Maura and Daniel



Hello, we're Maura and Dan. Thank you for taking the time to read about us.

We take the important things seriously, but never ourselves too seriously. We put real effort into what matters to us, whether that's our family, our work, or each other. At home, Dan does the cooking and Maura plans the trips, and we both laugh a lot along the way. Our friends and family describe us as caring and loyal, and we agree.

Our path to this point hasn't been easy. We've dealt with infertility and some road bumps in the adoption process itself. Those experiences have made us more patient and more certain that we want to be parents. We're grateful for the life we have and hope to share it with a child.





Our Story

We both knew early on that we wanted to be parents, and that was one of the first things we bonded over. Separately, we had each thought about adoption as both of our cousins have adopted a child. After we moved from Texas to Massachusetts, we decided it was time to start.

We met in 2019 as neighbors across the street from each other in Austin. We hit it off over our shared love of family and travel, and what we remember most from those early days is how much we laughed and how easy it felt. That turned out to be useful, because the pandemic hit soon after and we spent the first months of our relationship in lockdown.

Both of our parents were educators, and we each grew up valuing school. Dan studied Political Science at a university in England, where he captained the basketball team. Maura studied Economics and Finance at a school in Greater Boston and was president of her sorority.

Dan started a few companies after graduating, and one of them brought him to Austin. He's now a Product Leader in tech. Maura started her career in finance, moved into tech sales, and is now an executive at a software company. We both work from home most of the time and have flexible schedules, so we can be there for school events, appointments, and the everyday moments of raising a child.



Meet Dan — Through Maura's Eyes
Dan is Loyal, selfless, driven, charismatic, good-humored

Being with Dan never felt awkward or new. He's easy to talk to, we share values and life goals, and he makes even the simple moments fun. It was less that we were drawn together and more that soon after we met, I couldn't picture my life without him.
-Dan will be an involved, devoted dad and the parent who makes our child laugh every day. In the kitchen, he'll have a kid on the counter "helping" with dinner. I can also picture him in the yard playing for hours, coaching youth sports, and on the couch sitting beside our child at homework time just as easily. He always shows up, and I know he'll make our child feel loved and safe.

Meet Maura — Through Dan's Eyes
Maura is patient, compassionate, fun loving, ambitious, generous

Being with Maura is calming and warm. She's easy to talk to and has the biggest heart I know. She always makes time for her family and friends. It never felt like "dating," it just felt right, and I knew she was the one. -Maura will be a hands-on mom who makes ordinary days feel like a special occasion. With her niece and nephew, she's the one who plans the outing and makes the magic. She's also the person who calls to check in, sends the greeting card, and remembers what's going on in everyone's lives. She always makes time for the people she loves, and she listens carefully and is never rushed, which I think is what a child needs most.





Family and Friends:
We both come from close families. Our fathers are both educators, a bit more reserved, and each has a wide range of hobbies. Our mothers are the more outgoing ones, and they're the heart of our families. We're both the youngest: Maura has an older brother and sister, and Dan has an older sister. Between us we have four nieces and nephews we adore.
We're both extroverts with friends spread across different places and stages of our lives. Dan has close friends from childhood and university in England, friends in Canada, and a group in Austin. Maura's friends include her best friends from growing up in Maine, sorority sisters and classmates from college, and friends she made living in New York and Austin. No matter how many years or miles pass, we pick up right where we left off when we're together.
We love to travel and see new places and cultures. At home, we take long walks with our dog, Albus, and look for new parks and trails to explore. We recently took a trip to Manchester, England to visit Dan's family, and Maura's parents came along since they had never been. We spent a week with both sets of parents, seeing historic churches and WWII landmarks, having high tea, and going to a match at Dan's local football club. The best part was simply having everyone under one roof for a week and sitting down to dinner together every night.



Home Sweet Home

We live in a classic New England house in the suburbs of Greater Boston. When we were looking for a place to put down roots, we fell for a home where a family had lived for 25 years and raised three kids. It sits on an acre of land with a big backyard, and we love having people over, whether it's a holiday, a birthday, or a summer cookout.

Our neighborhood is full of families, and it's a place where kids can play safely. We didn't know the town before we moved, but we landed in a community with good schools, easy access to parks, kind neighbors, and a strong youth sports scene. The center of town is a 10-minute walk away, with restaurants, shops, and the train into Boston.

What three words describe your home?

Safe, cozy, connected.

What do you think a child will most enjoy about your home?

We can't wait to see a child explore our yard: building forts, looking for wildlife, and running around with the neighborhood kids. We hope they'll grow up with neighbors who become friends and extended family.











