoughtful. What makes her an amazing mom is that she gives her all to the people she loves. She is always thinking about the needs of others, both in her job and home life. She is also very organized and keeps our family on track!"

# and Corrigan

I like to say that I'm adventurous, supportive, patient, and curious. I love to try new experiences. I try to see the best in people and I avoid dwelling on negative situations.

I had an adventurous childhood. I have two younger brothers, Ryan and Kyle. My mom worked as a flight attendant until I was five years old. Although I was born in Florida, my family moved frequently due to my father's Civil Engineering job with a large oil company. We lived in Peru from ages 5-10 which was such a great experience for my whole family! I'm still fluent in Spanish because of it. As a child, family time was highly valued. We'd go on adventures often, exploring the Peruvian rainforest, snowboarding trips, etc.

I attended college and graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering, a minor in Computer Science, and an international plan certificate with a concentration in Spanish. I currently work as Director of Product Management for a green tech company. I help companies reduce their carbon emissions which is very rewarding work!

## Ali Says...

"Corrigan is one of the most optimistic, generous, and patient people I've known. He is very slow to judge and make assumptions, he is patient and a great listener, and also guides and loves others with humility. All of these things represent how he treats everyone with respect and dignity, and that's also what makes him such a wonderful father, especially to our daughter. He's patient, especially as a parent, and he's also fun and brings joy everywhere he goes."



## My Favorite Things...

Food: Chicken Piccata, Korean BBQ

Dessert: Key Lime Pie

TV Show: Taskmaster

Hobbies: Building things, snowboarding, cycling

Games: Jackbox Quiplash

Sport: rock climbing, soccer (to watch)



# Meet June

Our daughter, June, who is almost 2 years old. is playful, silly, LOVES her stuffed animals, loves going to the zoo and being outside. She's curious and enjoys making friends with all the neighborhood children! She loves music and dancing as well!

As a family, we love to bike around our neighborhood and check out different parks in our area. We plan lots of play dates with friends, enjoy swimming at Corrigan's parents' house in the summer, and heading to the zoo whenever we can!

June will be such a wonderful big sister! We can't wait to watch our kids grow up together and share the same sibling bonds that we enjoy with our families.







# Hobbies We Enjoy...



- ✿ We enjoy rock climbing together, something we did often when we first started dating!
- ✿ We love being outdoors and going on adventures. We like to hike together with our two dogs, go boating on the lake, ride bikes to different places around the city, and we plan to take our kids skiing/snowboarding as they become old enough to learn. Corrigan grew up going on snowboarding trips with his family every winter and even placed in a snowboarding competition as a teen.
- ✿ We love eating! We enjoy trying new recipes and restaurants as a family.

We also enjoy attending concerts and dancing!





# Vacations we've Loved



We traveled to Peru and Bolivia a few years ago with Corrigan's brother, Ryan, who proposed to his now wife on that trip. Corrigan and his family lived in Lima, Peru for a large portion of his childhood, so they wanted to go back with their significant others to show them where they grew up.

It was Ryan's idea to go to Bolivia where they have the most beautiful salt flats. It was an adventure to get there, and it was so worth it. We got to meet people from Bolivia on that trip and learn about their culture, meet a lot of llamas, and see so much beauty.

For our honeymoon, we went to Paris, which was absolutely amazing. We visited different art museums and the gardens of Versailles, had amazing French food, and just enjoyed walking around the city.

Another fun trip together was with some friends to Crystal River, Florida to swim with manatees. It was a multi-day trip which included canoeing to a remote island where we camped. It was so beautiful there and such a cool experience to be able to swim with the manatees!







# Meet our Families



*Ali's Family*

My parents, sister, brother-in-law, niece and nephew live in Minnesota and many extended family lives in Texas. We are able to visit each other twice a year!

I am the youngest of 2 sisters. My family is very close and they all live together in Minnesota. They are all so caring, welcoming and generous. Every time we visit there is a feast prepared.







## Corrigan's Family

Corrigan's parents, siblings, and grandmothers all live near us, so we see them fairly often, especially his parents and siblings. He also has several extended family members that we see a few times a year.

Corrigan is the oldest of 3 sons with a loving mom and dad who are still married. His family is close-knit. We often text and call each other with jokes, funny stories, etc. in between seeing each other. One brother is married with a 10-month-old baby girl, and his youngest brother lives just about 20 minutes away from us. It's wonderful to have so many family members nearby!



# Memories +



*"The best things in life are the people we love, the places we've traveled, and the memories we've made along the way."*

Corrigan and Ali's families love spending holidays together, especially Christmas. Corrigan's family plays a fun game called "Double Double" where they roll the dice, and if the numbers match, they have to run and pick a gift under the tree. Whoever has the most gifts at the end wins, and everyone leaves the game happy!



Ali's family traditions include celebrating the first 100 days of a baby's life - a Korean tradition. It's celebrated with delicious Korean food and families gathering together.





