



LESLEY
//
& KRIS



HELLO!

/// WE'RE ///

KRIS, LESLEY & LUCI

*WE APPRECIATE YOU TAKING THE
TIME TO VIEW OUR PROFILE.*

We have so much respect for you and your decision to consider an adoption plan for your child. We very much look forward to meeting you and hope that our photos and story give you a glimpse into who we are as a couple, as parents, and as a family. We are **EXCITED** to welcome a second child into our lives and **would be honored to be considered as a family for your child.**



5 THINGS WE WILL TEACH OUR CHILDREN

- Empathy towards others (the ability to walk in another person's shoes)
- Resiliency—learning ways to find joy and optimism in the world
- Taking on challenges and growing with opportunities
- Value of social justice, equity, and treating people fairly
- How to be a good self-advocate with the ability to set boundaries

OUR STORY

We've been together for eighteen years and married for thirteen. Our connection and love for one another was immediate-- it felt like we had known each other since forever. While we come from different backgrounds, we quickly bonded sharing our experiences and interests.

Food is a huge focus in our lives. We find great joy experimenting in the kitchen and preparing healthy home cooked meals and spending time around the dining room table.

From the start, films were a shared obsession. We get real nerdy about the Oscars and try to see every nominated movie. As a couple we have a spreadsheet documenting our ratings since 2004.

We have a growing collection of board games. A perfect stay-at-home date night is good popped corn and a tournament of Ticket-to-Ride on our porch.

We are well-matched travelers! We've driven across Wisconsin, taken the train out east, flown to London, and spent countless hours in the heart of Chicago. Our trips often include visits with family and friends, relaxing with conversation and good food.



A BEAUTIFUL DAY TO TIE THE KNOT!



WE LOVE WALKS TO THE NEARBY COFFEE SHOP

Spending time together is *EASY AND FUN*. Over the years we've weaved our families and cultures and created a home filled with laughter and love. **We bought our home in 2016 and became parents in 2020, when Luci joined our family through adoption.**

WE LOVE SUMMER DAYS AT OUR COMMUNITY POOL



WHAT LUCI LOOKS FORWARD TO SHARING WITH A SIBLING:

- Painting, coloring, drawing, and making shapes out of playdough
- Tea parties with Billie and all the stuffies
- Family game nights
- Playing in the backyard

- Taking walks to the nearby coffee shop for cozy conversation
- Baking muffins, cookies, and challah
- Packing a picnic and going to play at the park
- Taking family trips





LESLEY AND LUCI GIVING
BILLIE SOME LOVE (AND
GET KISSES IN RETURN!)



THE BEST PART ABOUT A RAINY DAY IS
JUMPING IN THE PUDDLES



PRONOUNS: SHE/HER/HERS

/// WRITTEN ///

BY KRIS

Lesley is the love of my life; the most amazing human, partner, and co-parent! Lesley is genuine and empathetic. She feels everything deeply, always knowing when someone needs a listening ear, thoughtful advice, a cup of tea, or a hug. She makes me laugh really big laughs.

As a partner, Lesley is ever-thoughtful and loving. She often knows what I need before I do, a testament to our near 20 years together. She's the best date-planner and most creative gift-giver. She challenges me to be my best self, and her ability to stay mindfully in the moment during life's ups and downs keeps me grounded and inspires me.



MAKING SNOW ANGELS!



SWINGING AT THE PARK



A LIFE-LONG CUBS FAN; GO CUBS, GO!

CHILDREN'S BOOKS LESLEY LOVES TO READ TO LUCI

CLICK CLACK MOO: COWS
THAT TYPE, GOODNIGHT
BUBBALA, HERALD AND THE
PURPLE CRAYON, I'VE LOVED
YOU SINCE FOREVER, MY
FAIRY BIRTHMOTHER, SNOWY
DAY, WHERE THE WILD
THINGS ARE

LESLEY'S JOB & LIFE AS A MAMA

Lesley's career aligns with her core values. She's a coalition building and training director for a public health institute within a university (working from home). **Her work is centered on people and making authentic connections, coaching and learning, always advocating for social change.**

As a mama, Lesley is everything I expected she would be. She's nurturing and silly, always there for dance parties, jumping in rain puddles, messy art projects on sick days, or baking muffins when it's cold outside. Lesley is patient and thoughtful. She thinks deeply about supporting our kiddo as they navigate the world. **I've fallen deeper in love, co-parenting with Lesley; and adding another child into our lives feels both natural and exciting.**



