



## HELLO!

#### WE ARE ANDREW AND KELSEY!

First, we want you to know that we love and support whatever decision you make. You know yourself and your child best. You will make whatever decision is best for your family. We pray that you will feel peace and clarity and know that you are an incredible mama.

We are so honored to tell you a little about our family. Our hope is that through these pages you will get a glimpse into our life as a family and see the love that pours out of our hearts. We love adventure, but we also love quiet evenings in our backyard. Above all we value our relationships with God, our family, and our friends. If you choose us to parent your child, you would become part of our family. But no matter what you choose, we are here to support you.

WITH LOVE AND PRAYERS,

Andrew. Kelsey and Elvise

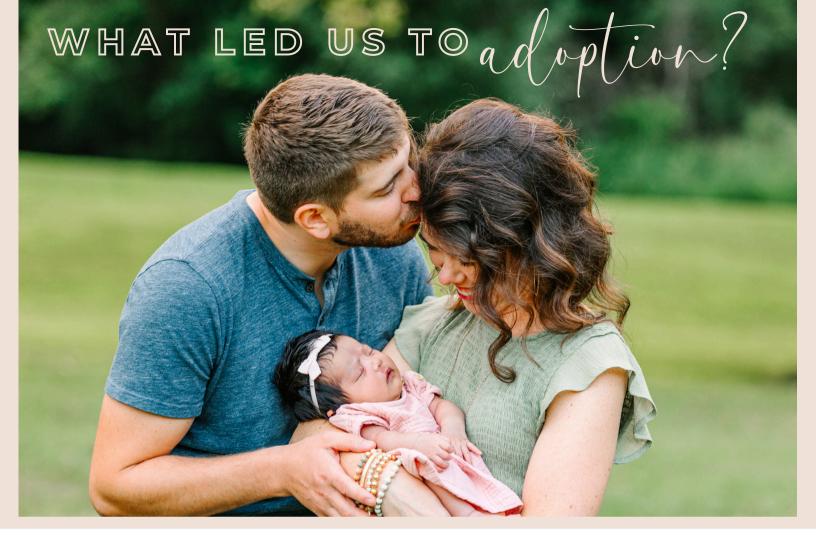
OUR love story

"I'll never forget the day I met Andrew. I was at one of my favorite restaurants downtown for a friend's birthday. While we were there, one of my friends introduced me to Andrew. She definitely knew what she was doing when she introduced us. We clicked immediately and a few days later he asked me on our first date for dinner and ice cream. The first things that drew me to Andrew was his faith, our similar interests, and how easy it was to talk and connect with each other." - Kelsey

> "I told some of my friends a month into our knowing each other that I was going to marry her. Three weeks after we met, Kelsey moved away for the summer. This was a time of patience and stepping out of my comfort zone for me. I was not a fan of phone conversations, but that was pretty much how we communicated that summer. It was definitely worth it." - Andrew



One summer evening while at Andrew's parent's lakehouse, Kelsey leaned into Andrew and asked what he was thinking. After a short pause he responded, "I love you". What he was actually thinking was how he wanted to marry her one day. We got married less than 2 years after meeting each other, and even that seemed like a long wait at the time. Our wedding day was filled with so much love, faith, and support. We both have large extended families, so there were about 300 people in attendance at our wedding. I think both of our cheeks hurt by the end of the day from smiling so much.



When we got married we both knew we wanted a larger family so we made the decision to start trying right away. After about six months of trying, we consulted a doctor. Since then, Kelsey has had two surgeries to remove endometriosis and Andrew has had surgery to improve his sperm count. We have tried several medicines and supplements to improve hormonal imbalances but have not conceived.

### We have decided to not pursue IVF or other similar options because adopting and fostering have always been on our hearts, even before we got married.

Growing up, Kelsey's cousin who lived next door adopted their two children at birth. Kelsey's mom babysat for them, and we are still very close to them. This was so helpful to witness them in their adoption journey from a young age and then to ask questions when we started pursuing adoption. We also have friends who have adopted and have been so supportive. We adopted our daughter, Eloise, in August of 2022 and cannot imagine our lives without her and her birth family. They have brought so much joy and love into our family. We are so excited for Eloise to become a big sister now.





I am currently a stay at home mom and love it! I love being able to make our own schedule and spend our days connecting and doing what we enjoy. Having strong, authentic relationships are very important to me. I often spend my daytime with other mom friends and love watching our kids play and learn together. We go to parks, the Children's Museum, or even the store together. In the evenings, I love cooking with Andrew and Eloise and playing in our backyard and garden. I also love hosting friends and family at our house. I take pride in making people feel loved and welcomed in our home.

