

INTRODUCING

Lewis & Gwen





Camping in yurts at Zion National Park, UT



Milk Stand in Star Wars, Disneyland



Point Lobos State Park, CA



HELLO TO YOU

We want to express our heartfelt gratitude to you. Your courage and strength in considering adoption for your child are truly admirable. As you navigate this journey, please know that your well-being is important to us and that you have our support and understanding.

We're humbled and grateful that you are reading our profile. We hope that you will see the warmth and love that defines our family. We believe in "the more the merrier" and we are excited to share our love and happiness with another child.

We hope that a connection sparks and you choose us as parents to love and guide your child.

With love and appreciation,

*Lewis
& Gwen*



ABOUT US

Our love story

Our story began in 2017 when we crossed paths at the airport where Lewis worked and Gwen was returning from a trip. We greeted one another as we passed by with a big smile and a brief "hello", but didn't meet until months later, where we found each other on a dating app.

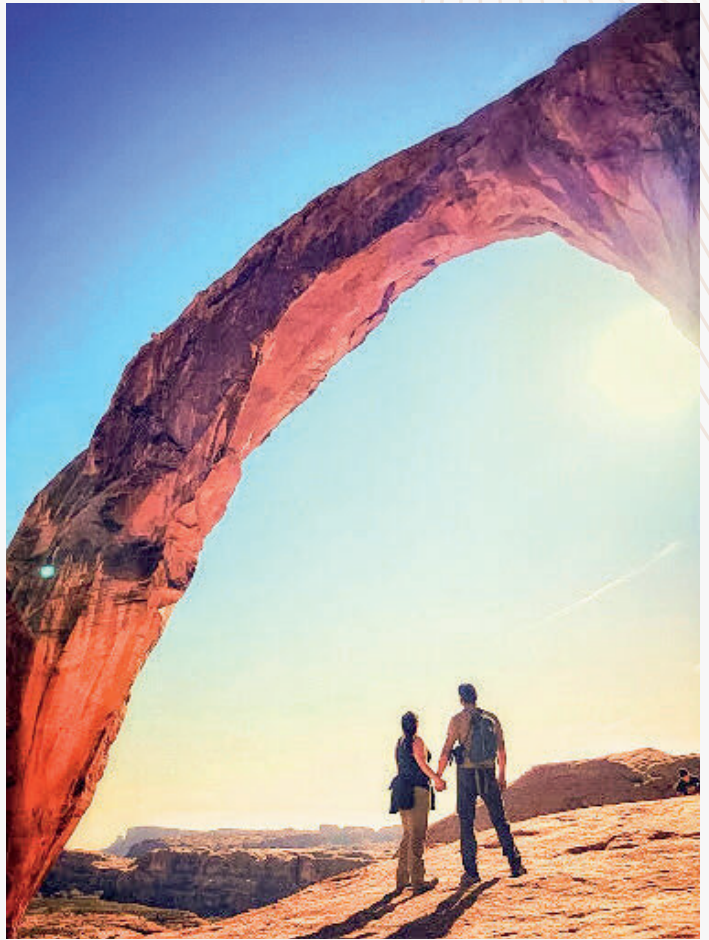
On our first date, we talked all night and neither of us wanted the day to end. We learned that we shared the same family values, had a similar upbringing even though we grew up miles apart and had a passion for cooking, hiking, travel and trying new things. We also appreciated our differences and wanted to learn more about one another.

Every day after continued to get better and better. We were totally inseparable after just a few weeks and we've now created a beautiful, happy life together.



Growing our family

In 2020, we welcomed our son Benji, and today our love is still going strong. We built a life filled with stability, adventure, laughter and love, and we want to keep building our family. We are a bilingual, mixed-race family, and we are so happy to seek adoption as a way to grow.



Arches National Park, UT



Dancing the night away



Glad we brought the ponchos



Beautiful colors of Mexico

MEET LEWIS

written by Gwen

Lewis is a rare gem. He's been a world traveler from the beginning since his dad is Venezuelan and his mom is Thai. He was born in Michigan and raised in South America. He's a native Spanish speaker and learned English just before college.

