



Anne & Christiaan





DEAR BIRTH PARENT,

We are Christiaan and Anne from The Netherlands and hope to build our family through adoption from the USA. We hope this book gives you some insight into our lives and the life we hope to give your child.

We cannot imagine how much courage it takes to make the decision you must make at this point and we will always respect you for that more than words can say.

We will do all we can to raise your child in the best possible way. We value honesty, empathy, resilience, independence, humor and doing your best. We will provide your child the space to develop into the person they are meant to be.

We will encourage your child to discover the world, knowing that there will always be people who love them unconditionally.



OUR STORY



Our wedding day (in the snow)



Back in 2005



Back in 2011

We met in 2003 at university and dated for 1½ years. In 2011 we got back together and have been together and very happy ever since. When we started to build a family, we immediately considered adoption. After reading a lot about it and talking with each other, our feelings toward adoption became stronger and stronger. We are looking forward to become parents!

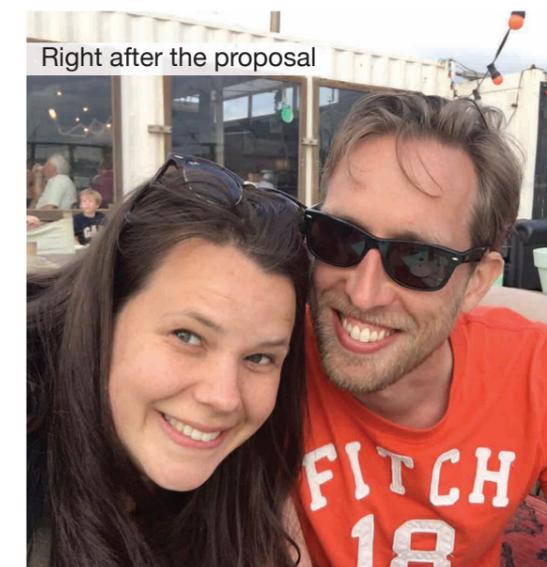


New Years Eve 2019

Our friends and family are very supportive towards our adoption journey.

We married, bought a house and six months later - on our wedding day - we informed our friends and family about our wish and posted our adoption application.

They are all very excited and supportive about our adoption journey and cannot wait until we - and they - welcome your child into our lives.



Right after the proposal

ABOUT CHRISTIAAN



Ready for high school prom



At lunch with colleagues



Having outdoor fun



Christiaan likes snowboarding in the Alps with friends

Christiaan likes:

- » Snowboarding in the Alpes with his friends
- » Reading the paper or a book
- » Running along the river and cycling
- » Jazz music, Jay-Z and Kanye West
- » All movies with Will Smith
- » Everything with wheels, like cars, motorcycles and bikes

Christiaan grew up as the youngest child in a family of five. Having two older brothers meant he always had someone to go to for help. Christiaan and his brothers like to go motorcycling for a weekend or camping in the mountains.

Christiaan works as a project manager doing projects all over Europe. What he likes most about his job is cooperating with people with different backgrounds and nationalities.

Anne thinks Christiaan will be a fun dad that always places a child first. When he becomes a dad, he will work part-time and looks forward to having outdoor fun together with your child. When it rains they probably will spend time reading books in the library together.

Christiaan loves being outdoors. Cycling, running, snowboarding or just a walk: if he smells fresh air, he is happy.



ABOUT ANNE



ANNE
LOVES
THE COLOR
PINK



Anne grew up in a loving family. When Anne was a little girl her grandmother used to babysit at least one day a week.

Anne works as a fundraising manager in music and also volunteers in our neighborhood by organizing Halloween and summer activities for the neighbors and their kids. Anne is often busy, but also very, very good at relaxing with a book or movie.

Christiaan loves that Anne is always there for people who need her, that she is smart, funny, creative and of course very sweet. He believes Anne will be a great mom as she really knows how to connect with kids. She loves to pick up some pencils and color together or to play pizza restaurant with kids and their stuffed animals.