STORY TIME WITH LUCI

CHILDREN'S BOOKS

KRIS LOVES TO
READ TO LUCI

CORDUROY, GIRAFFES
CAN'T DANCE, GRUMPY
MONKEY, IT'S A MITZVAH,
ON THE NIGHT YOU WERE
BORN, AND PETE THE CAT:
I LOVE MY WHITE SHOES



KRIS LOVES BEING BY
THE WATER

MEET KRIS

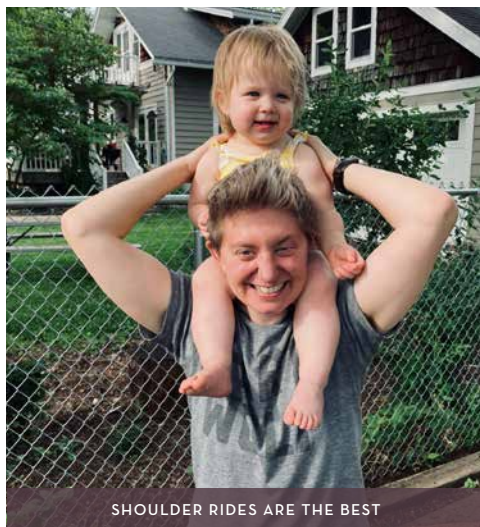
PRONOUNS: THEY/THEM/THEIRS

/// WRITTEN ///

BY LESLEY



KRIS & LUCI HAVING A BLAST AT THE PLAYGROUND



SHOULDER RIDES ARE THE BEST

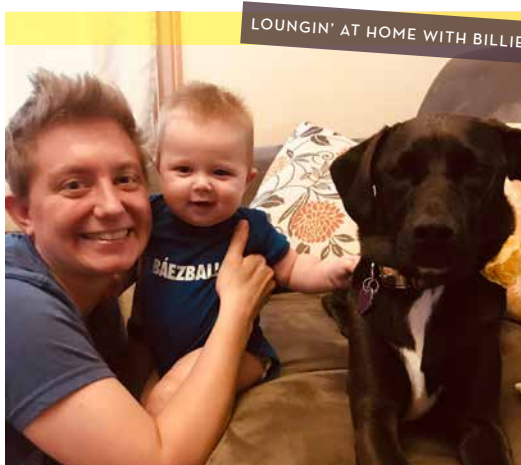
Kris is absolutely my soulmate and best friend! Kris is an awesome Baba to Luci (and Billie) and a great co-parent. They have a witty sense of humor and infectious laugh. Likable, gentle and good-natured, I've never met a kinder soul. They're nurturing by nature, offering comfort and really good hugs whenever we need it. Kris is my rock, even on hard days or moments of uncertainty, providing security and stability.

KRIS' JOB & LIFE AS A PARENT

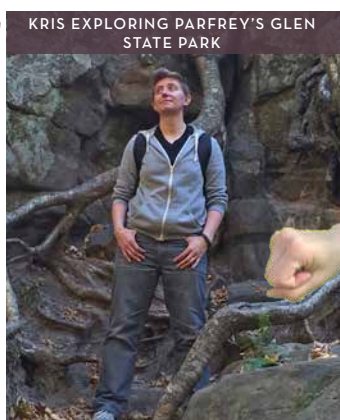
Kris is a librarian and works as a public services manager within a school of education/university library. Their work is centered on supporting future educators and providing access to resources. **They're passionate about removing barriers and connecting people to what they need.**

Kris is organized and loves to plan. Always checking the weather before we leave the house and keeping our emergency kit well-stocked. Kris is also our family documentarian, frequently snapping pics of Luci and Billie and chronicling our days in curated photo albums.

As a parent, Kris is Luci's biggest cheerleader. Always encouraging, they give gentle direction and space to explore and grow. Creative, silly play comes easily to Kris, and Luci is there for it! **Seeing Kris with Luci makes me fall deeper in love with them and is a huge part of why I'm excited to grow our family.** Few people are as dependable, thoughtful, and fun as Kris!



LOUNGIN' AT HOME WITH BILLIE



KRIS EXPLORING PARFREY'S GLEN
STATE PARK



HALLOWEEN FUN AT THE LIBRARY



OUR FAMILY



OUR FAMILY IS EXCITED TO GROW!



FAMILY VACATION AT THE BEACH

/// WE LOVE ///
SPENDING TIME WITH
OUR FAMILY, often losing
hours in conversation.

