# Hello

We are Kim and Pierre. Thank you for taking the time to learn more about us. We sincerely admire your strength in deciding to seek support from LSS, and your choice to make a plan for your baby. We realize that this is an extremely important decision and we are honored to be part of your journey. If you feel inspired, we would be delighted to have an opportunity to get to know you too.

When we chose the path of adoption we started learning more and more about open adoption. Quickly we came to the understanding that openness is an essential component of an adopted child's healthy development. We don't expect it to be easy, but we know that working on developing an open relationship can have unparalleled benefits for the child, us, and the birth family.

Expanding our family is something we've wanted for many years. Today we feel hopeful that through adoption our desire to love and raise a child will become a reality. We cannot wait to shower a child with unconditional love from day one to eternity.

Through our profile we hope you catch a glimpse of the love and joie de vivre (joy of life) we have, and how excited we are to embrace this next chapter of our lives—becoming parents.

Sierre & fin







## OUR STORY

Our story begins on May 13, 2006, at an indie-pop concert in Paris, France. By chance (or maybe by fate) we stood next to each other all evening watching the bands play.

It was a great concert, one we certainly won't forget. However, the real highlight of the night was after the the stage lights at La Cigal finally went dark that night. Pierre took a chance and said hello:

Pierre: "Excusez-moi..." Kim: "...pardon, je ne parle pas bien le français." Pierre: "You speak English?" Kim: "Yes! Sorry. I'm learning French."

After a slightly awkward introduction, we spent the rest of the evening listening to each others stories:

Pierre was from Brittany, a region on the northwest coast of France. He had moved to Paris to finish his studies. Kim was from Nebraska. She came to France for 10 months to be a nanny for 4 adorable children, to experience French culture (of course!), and hopefully learn some French. By our 3rd date, we were head-over-heels for each other.

Two years later we said "Oui (Yes)" to us!

#### THE VALUES THAT WE SHARE AND THAT GUIDE US

Making each other laugh and sharing many interests brought us together. However, what bonds us the most is sharing similar life values. Some of the most important to us include:

- Having respect and showing care for self and others
- Being responsible and caring for the environment
- Being active in the community, being good citizens
- Advocating for education and life-long learning
- Growing as individuals: nurturing our curiosity and talents
- Developing meaningful relationships with family and friends



Enjoying a winter walk in Brittany, and sharing a moment together.

## **OUR HOME & COMMUNITY**



We live on a welcoming little street, aptly named Forest Avenue. We love the history of the homes here and enjoy the diversity and charm of the people drawn to this neighborhood.

We are centrally located in town and very close to many places. We're a short walk to best local pizza joint, summer ice cream parlor, independent movie theater, and our amazing public library. Our favorite park and the elementary school are both just 6 blocks from us.





#### HOME IS WHERE THE HEART IS

As a couple we've called France, Canada, and now South Dakota, home. But two places will always touch our hearts in special ways. We cherish time spent visiting our families and where we each grew up. Kim's Nebraska and Pierre's Brittany in France will always be "home".



### FAMILY

Family time is very important to us. For more than 12 years as an international couple, we have had to adjust to one family always being far away. While the distance will never be easy, thankfully with technology we stay in contact every week with family thousands of miles, and 7 time zones, away. We are very fortunate with how much support and love our families give us. We both have come to realize how important the quality of our relationships are with in-laws to our overall happiness and desire for family bonds. The make-up of our families are different: Pierre's is small, but has become extended with step-family; Kim's is rather big with many aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews. Our greatest family treasure is the vast collection of memories from holidays spent together. Both of our families look forward to welcoming another child to the family and sharing our holiday traditions--be it Christmas, Thanksgiving, or summer vacations.







#### SEÑOR BLANCO (BLANC-BLANC) & TESLA-BANANA

Señor Blanco made his fur-ever home with us in 2016, and Tesla-Banana in 2019. Blanc-Blanc is timid at first, but, once he's warmed up to you and ready, he quickly alerts you to his favorite activity – receiving belly rubs. Tesla is all about play time – she loves chasing, pouncing, and attacking her "prey".









A FEW OF OUR FAVORITE THINGS:

- Food: French, American, Korean, Indian, Ethiopian, Italian, Thai, Mexican - we are adventurous eaters!
- Watching movies: Bring on the popcorn!
- Nature: We love to visit state parks for hiking, biking, canoeing or kayaking! From prairies and rivers in Nebraska to white cliffs and beaches in Brittany, these places make our hearts flutter!
- Museums, concerts, plays: We love seeing the talents of others and learning about different cultures!
- Playing games with family and friends: Board games, yard games, card games (you get the idea)!
- Making things: The end result is not always pretty, but doing it ourselves is so satisfying!
- Animals: Our cats Señor Blano and Tesla-Banana are our favorites (but all fury friends are pretty great.)

#### **Our Favorites**

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Y	Season:

Spring

Summer

**Toy Story** 

WALL-E

Kim's genuine kindness and open mindedness make the world a better place. Her ability to stick to her principles and to influence people around her to be more mindful individuals (including me!) never ceases to amaze me.

She has a myriad of amazing qualities, but what I love most about her is hearing her laugh and witnessing every day how smart, crafty, and cute she is. I am also extremely proud of all the hard work and tenacity she put into learning French. To top it all off, Kim is a talented cook and is great with kids. I know she will be a wonderful, caring, and loving mother.

Everyone loves Pierre. It's true, he has the ability to make almost anyone si with his wit and French charm. Wh we first met, I could barely introduce myself in French and I remember being amazed how funny he was, in a second language! He makes me laugh, like no one else does. He is also one of the most genuine generous people I know. He not only puts me first, but he is frequently going about doing something for a family member, or offering to help a friend. I also love that he is a real optimist - he is great at reassuring me that everything will turn out alright.

written by Kim

Pierre

Kim written by Pierre

## LOOKING AHEAD

#### THINGS WE LOOK FORWARD TO WHEN WE WELCOME A CHILD INTO OUR FAMILY

- Exploring the world together with awe and curiosity
- Going to new places, as well as all of our familiar favorites
- Appreciating nature, music, art, theatre, dance, film, literature
- Watching (perhaps playing too) hockey, tennis, baseball, and soccer
- Spending time together in the kitchen and at the table
- Embracing a bi-cultural and bi-lingual life (and learning about other cultures too)
- Telling jokes, playing games, making funny faces, and signing silly songs
- Sharing smiles, hugs, laughter, and many gentle kisses

#### MERCI THANK YOU

Thank you for getting to know a little about us. If there is one thing we hope you remember about who we are and what's important to us, it is that we are incredibly thankful for the love, joy, and amazing opportunities that we have been blessed with in our lives. We see every day as an opportunity and an adventure and look forward to sharing this precious life journey with a child.

It is our wish to get to know you too. We are committed to open adoption and value what openness, trust, and honesty can do to help ensure an enduring and healthy relationship between our families. We come with an open heart and mind, and we welcome working together to plan a future relationship that feels right for everyone.



Warmest regards,

Ferre & Kim