Little Anne with her grandmother at the zoo



Anne loves pink

Anne likes:

- » Wearing sneakers
- » Going everywhere by bike
- » Wrapping gifts
- » Watching Christmas movies (even when it's summer)
- » Decorating the house
- » Watching The Big Bang Theory
- » Eating pizza and salad
- » Drinking Diet Coke

ABOUT US

We always have a lot of fun together and laugh often.

We like to be in our city and visit theaters, museums, and small festivals or just bike around. We also like being outdoors, taking boat trips or spending time with family and friends.

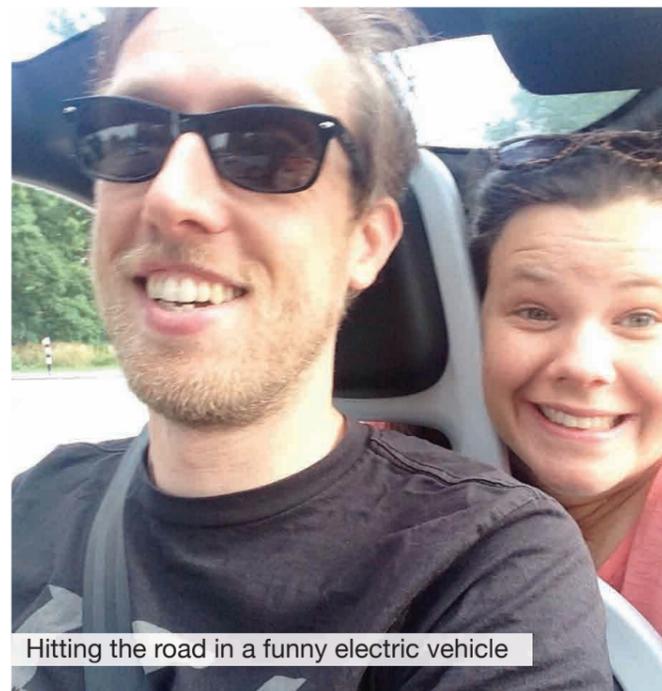
On Saturday mornings we always have a full breakfast together. Anne bakes pancakes or makes sandwiches, we have coffee and fresh juice and Christiaan turns on some music. Once in a while we have 'outings day': one day full of nice things you always wanted to do. For example: Take a ride in a funny electric vehicle, have lunch outside, visit

a museum or theme park, shopping in a special store, have dinner at a new restaurant or go to the movies.

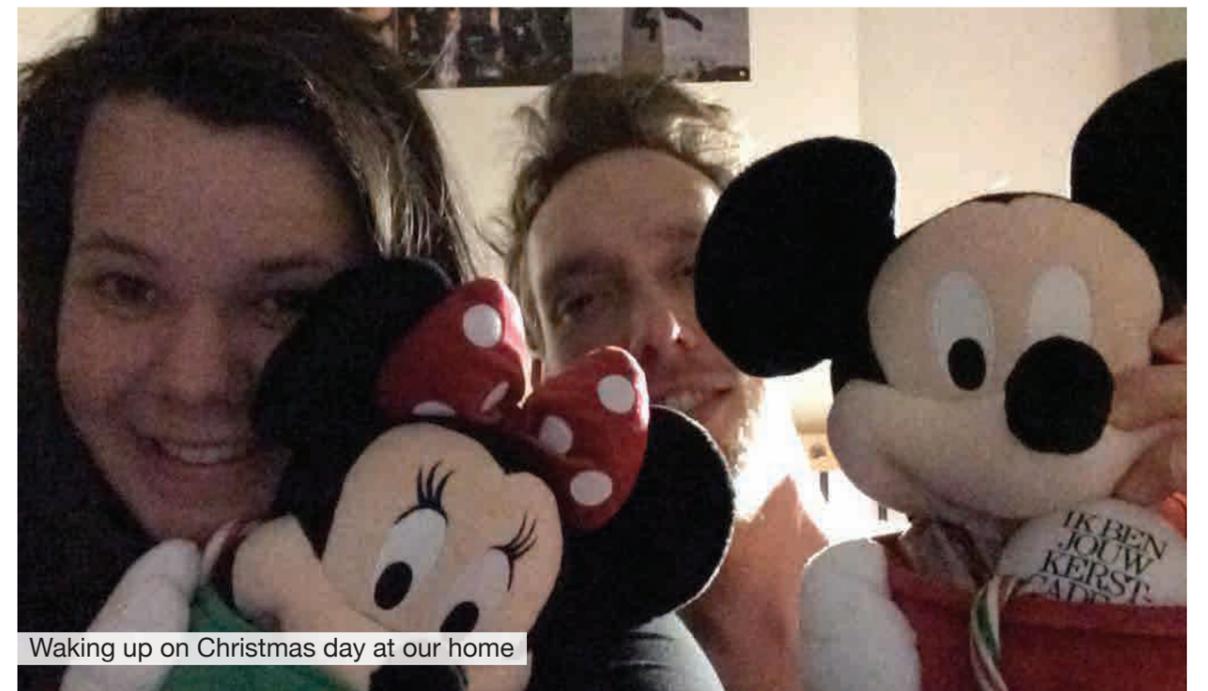
Our favorite way of spending time together is during a vacation. We like road trips and staying in simple hotels but also camping and being outdoors as much as possible. During road trips Christiaan often drives while Anne likes to look at the road map and read about the places we drive by. We also play games and listen to music when we are on the road and Christiaan tells Anne about all the special features of cars we see.