Topics jump from movies and music to politics to the Chicago Cubs.
We regularly re-tell the same stories with boisterous laughter as if we're all
hearing it for the first time.

GG'S BIRTHDAY



GRANDMA'S BIRTHDAY



Kris's mom lives on the east side of Madison, in the house where Kris grew up as
an only child. Luci calls her "GG" and they have a sweet, special connection.
Lesley's parents moved to Madison from the Chicago-area, where Lesley grew
up with her older sister. Lesley's mom helps with childcare every Tuesday and she
and Luci are two peas-in-a-pod. Luci calls her grandpa "GaGa" and loves when he
reads stories in funny voices. Lesley and her sister, Sara, are best friends. Sara and her
husband, Donn, live in Atlanta. With no children of their own, Luci is their everything
and they're over the moon with excitement for another nibbling to dote on.

We are blessed to be surrounded by wonderful friends (chosen family), many with
kids. Whether living in Madison or elsewhere, they're a huge part of our lives and our
unwavering support network. We also have strong bonds with several aunts, uncles,
and cousins.

GAGA SNUGGLES



NANA AKA LESLEY'S SISTER, SARA



5 FAMILY TRADITIONS

- We celebrate Shabbat each Friday,
eating challah that Luci makes at school
- We host Passover Seder with our friends
and family
- We go apple picking in the fall
- We always carve pumpkins on
Kris' birthday
- We watch "When Harry Met Sally"
every New Years Eve

MEET BILLIE

BILLIE IS THE BEST!

She's fifty pounds of love with the
sweetest, nurturing demeanor.
She's always looking for a snuggle
buddy or someone to play with.
Billie and Luci are only a year
apart in age and best friends. They
are so silly together. Billie's always
there by our sides, joining for
family games, playing in the backyard, and laying on top of
pillow forts in the family room. We all love our Billie Bean!



FAMILY SNUGGLES
AT HOME WITH
BABY LUCI



WELCOME TO OUR HOME!

OUR FAVORITE PLACES TO GO WITH LUCI

COMMUNITY POOL, FARMER'S MARKET,
HENRY VILAS ZOO, MEMORIAL UNION
TERRACE, OLBRICH BOTANICAL GARDENS,
OUR NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS,
PUBLIC LIBRARY



SPLASHING IN THE BACKYARD

/// OUR /// LIFE *AT* HOME

WE LOVE OUR HOME.

Imaginative, silly play happens in every room, especially on the porch where we recently added a fireplace creating a year-round play space and family room. When not on the porch, we are taking neighborhood walks or at nearby parks, playing in the backyard, or cooking together. Music is always playing in our home: Motown, 90's throwbacks and lots of Daniel Tiger are part of the soundtrack. A room in our house is called "the library" for a reason, we all love to read and since Kris is a librarian we're never short on books. Reading with Luci every night before bed is a favorite family routine. She loves to pick out new stories and always asks for "one more book."

/// MEET /// LUCI

Luci is a toddler with a big personality. She's incredibly communicative, full of language, and bright. Luci is warm and empathetic, her hugs are the best on the planet and her smiling eyes light up a room. Our home is regularly filled with silliness; Luci is imaginative, active, and curious about the world and will be a kind, patient, and loving big sister.

We've been joyfully having adventures and learning together since she became part of our lives, and we can't wait to grow our family!



LUCI IN THE CUTEST PRIDE OUTFIT



ALL SMILES FOR ICE CREAM!



AS PARENTS



When we think about parenting, we think about raising an awesome child to be an awesome adult. We focus on building a safe, nurturing and fun home, filled with joy and laughter, where they can thrive and grow to be an independent and resilient individual. We promise our child will always know how much they are loved through encouragement and affection. **We approach parenting with empathy and honesty, supporting our child's unique abilities, strengths, and potential.** Our Jewish identity is central to how we parent and live our lives. We are guided by Jewish values and culture focused on nurturing the whole child (mind, body, soul), so they become a kind, compassionate individual with a connection and love for themselves and others.

We know there is great value in open adoption and to the extent that you are comfortable, we welcome you as a member of our extended family. We will respect our child's roots and are prepared to learn about and support connections to their culture. **We will also honor their adoption story with honesty and they will always know that your love and courage is what brought them to us.**

THANK YOU

THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO READ ABOUT US. WE ARE SO EXCITED TO MEET YOU!