He decided to study Engineering in the United States. Life wasn't easy, but he worked his way up by driving taxi cabs, working in restaurants and in construction sites. He's had a successful career as an Engineer and currently works for the government helping to bring renewable energy to affordable housing in the city.

I couldn't ask for a better partner to build a life with. Lewis is caring, respectful, kind, and an excellent father to Benji. We are both spoiled. He is our family chef and makes amazing meals like arepas, Asian noodles and smoked chicken. He always keeps things interesting by surprising us with treats or "taking Mickey Mouse to work" day (See Fun Facts!).



The chef



MORE ABOUT *Lewis*

OCCUPATION: Engineering & construction

FAVORITE MOVIE: All the Marvel movies

FAVORITE MUSIC: Latin rock fusion

FAVORITE BOOKS: Born a Crime by Trevor Noah

MY PERFECT DAY: Going on a hike with my family



MEET GWEN

written by Lewis

What I like most about Gwen is that she has so much positive energy. She can light up a room and people are naturally drawn to her. She is super kind, and she is very devoted as a partner and as a mom. She is always ready to help, and she's got the most contagious laughter that will put a smile on anyone's face!

She grew up in Ohio and was the first of her family to go to college. She has a Master's degree in international business, and she used to go all over the world improving work for employees at large companies. Once she met me, she decided to settle down and build a life in California. She currently works for a tech company and works from home so she can spend more time with our family.

She's our social butterfly and our family planner, which means we have a lot of friends and go to fun places.



Pasta making classes

MORE ABOUT *Gwen*

OCCUPATION: Business & Human resources

FAVORITE MOVIE: Any and all Christmas movies!

FAVORITE MUSIC: Rock and blues

FAVORITE BOOK: Eat, Pray, Love

MY PERFECT DAY: Going to the park with my family



MEET BENJI

He will be the future big brother. Benji is a curious, kind and helpful kid that is always on the go. He loves exploring and playing with others. Benji enjoys hikes, parks, swimming, bike rides and books. Like his mom, he is always eager to lend a hand.

Benji is a great playmate. He is gentle with others, and he is always looking out for younger kids. He loves sharing and making others happy. He has started to ask when he will get a little brother or sister. Since many of his friends have a sibling, he's looking forward to having one too. You can trust that he will be a loving and supportive big brother to your child for life.



Meeting Captain America

MORE ABOUT

Benji

OCCUPATION: Preschooler & Hot Wheels technician

FAVORITE MOVIE: The Minions

FAVORITE MUSIC: Black Eyed Peas

FAVORITE BOOKS: How the Grinch Stole Christmas

MY PERFECT DAY: Going to the Science Museum



WHY ADOPTION

We love being parents and always dreamed of having a big family. We went through a lot of complications when Benji was born, and he will be our only biological son. That's when we decided to consider adoption to grow our family.

Both of our families have adoption experiences, placement and growth. We are eager to open our hearts and share our love and joy with another child.

Both of us grew up with siblings, so we know how important it is for our children to have that experience too.



Hiking in Monterey

Our PROMISE

- We will honor and respect you throughout your child's life.
- We will provide a safe and supportive home, grounded in patience and fun.
- We will always strive to live our best lives together as a family!

OUR EXTENDED FAMILY

and Friends



Lewis's extended family (in his words)

My parents have been together for more than 40 years, and I have two siblings. We all grew up in Venezuela, but ended up moving to the US, and now we are spread across Florida, Kansas and California. We get together as much as possible.

What I remember the most about growing up in Venezuela is that adoption was very common and welcomed. From neighbors to family members, we all grew up around adoptive families, and I am very happy that we get to be one of those families.

Gwen's extended family (in her words)

My parents were high school sweethearts and recently celebrated their 48th wedding anniversary. My mom was 1 out of 6 kids, and my dad grew up as an only child. He ended up meeting his biological sister in his forties. My grandma had placed her for adoption when she was a teenager.