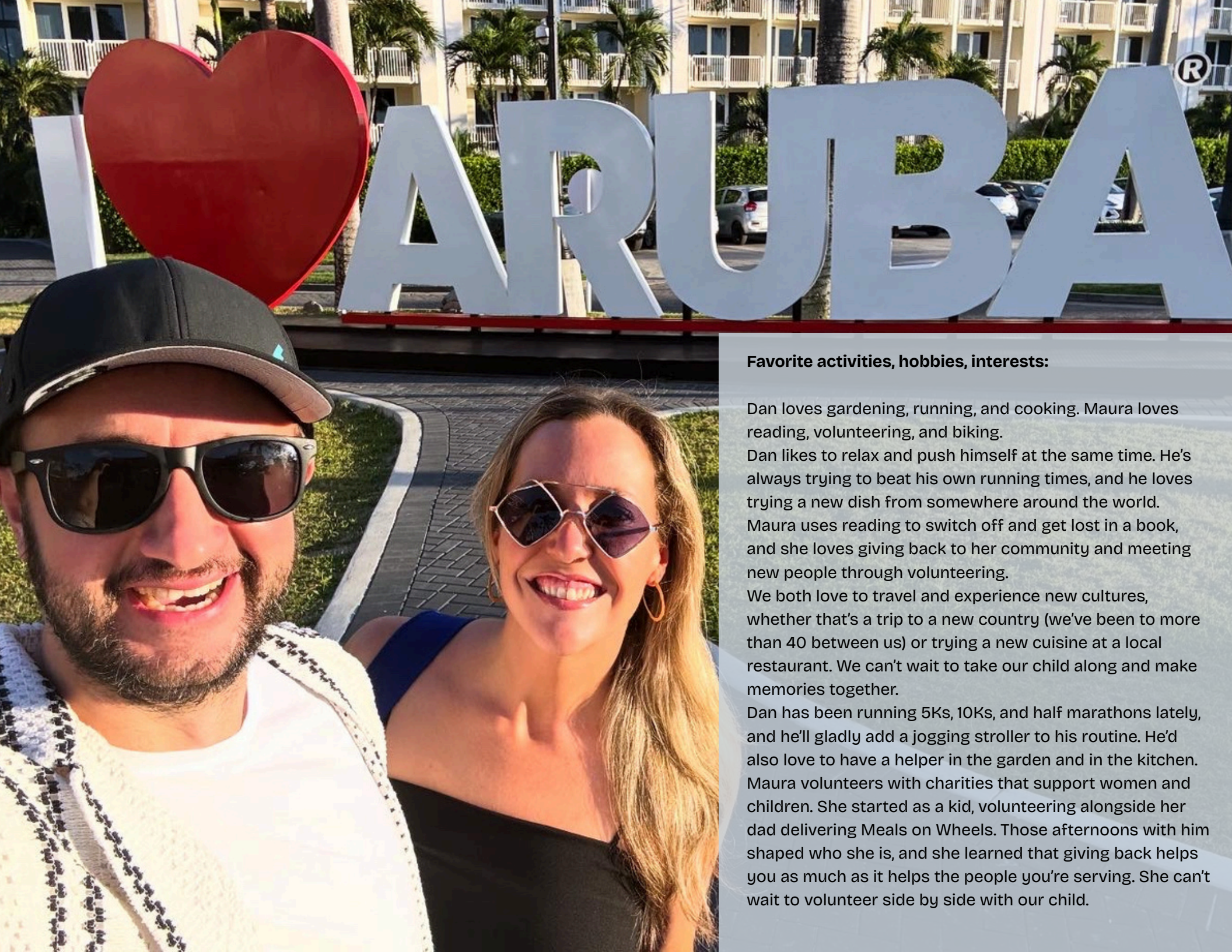

Favorite activities, hobbies, interests:

Dan loves gardening, running, and cooking. Maura loves reading, volunteering, and biking.

Dan likes to relax and push himself at the same time. He's always trying to beat his own running times, and he loves trying a new dish from somewhere around the world.

Maura uses reading to switch off and get lost in a book, and she loves giving back to her community and meeting new people through volunteering.

We both love to travel and experience new cultures, whether that's a trip to a new country (we've been to more than 40 between us) or trying a new cuisine at a local restaurant. We can't wait to take our child along and make memories together.

Dan has been running 5Ks, 10Ks, and half marathons lately, and he'll gladly add a jogging stroller to his routine. He'd also love to have a helper in the garden and in the kitchen.

Maura volunteers with charities that support women and children. She started as a kid, volunteering alongside her dad delivering Meals on Wheels. Those afternoons with him shaped who she is, and she learned that giving back helps you as much as it helps the people you're serving. She can't wait to volunteer side by side with our child.


