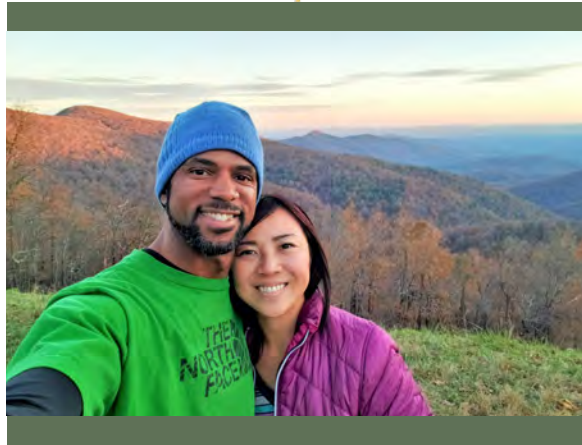


introducing

RA+AYANO





HEY there

Let us start off by saying that we are rooting for you. Whether you choose to parent, choose us or another loving family, just know that we believe you are so strong and we are hopeful you'll find the right home for your baby. We believe adoption is love and we have a lot of love to give. Since the beginning of our relationship, we promised each other that we'd build a fun loving family. We hope that this booklet helps you envision your child growing up in our care.

With Love,

RA+AYANO



OUR story



We met in 2013 and quickly knew we wanted to spend the rest of our lives together. We promised to each other that we'd build our relationship on three core values: Family, Deep Connection, and Adventure. Our motto is, "Love is strength!" We cherish these so much that we had them inscribed on our wedding rings.

In February, 2016, we both said "I do." We love the life we have been building together in Virginia. We both work remotely and have a flexible lifestyle. So, your baby will grow up always having us around to support them through everyday life. We are best friends and do pretty much everything together. We love to bicycle, hike, stroll on the beach, or just chillax at home. We enjoy listening to good tunes, watching movies and Formula 1 races, and having interesting conversations.



ABOUT Ayano

by Ra



Ayano with close friend's daughter

Ayano is kind, gentle, and very thoughtful. Everybody enjoys her company. I love that she's adventurous and bold. Overall, she sets our path and I am over the moon to proceed with her! We often joke that "comfort is her top priority." Our home is quite comfortable because of that and our travels are always nicer because she often packs just the right something extra. I am a fan of her creativity; her watercolors are amazing, and I absolutely adore the cards she gives me—sprinkled with her light-hearted doodles.

It's always amazing to see Ayano with children. I don't know who is happier; the kid, Ayano, or me observing them. I get to see how the world really should be whenever she's around kids. She listens with intent and communicates with honesty and compassion—at their level. Sometimes it really chokes me up knowing how genuine of a person Ayano is. I can absolutely trust her to be her. I think that's what I love about her most and I know that's why any child will love her, too.

“ I get to see how the world really should be whenever Ayano is around kids. ”
– Ra



Playing music with close friend's daughter

OCCUPATION Translator

FAVORITE BOOK OR MOVIE “The Alchemist” by Paulo Coelho

FAVORITE PLACE San Francisco

CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT Deep connection with loved ones

MY PERFECT DAY Strolling on a beach in the morning and having a meal with friends and family in the afternoon

ABOUT Ra

by Ayano

Ra is full of love. He has an open heart, and his love is genuine and abundant. He listens to you, tries to understand what you need, and supports you accordingly. I feel that my ground is more solid and I'm stronger with Ra around. Ra is a self-made man and has been paving his own path. He believes in his own capabilities. I really admire him for it. Having Ra as an example, I think our future child will gain the courage to create their own path and the confidence to be their authentic self.

In everyday life, Ra is light, enthusiastic, and fun; he sings and dances around, making me laugh all the time. He sees light in things and people and is a stranger to no one. He is as passionate about playtime as he is about his work. He has lots of energy. With him, I can easily imagine that our family life with a little one will be full of love and laughter! I feel blessed that he is in my life.

