

## “Dreams do come true...”

If anyone told us a few years ago that we would become the adoptive parents of two beautiful children we would hardly believe it. However, there was some one we met who made us believe that it was all going to happen: Joy Goldstein.

From the first moment we spoke to each other on the phone until now we feel a deep respect for her, her husband Michael and the staff of FFTA and The Goldstein Law Firm. They are all very warm and caring people and we are so happy we have them in our lives. Thanks to their hard work we have a complete family now.

My name is Marielle and I am married to Marnix since 1997.

After many years of failed fertility treatments we decided to choose the most beautiful way of building our family: adoption. In January 2009 our dream came true because we were chosen to adopt our daughter Eva. Her biological mother chose us to be the parents of her unborn baby. From the moment we heard about this our world was completely upside down! Luckily Joy and Michael were there to help us keeping our heads together and guiding us through the entire process. And in March there was this life changing e-mail from Joy written in pink.... We had a daughter! We were so happy and excited and we travelled to Florida to be united with her. From the first moment we saw Eva we knew that she was the girl that was destined to be ours. We wanted to protect her and take care of her and we were overwhelmed by the love we felt for this little baby girl.

Eva was a very sweet and easy baby and we were so happy to have her in our lives. When she became one year old we decided to apply for a second adoption because we liked the idea of raising Eva together with a brother or sister. And again, Joy, Michael and their staffs did anything possible to make us feel comfortable and they all helped us to make it all as easy as it could be. And sometimes it was not so easy.

We cannot describe how happy we were that in March 2011 our son NJ was born. We were chosen by both his biological mother and father. They wanted the best possible life for their little boy and entrusted him to us. We flew to New York and there it was for the second time; that special feeling of destiny the moment

we held NJ in our arms for the first time. He was so sweet and tiny and we fell in love with him immediately.

Our first days in New York were very special and it felt so good to be with the four of us. I had the feeling I was on a great blue, pink cloud and for a moment I could not care about the world around me. Suddenly I was the mother of two beautiful children and we got the chance after Eva's arrival to give NJ a wonderful life as well. I felt like I was floating between heaven and earth and I could not succeed to land on my feet. But, whatever, that was ok for that moment. During the day I was humming the song from "Arthur's Theme" by van Christopher Cross because the chorus was so applicable:

***When you get caught between the Moon and New York City***

***I know it's crazy, but it's true***

***If you get caught between the Moon and New York City***

***The best that you can do .....***

***The best that you can do is fall in love!!!***

And that is exactly what happened. Again I felt a huge source of Mother love inside and I was overwhelmed by the feeling that I recognized from two years before, when we meet Eva for the first time in Florida. But what I did not know then is what I knew now... this was only the beginning and it is going to be better and better.

During our time in New York, everyone made us feel so welcome and they did everything to make our stay as easy and fun as possible. It was so nice being with them for a few weeks and we really became like family. Joy and Michael also come to the Netherlands to see all of the American born children growing and we spend a lot of time together. We really became close!

Our family is complete and our happiness is impeccable. Slowly I start to come down from my blue, pink cloud back on one of my feet again. The other foot has to wait a little because with this much love in my heart for NJ and Eva I automatically keep floating a little, forever...

Thanks to FFTA, Joy and Michael and their staffs, we now know...

***Dreams do come true... Marielle***