#### IN ANDREWS WORDS...

"Kelsey is a loving wife, mother and amazingly faithful. She is a shining example of what a wife and mother should look like. I hope that if we have a son, that he is lucky enough to find a partner like Kelsey. Kelsey currently stays at home with Eloise. It is amazing to see the relationship and bond that they have formed. I have also very much enjoyed watching Kelsey grow in her relationships with other moms. She is very intentional about scheduling get togethers and reaching out to her friends who she hasn't heard from in a while."



I am a husband, father and small business owner. I love what I do. My favorite part of the day is coming home and giving Kelsey a kiss. I think that this is the most important part of my day, as I'm trying to instill in Eloise what she needs to look for in a partner. I find any reason I can to be outside. I love my friends and family very much and I try to include them in everything that I do.

### IN KELSEYS WORDS...

"Watching Andrew become a dad has been one of the greatest joys of my life. He adores Eloise and is always telling her she is beautiful and loved so very much. Eloise loves when they wrestle and when he tosses her in the air. Andrew is always supportive of me and whatever projects I have in mind for him to complete. Each year when I want to expand our garden, he asks what my vision is and makes it happen. He is like that for our friends, family, and church too. He is always jumping in to help and volunteering whenever possible. Andrew is generous, loving, and authentic. He loves the outdoors and grilling the most delicious food I've ever tasted. He is my rock, my guide, and the leader of our family."



# our daughter ELOISE

**Eloise is the sweetest little two year old!** She is funny, curious, and loving. Eloise is currently going through a very independent stage and wants to do everything by herself. She is always saying "I do it". She loves to explore, go to parks, read books, dance, and sing songs. Her favorite toys right now are her baby dolls and play kitchen. She is always "making eggs" and feeding her babies and stuffed animals. Eloise loves rocking her babies, pushing them in strollers, and putting them down for their naps.

Everyday it seems like she learns something new. She loves the color yellow and pointing out trucks. When we tell her she can have one of something, she has now started to say "I two". Which makes us laugh and half of the time she then gets two because it's so cute and funny. Her laugh is so contagious and her cute dimples always make people smile.





## we love our fur babies. ZELDA AND LINK

We have two cats, Zelda and Link. We adopted our older cat, Zelda, about a year into our marriage. She is very sweet, cuddly, and loves to be petted. She loves laying near wherever Eloise is playing, and Eloise loves to cover her up with blankets. Our younger cat, Link, is very outgoing. He is very loving but he prefers exploring the outdoors and laying in our garden. Both of them have been very gentle with Eloise and other kids. Eloise loves giving them hugs and kisses, and they love the attention too.



## W FRIENDS

We have a wonderful group of friends who have become "aunts and uncles" to Eloise. They have been so supportive of our decision to adopt and are excited we are growing our family again. We love hosting our friends for cookouts. Now that many of our friends have kids, it has been a blast to sit outside and eat and watch the kiddos run around the backyard playing and laughing. We also enjoy going to the children's museum and parks with our friends and their kids. Andrew enjoys having game nights with a core group of guy friends. Kelsey has multiple friends who are also stay at home moms, and they get together weekly for playdates.



### A FEW OF OUR our favorite things



KELSEY: BEING A MOM • GARDENING • PLAYING SOCCER • CATS BEING WITH FRIENDS • MUSIC & DANCING



ANDREW: FATHERHOOD • PURDUE BASKETBALL • GRILLING FOOD READING • LISTENING TO PODCASTS • FAMILY & FRIENDS



HIKING • CAMPING • GOING TO THE LAKE HOUSE TOGETHER: HOSTING FAMILY & FRIENDS • BIKING & EXPLORING

### WY COMMUNITY

We love living in Indianapolis where there are so many opportunities to try new foods, learn and experience new things, and explore. We enjoy going to Holiday Park, Eagle Creek, the Children's Museum, and numerous playgrounds which are all within a 15 minute drive of our home. Kelsey is a member of the YMCA and Eloise loves going to the childcare while Kelsey participates in workout classes. Eloise has also done swim lessons at the YMCA.



We are Catholic and very involved at our church. We are both on the mens and womens committees that host events to build community and learn about our faith. We also enjoy leading book studies in our home. Kelsey is involved with the moms group at our church and enjoys bringing Eloise to the mom and kids outings. One of our favorite annual events is the family camping trip. About 15 families from our church go camping together and it is a blast! We cook our meals together, pray together, connect, and the kids love running around exploring together.