“ I know as wonderful a partner as Ra is to me, he will be a wonderful dad to the child. ”
– Ayano

OCCUPATION IT Consultant

FAVORITE BOOK OR MOVIE “The Eye of the World ” by Robert Jordan

FAVORITE PLACE Ishigaki Island, Okinawa, Japan

CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT Music, Mountains, or Rivers

MY PERFECT DAY A fall hike in the mountains followed by a BBQ rib dinner and a relaxing evening by the fire



Surfing with little cousin



OUR friends

Our closest friends are the same to us as family. We've traveled with them and look forward to seeing more of the world in their company. Overall our extended friends' circle is composed of beautiful, open-minded souls from different ethnicities, beliefs, and walks of life. We're close with a few of our neighbors and we look forward to setting up playtime with their kids. We're also friends with quite a few guys and gals in the local kiteboarding community. Our tribe has been supportive of our adoption journey and is very excited to welcome a new member!



Close friend group



Ayano's childhood friends



House party!



Close family friends

OUR families

Ra has a big family (mom's, dad's, and step-father's). He was truly raised by a village! Most of his family lives in Virginia, including his mom, dad, and younger brother. He also has some family concentrated in DC, NY, and TX. The families are tight-knit and welcoming. Everybody loves Ayano and we know they'll adore our child. The little one will grow up feeling connected to a bunch of good-hearted, down-to-earth people. Good memories are often created at Ra's family gatherings.

Ayano's parents, younger sister and nephew live in Japan. She is close to her family and we really enjoy visiting them and Ayano's friends. We try to go back to Japan every other year. Ayano also has some relatives in Atlanta and Boston. It's really nice that she has family connections within the U.S. When her parents came to visit us, Ayano's relatives got together and Ra's parents visited as well. The times shared together were such precious memories for both families.



Ra's family BBQ



Christmas family gathering



Visiting Ayano's family in Japan



Our Moms



Our Dads



Visiting Ayano's Aunt and family in Boston

OUR HOME & community

Our friends and family say our house feels open and relaxing — like a beach house. Every room has ample floor space for a kid to crawl around and play. We have lovely, green plants and captivating artwork all throughout the house, including some of Ayano's originals. Our fenced backyard has plenty of space to play and garden. We have a sitting swing where we enjoy listening to birds, watching butterflies, and taking naps.

It is said that Virginia is one of the best places to raise a family. Overall, our area is a laid-back, family-friendly, beach-town atmosphere — perfect for us! Our neighborhood is surrounded by water and we fully take advantage of the gorgeous landscape by strolling on the local beaches, bicycling around, kiteboarding in the river, and watching the sunset from the public boat dock at the end of our street. There are many playgrounds and a nature preserve where kids can explore, be sandy, and have fun! We have a number of great schools and universities in the area and plenty of economic opportunities in case Kid decides to settle down here.



Local beach

FUN facts

RAyano

We call ourselves RAYano (Ra+Ayano).



Ayano is a tree hugger.



We do kiteboarding together.



We name our plants and one of them is Groggu (the baby Yoda in The Star Wars). The force is strong with this one!



Ra spontaneously proposed to Ayano with a purple rubber band (that ties broccolis) at the Dragon Temple in Japan.



Ra had never gotten out of the country until he went to Japan. And he said: It looks a lot like Virginia!

WHY adoption

We've both wanted to be parents since we were kids. Ever since our second date, we talked about raising a family together. Turns out, when Ra was about 13-years-old he had a vision that one day he'd adopt. So, after giving it the "old college try" and not having success with IVF, pursuing adoption was a natural next step for us. Also, Ra's cousin adopted a baby and seeing them really inspired and encouraged us to go on this path.