Hiking on a hot day while on vacation in Spain



Hitting the road in a funny electric vehicle



Waking up on Christmas day at our home

ABOUT US



Ballooning in Albuquerque, New Mexico



Anne in NYC



Hiking in Bryce Canyon National Park

It is Anne's dream to visit all 50 US states.



Celebrating 4th of July with Bas & Francien



Visiting our friend Rhonda in Michigan



Christiaan in DC

We feel a special connection with the USA. Anne went to summer school in NYC and our favorite way of spending vacations is by making a road trip to states we never visited before. It is Anne's dream to visit all 50 US states at least once in her life. So far she has been to 47 states already (and Christiaan does quite well too after visiting 33).

We celebrate the 4th of July and Thanksgiving with our friends Francien and Bas. We have a barbecue or cook a nice dinner and watch the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade from NYC.

Since we know a lot about traditions in the USA from our own experiences we hope to be able to raise your baby cherishing their American born roots.



The living room on the second floor of our house



Our neighborhood offers fun things to do, like playgrounds and outdoor summer activities

Our neighborhood offers a lot of fun things to do for kids.



Celebrating Christiaan's birthday with nephews Roan & Tibe and little friend Ruben

HOME & NEIGHBORHOOD

We live in a bright house with a nice backyard in a very diverse neighborhood. Our city is one of the largest cities in The Netherlands. We like our city very much since it is a safe and convenient place to live. The area we live in is very spacious and offers parks, playgrounds, all sorts of schools, sports clubs and hospitals. Even a large pond with a small wooded area are in walking distance.

A lot of children of different ages and with different backgrounds live in our neighborhood. They like to play together every day and celebrate Halloween.