### OUR NEIGHBORHOOD IS DIVERSE AND WELCOMING

We live on the northwest side of Indy. Our house is a three bedroom, one and a half bath home with a large yard and basement. We recently turned our basement into a big playroom that Eloise and her friends love playing in. We bought our house from the second owners who left it as a 1970s time capsule. Over the first six months of owning it, we gave it a much needed facelift. Renovating the house ourselves has allowed it to really become our own cozy home that we take pride in.

The houses in our immediate area have a lot of kids. There are always kids riding bikes and playing volleyball and other sports. We were even invited to one of the kids' birthday parties recently. We love knowing that our kids will have built in friends living next door. We live on just under half an acre. We have a large garden and a swing set in our backyard. There is also a small neighborhood park and walking path about a half mile from our house.

# extended FAMILY





### KELSEY'S FAMILY:

I have a very close relationship with my family. My parents are one of nine children and one of six children, so I have a very large extended family. Most of my aunts, uncles, and cousins still live within 30 minutes of each other, and we get together for every holiday. They all love Eloise and are so excited for us to grow our family.

Growing up, my parents instilled in me the values of faith, education, hard-work, and service to others. We went to church together every Sunday, I attended a Catholic elementary school, and was very involved in our youth group.

Both of my siblings have kids, so currently Eloise has seven cousins. It has been a dream come true watching Eloise play with all of her cousins.

The whole family adores her and can't wait to add another baby to the cousin group.





### ANDREW'S FAMILY:

*I have a very strong relationship with my family.* I have two loving parents who have been married for almost 40 years. They raised me and my three siblings and lost a fourth child to stillbirth. My mom is one of seven and my dad is one of eight. Family gatherings for the holidays were and still are a lot of fun.

I really look up to my dad. I learned hard work from him, and he has been a mentor to me my whole life. He has taught me so much about what it means to be a man, but also a loving husband. I hope that I am as good of a father as he was to me and my siblings.

My parents and siblings all live within 20 minutes of our house. I work with my dad and my mom watches Eloise and her cousins about once a week. She loves having "Wednesdays with Grandma". We live close enough to my brother that we often go for walks and bike rides with his family in the evenings. They have a little boy who is six months younger than Eloise.



Ne love to care for others





In the fall of 2023, our family embarked on a new journey, we opened up our home for foster children.

We prayed a lot over this decision and decided it was what the Lord wanted us to do. Fostering for us has been such a blessing even with the difficult circumstances.

We started our journey with a three year old girl who was as sweet as can be. She stayed with us for almost two months. She had a lot of personality and Eloise (14 months at time) loved playing with her. They got along so well and it was such a blessing to see Eloise have a sibling. We also had a three year old boy for a short stay. He was the sweetest boy who loved to run and play. He loved chasing Eloise and she loved it right back.

Our foster journey has also let us care for two of the sweetest babies. Both were tiny when they came to our house. As fun as having older children around, it was even sweeter watching Eloise interact with the babies. She loved them so much and loved to help us feed and burp them.



UR promises

FOSTERING AND ADOPTION HAVE TAUGHT US SO MUCH ABOUT OPENING OUR HEARTS TO OTHERS. WE HOPE THAT AS YOU NAVIGATE THIS DECISION YOU SEE THAT FROM US. WE WILL LOVE AND SUPPORT YOU NO MATTER WHAT. THIS JOURNEY OF LIFE IS NEVER EASY, BUT WE HOPE YOU KNOW THAT WE WILL SUPPORT YOU AND TRY TO MAKE YOUR JOURNEY AS EASY AS POSSIBLE.

**We promise that** your child will be loved unconditionally, not only by us, but by our friends and family too.

**We promise to** provide a loving, nurturing home where your child feels supported and encouraged to be themselves.

**We promise to** cultivate a home with God at the center that values kindness, joy, generosity, and respect.

**We promise to** always speak openly and often about you, your love for them, and their adoption story.

**We promise to** celebrate your child's heritage. Eloise is Latina and we are currently learning Spanish and teaching her as we learn. Our hope is to become a bilingual family one day!

We believe that an ongoing relationship with you will be beneficial for all of us. We envision weekly text updates and pictures for the first six months and monthly after that. We would also love to visit with you about 4 times a year. We are open to video calls or a photo sharing website too. We would love to hear from you about your hopes and dreams for our relationship. We want you to be happy and feel respected. We hope to work together to create a plan that works best for all of us.

all our love. Andrew, Kelsey and Eloise



Adoption