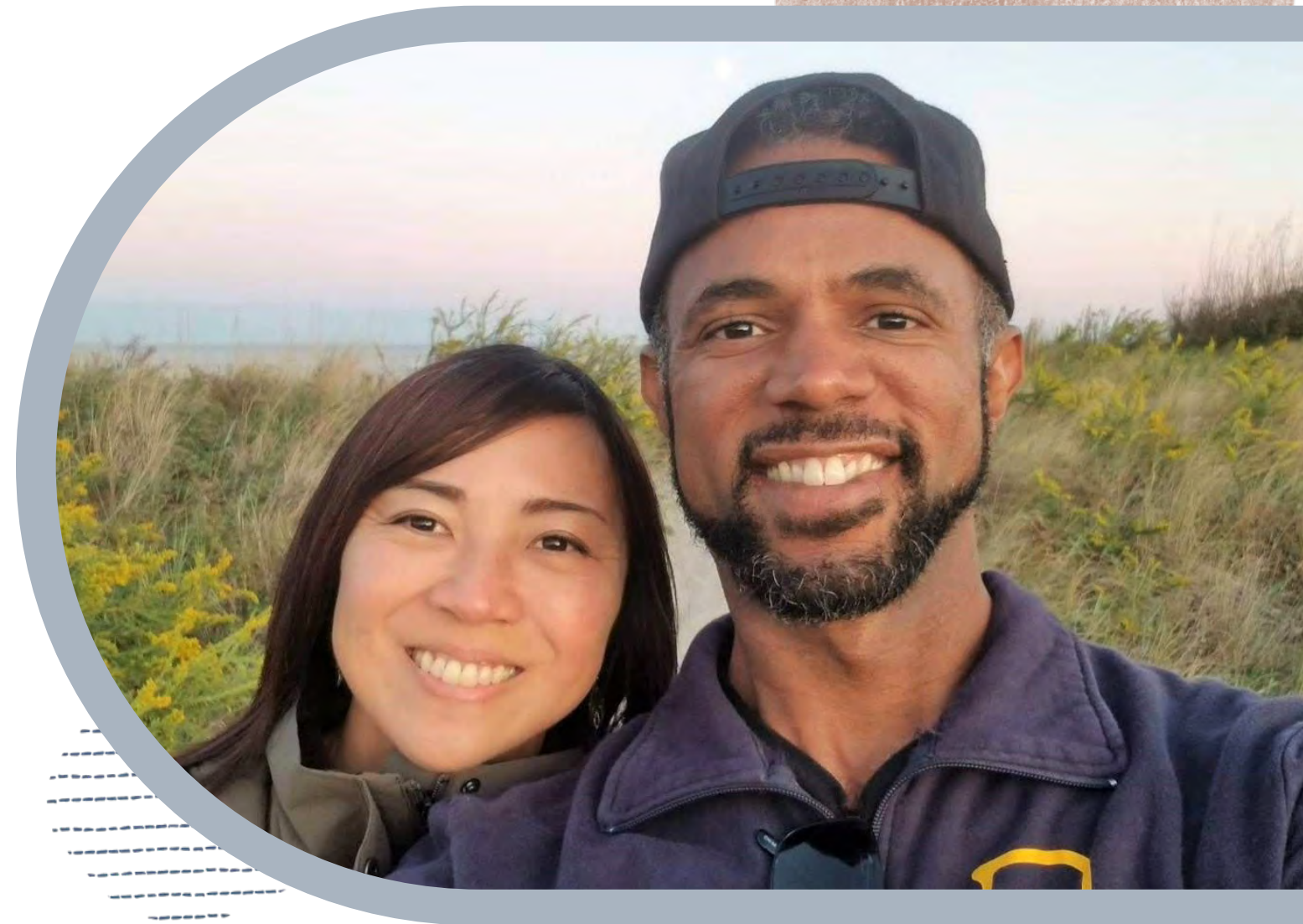


Our promises to our future child

- ☐ We will always love you and cheer for you in whatever you choose to do.
- ☐ You will grow up knowing your roots; that, thanks to your birth parent's love, you are here with us.
- ☐ We will be there in rain and sunshine, supporting you every step to build a wonderful life of your own.
- ☐ We'll do fun things together, often, because we want you to be happy.
- ☐ You'll be surrounded by our diverse tribe that loves you and shows you the great variety of this world.
- ☐ We will explore this world together, near and far, creating lots of awesome memories.
- ☐ You will build a good habit of eating healthy meals, exercising, and all the good skills that make life more stable and comfortable.



THANK you



Thank you for considering us to nurture the life you created. We are most grateful that you've spent this time getting to know us. We hope you are taking good care of yourself during this time of challenge and we pray you will be well. If you choose us to parent your baby, it would be the biggest honor of our lives. We promise to take very, very good care of your child and support them through anything life throws at them. We'll love him/her and you forever. Please always know that you'll have a place on your baby's team. Whatever you decide, may Light, Love and The Force be with you!

From the bottom to the top of our hearts,

RA+AYANO