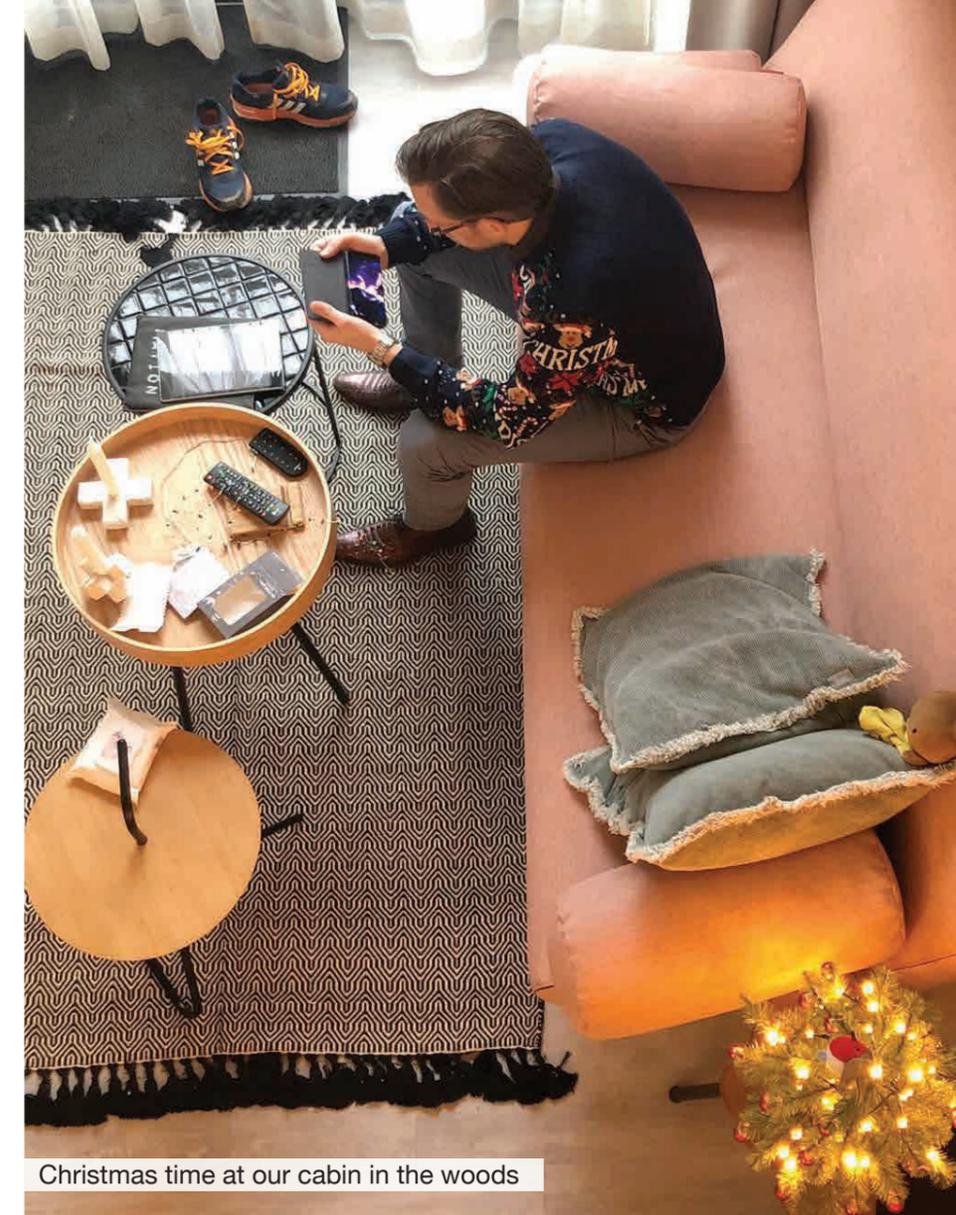
We also like to take the short ride to our cabin in the woods. A perfect spot for relaxing and outdoor activities like hiking, making camp fires and spotting some small wildlife. We can't wait to share all this with your child.



The nursery is ready to be played in



The tiny clothes wardrobe



Christmas time at our cabin in the woods



The plushies look forward to getting company

FAMILY & FRIENDS



Christiaan's family: parents Martin & Jenneke, Jillis with his family Anouschka, Roan & Tibe and Nils & Nicole



At a theme park with nephew Tibe



Christmas with Anne's family: parents Johan & Corrie, uncle Hendrik Jan & aunt Pieta, cousin Linda with dog Oscar and cousin Sander with his family Wencke, Nout & Melle

Family plays an important role in our lives.



Coloring with Fleur

Family plays an important role in our lives. Our nieces and nephews (ages between 2 and 10) like to stay with us during vacations or weekends. We like to do fun stuff with them like going to the zoo, taking a boat tour or have movie night with lots of popcorn.



A sleepover with Fleur & Lieke

We like eating fish at a restaurant near the beach with Christiaan's brother Nils and his family Nicole, Fleur and Lieke. Our nieces always look very much for-

ward to that - and so do we!