# Traditions



In Korean tradition, 1st birthdays have special activities. One being a fun game where the family puts out different items that represent the child's future path to see which items the child chooses. It's just for fun and such a special activity. Ali's parents did this with their children and Ali and her sister have also done this with their children!



As a family, we love our Friday dinner tradition where we pick a new restaurant and head to dinner after picking up June from daycare. We also visit the zoo often, as it's within walking distance from our house! Often, our Saturday mornings consist of grabbing breakfast nearby and walking to the zoo. We also love wearing family costumes for Halloween and taking Santa and family photos every Christmas!





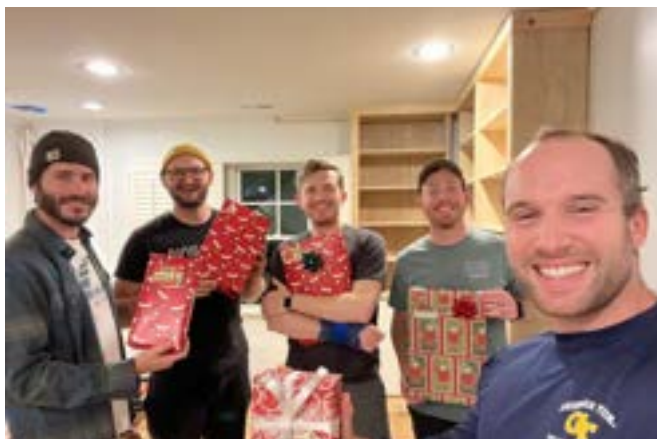
# Our Friends...

We love our friends and are so thankful to have so many in Atlanta. We also have many friends we met in high school, some friends from college as well as from our church. We are truly surrounded by a wonderful village of people!

All of our friends, a mixture of backgrounds, races, and religions, will be important in our child's life. We spend time every week with different groups of friends, all whom already love and care for us and our daughter June so well. We'll go on walks, hikes and bike rides as well as meet at restaurants or the zoo, and have play dates at local parks. Many of our close friends have young children that are the same age as our daughter and some of our friends are currently expecting! We have close friends that are also our neighbors, so it's very convenient and easy to have quick, last-minute play dates.









# Our Home



We love our home and community! Our home is an 1,800 square foot, 2-story home. It was built in 1935 so it has a lot of character, which we love! There are 4 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms. The first-floor consists of 2 bedrooms, our master bedroom, an office, a bathroom, kitchen, dining area, family room, and laundry area. The upstairs consists of 2 bedrooms and 1 bathroom. One of these bedrooms will be our future child's bedroom, across the hall from June's bedroom. The backyard is fully fenced and has a lot of room to play and run around!





# + Community



## OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

- Walking distance to restaurants, grocery stores, parks, playgrounds, pools, and the zoo
- Bike lanes and trails connected to our house
- Families of all ages, races, and cultural backgrounds live in our area



*In Our Home.....*

# Faith + Prayer

We regularly attend church on Sunday mornings and attend other church gatherings, like neighborhood dinners. Even though we have both grown up in Christian families and churches, we are always growing and learning more about ourselves and our faith. We want to always teach our children what we believe and why our faith is important to us, but we want our children to create their own faith journey- whatever that may look like.

There are certain things that we want to also do as a family, like understanding and practicing the Advent season (before Christmas), and serving our community together with our time and money.





# Dreams of the Future

Education is important to both of us. We want to make sure our children receive a great education as well as immerse them in diverse environments. Currently, we are in a neighborhood with a good public school ranking and a highly ranked charter school, both of which are racially and socioeconomically diverse.

We plan on our children attending college and are prepared to help them financially throughout college so they can focus on their studies and careers. We plan to always be supportive of our children at any age, so whatever assistance and guidance they need during and after school, we will be there every step of the way!



# Talking about Adoption

We will constantly strive to find a balance of showing our child how much they are loved and seen within our family while always being honest and respectful of their unique story.

We also want to celebrate our child's race and culture along with ours; we want both of our children's biological cultures and backgrounds to be honored. Our child will always know his or her story, and how much you love them.



# We Promise...

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- to love you unconditionally and do our best to create a home full of love and respect for individuality, creativity, and faith
- to do our best to help you discover and pursue your passions and dreams, whatever that may look like
- to always encourage and challenge you to be the best version of yourself while still giving you freedom and respect
- to honor your story as an adoptee and always follow your lead in what we share with others
- to understand that there will be challenges and grief as an adoptee, and we will do everything we can to walk through that with you, support you in discovering your identity, and honor your biological family
- to learn about and celebrate your ethnic and cultural background as much as possible while creating new family traditions and stories together



*Thank you.*

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We are so grateful that you've taken the time to learn about us and read our story. It's a story we hope to continue with a new, beautiful baby someday. We have so much love to give and can't wait for the opportunity to become parents again and openly share that love with another child. God bless you and your journey. We are praying for you every step of the way!