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Fun Facts, individually and jointly

-Dan
Was featured in a medical journal after an unusual leg injury, and is now part of a third-year lecture at his university's medical school
Has visited 30+ countries

-Maura
Taught herself Spanish using apps and practice on her travels
Has visited 45 states and more than 20 MLB stadiums

-Together
Have visited more than half of Massachusetts's state parks
On a mission to try every local ice cream shop in Massachusetts








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Lifestyle and everyday life:
We both work in fast-paced jobs that keep us challenged. They're stable and let us provide well for a family. Our roles are hybrid, so we work from home much of the time and travel occasionally. We unwind by walking our dog together, and we sit down to dinner almost every night, unless one of us is traveling or has an evening commitment. After dinner we might watch TV together or do our own thing: Maura reads and Dan codes. Our favorite weekends are ones spent in a new place. A perfect vacation mixes relaxing (sleeping in, working out, reading) with walking all day to see as much as we can. We like to build our own itineraries with a few well-known spots and some local favorites off the beaten path. At home, we still like to get out at least one day each weekend, whether that's a state park with our dog, a museum, or one of the many local events around Boston



Pets

We have three rescue pets who fill our house with love and the best kind of chaos.

- Queso is a calico cat Maura adopted in 2017, a rescue from Hurricane Harvey in Houston. She's the queen of the house and loves being around people, or in one of her many beds where she can keep an eye on everything.
- Albus is a rescue dog Dan adopted in Austin in 2020. He was about 6 and a half, and the shelter believed he'd spent most of his life on the streets. After a few months of care he made a remarkable recovery and became a runner. These days, long walks and longer naps in the sun are his thing. He loves his humans, but nothing more than Queso.
- Rita (short for Margarita) is a rescue cat we adopted together in 2023. She had a few seizures after birth, and the shelter wasn't sure how long she'd live. She's now the feistiest member of the family. She keeps Albie on his toes and joins in the chasing and playing when Queso allows it.

What makes them special to you?

The three of them make a funny, blended family. Each has their own quirks, and they genuinely enjoy each other, most of the time. Our pet sitters say they're entertaining, and they're mostly sweet but always cute.

What do you do together with your pets, and how will you include a child in that?

Walks with Albus are our sacred family time, and we can't wait to bring our child along. Our neighborhood has connecting roads and safe paths, and we usually walk three to four miles a day. When we're home, the cats are never far from us at mealtimes or on the couch, and we imagine they'll keep a close eye on a new baby and enjoy the new toys.


IT'S MY
Birthday



Religion/Faith/Spirituality

Both of us grew up around religion. Maura's parents are Catholic, and her dad spent years in the seminary and stayed active in the church until his kids were grown. Dan's dad went to church every Sunday, and Dan attended Church of England schools from age 4 to 16. Today we aren't religious, but we're comfortable around people of faith and still live by the values we learned: love your neighbor, treat others as you'd want to be treated, and show up for the people in your life. We'll teach our child to be kind, honest, and respectful, and we'll be open to whatever they come to believe. We're happy to join friends and family at services, holidays, and celebrations of any faith, and if our child is curious about religion, we'll explore it with them.





Holidays, celebrations, and traditions:

We love hosting. Every year we throw a Christmas party for our neighbors and friends, and in the summer we have a backyard BBQ that fills our yard with people, food, and kids running around. We stretch birthdays into a whole week. There's a homemade cake, cards and presents, and an experience that makes a lasting memory. Halloween has become a favorite since we moved to Massachusetts. Our neighborhood goes all out decorating, and the street fills with trick-or-treaters. We sit on our stoop to hand out candy and have made neighborhood friends that way. We can't wait to pick out costumes with our child and take part in the trick-or-treating together. Mystery rides. One of us plans an outing that's a complete surprise, and the other doesn't know where we're going until we get there. We'd love to do this with our child someday, maybe with a few clues along the way



Feelings about adoption & expectant parent/level of openness/type of communication:

Above all, we want you to feel respected. Adoption brings up a lot of emotions, and we hope you feel only kindness and understanding from us. Love. We know a decision like this can't be easy, and we're grateful to anyone who makes an adoption plan out of love for their child. We also know the loss that can come with it, and we don't take that lightly. We'll talk about adoption openly and honestly from the start, in a way that fits their age, so it's never a surprise or a secret. We'll always speak about their birth family with respect, and we'll make sure they know they're loved and that their questions are welcome. We believe open adoption is good for children, and we'd welcome a long-term relationship with our child's birth family. We're open to photos and updates, calls, or visits, at a pace that feels right to everyone, with our child's well-being always at the center.

Your promises to the expectant mom

1.We will treat you with respect, patience, and kindness, at every step.
2.We will always speak about you to our child with warmth and gratitude.
3.We will work hard to build and maintain a relationship with you and our child's birth family
4.We will give our child a safe, loving home where their questions are always welcome.
5.We will help our child feel connected to where they come from and proud of who they are.

We will always think of you with gratitude and respect.
We promise our child a home full of love, joy, and laughter. We'll take the important things seriously, like their safety, their feelings, and their questions, and we'll teach them to enjoy all the wonders the world has to offer and to dream big.




Text
Text









Thank you for taking the time to read about us. Whatever you decide, we're thinking of you and wish you all the best. If we're lucky enough to be part of your story, we'll be grateful every day.

With warmth and gratitude,
Maura & Dan