Our favorite family tradition is celebrating Christmas with Anne's family. There are presents under the tree, everyone helps cook a lovely dinner and we play Monopoly.

Anne's family is very close with Yordanos and Kiros. They moved from Africa a few years ago and have a very sweet son. We are proud to be Josias' stand-in aunt and uncle!

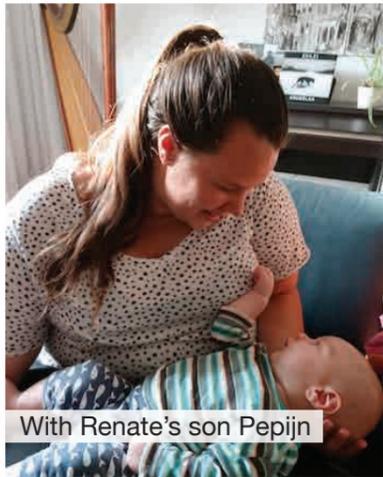


Kiros, Yordanos & Josias



Anne's parents Johan & Corrie at our wedding party

FAMILY & FRIENDS



With Renate's son Pepijn



Jörgen & Jay



Christiaan biking with friends

Anne knows her friends Clarissa and Renate for 30 years already. They try to see each other as much as possible. Raising 4 (Clarissa) and 3 (Renate) kids they are not only the best friends one can wish for but also a great source for getting practical parenting tips :-)

A few of our very close friends, like Jörgen and Jay, live in our neighborhood. On most Sunday evenings we have dinner with our friends Koen and Laura and watch a television show afterwards. We cannot wait to add Sesame Street on our to-watch-list :-)



The annual picknick with US born children and their parents

Our friend's kids all look forward to making new friends.

Besides our friends and family we also are part of the A New Way Family. This 'family' exists of Dutch parents and their adopted children born in the USA. We like the fact that all parents are very supportive towards each other and that we can share American traditions and holidays together.



We like to spend time with our friend's kids and be their babysitters when needed.



After a sailing trip with our friends Laura, Maaïke, Ruben, Koen, Kasper & Lise

THE NETHERLANDS



Dutch landscape: a windmill and tulips



Our city



Orange pastry on Kingsday



Our royal family



Celebrating Kingsday



Christiaan eating hagelslag (chocolate sprinkles)

We live in The Netherlands, a small country in Western Europe. Our capital is Amsterdam and we are known for our open minds, social tolerance, very good (and almost free!) education, good affordable health care and for our windmills, bikes and tulips.

On April 27 we celebrate the birthday of our king Willem-Alexander. This day - Kingsday - is a national

holiday and everyone dresses in orange and we eat special orange pastry. Almost every town or neighborhood organizes a fair with a lot of fun things to do for kids.



Dutch habits:

- » Eating chocolate sprinkles (hagelslag) on bread, not only for kids, Christiaan does so every morning.
- » Watching soccer and speedskating.
- » Working part-time for both men and women so we are home to be with our children.
- » We eat our french fries with mayo.
- » We use our bikes a lot. There are twice as many bikes as there are people in The Netherlands. Anne commutes on her bike, even when it rains.
- » We consume a lot of dairy and eat lots of fresh fruits and locally grown vegetables.
- » Our country has a large coast line so the beach is never far away.



Anne and her bike



OUR PROMISE

Thank you for taking the time to look at our profile. We hope that we gave you an impression of who we are and how much love we, and our loved ones, have to offer your child.

We are aware that making an adoption plan must be the hardest and bravest thing one can do. We will always make sure that your child will know and learn about you, how strong you are and how much they are loved by you. We are open to any form of contact and you will always have a very special place in our hearts.

We promise that we will love your child unconditionally and that we will do all we can to raise your child in the best possible way and offer every opportunity to help your child develop into a happy, caring and self-confident person that always can fall back on us.

We wish you all the strength and love in making this difficult decision and we hope you can find peace in the choices you make.

Love,

Christian
& Anne

If you have any questions you can call our adoption agency Forever Families Through Adoption at their Toll-Free Number: 1-866-922-3678 or directly at 1-914-939-1180.





Anne & Christiaan