I have one sister and we are very close. My immediate family and many of my aunts, uncles and cousins live in the same small town in Ohio that I grew up in. The whole family comes together when we visit, and we stay in touch through video calls all year long.



Lewis's family portrait



Gwen's family portrait

Our Friends

We could fill an entire book with pictures of our closest friends. They all have two things in common: they are all good people and they have been an immense support through this adoption journey. Our circle is wide and our relationships are deep. They are looking forward to us welcoming another child into our family.



Finally taking a little rest from dancing at the Latin Jazz Festival
Lewis & Oscar have been friends for over 30 years



Enjoying the lake
Gwen & Kristen have been besties since 4th grade

OUR LIFE

in California

We take advantage of all that California has to offer. We hike the redwoods, we explore the beach, we volunteer, and we also go to city events, like the Latin Jazz Festival or the Chinese New Year. There is good food, fun places, and plenty of things to do!



Chinese New Year



Volunteering at a food bank



Volunteering in Big Sur, CA



Serving up local fresh fish

OUR HOME

and Community

We live in a family-friendly community in a house with ample space for play and growth. Our new family member will have their own room next to Benji's.

Our neighborhood offers various amenities, including a pool, playground, paved trails, sports fields, several parks and a brand new library. These facilities provide opportunities for daily walks, bike rides, learning and lots of playtime.



Day at the park



Riding bikes on the trail



Carving pumpkins on the porch



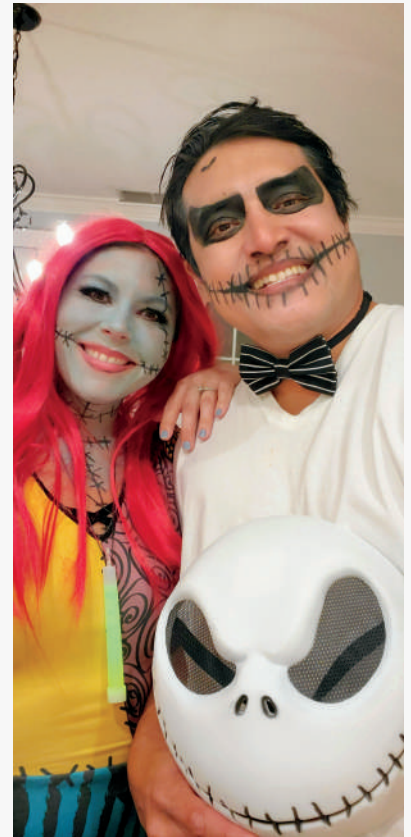
Birthday party in the park

FUN FACTS

and Adventures!



Halloween is Benji's favorite holiday. We make our own costumes, decorate the house and dress up as a family. We love coordinating costumes. (Yes, we are those people.)



Lewis grew up playing music and learned many folkloric instruments. We spend a lot of time playing, dancing and singing along to songs. We want to pass along our love of music to our children.



Teaching Benji how to make cookies

During Christmas Gwen bakes so many cookies that we spend days taking cookie boxes to friends and neighbors. The cookies are delicious!



Grinch Stole Christmas cookies

FUN FACTS

and Adventures!



One of our favorite hobbies is to go hiking. We hike mountains, hills, forests, parks, beaches and lakes, you name it... We spend days hiking trails of any kind!



As unbelievable as it may sound, none of us had been to Disneyland!
As soon as Benji was tall enough (40 inches) we booked our first trip. We finally got to meet the characters and had a magical time there.



"Taking Mickey Mouse to Work" day. Benji is always asking his dad to take him to work, but since he is too little to go to a construction site, Lewis takes Benji's favorite Mickey toy to work.



Mickey



Thank you for reading our profile. We are grateful that you wanted to learn about us. We hope that you can see how much love, care, and stability we could provide to your child.

With Love and Appreciation,

*Lewis
& Gwen*