

Dear Mom-to-be,

Have you ever noticed that life has an odd way of somehow working out? One theory recognizes the existence of balance in life, a reaction for every action. Some cultures call this YinYang. ☺ Two aspects of a single reality which cannot exist without the other. The circumstances that bring us together here are a perfect example of YinYang. Your loving and selfless act on behalf of your baby is met by our desire but inability to have another baby. This is Yin Yang.

Hello! Welcome to our profile, and thank you for considering us. If you managed to make it through our philosophical take on the adoption process without having your eyes glaze over, then you are awesome and someone we want to meet! We completely admire your dedication, and respect the difficulty of your path. We appreciate your consideration, and hope you feel pleased after considering our family.

The Story of Us

We are Dan, Robin and Hudson, and we live in beautiful Santa Barbara, California, near the beach. We are all California natives, and both Dan and Robin grew up in the Santa Barbara community. We met later in life in 2007 at the ages of 37 (Robin) and 44 (Dan), and after a whirlwind romance both of us knew it was right and were married after 3 ½ months of dating. Crazy, we know, but as Robin had engraved on Dan's wedding ring, "When you know, you know." We were married for almost a year when we decided to conceive Hudson in 2008. Hudson was born on the first day of spring in March 2009, and has been a joyous addition to our family ever since.



We both enjoy traveling and experiencing different cultures, and after Hudson was born the question came up about how to continue our love of traveling with a baby in tow, and whether it would just be easier to take a break for a few years. We decided that good preparation, low expectations, and a bit of luck would allow our family to continue to explore the world, and share it with a new person. In the past 2 years Hudson has already traveled to Vermont (twice) to see his grandpa (Dan's dad), Paris to celebrate Robin's 40th birthday, and the Bahamas just for fun.

We would very much love to continue our journeys with a fourth member of our family to share it all with.

We tried to have a second baby, but after our 4th miscarriage it seems we should switch gears. It is important to us to bring another child into our family for many reasons. We are both only children, and we love the idea of having more family around us to celebrate and experience life. We do have immediate family on both sides that live in town, but grandparents only get so excited on Christmas mornings these days. It would mean a lot to us to create the family that neither of us had. Plus, we both know all too well the loneliness that can come with having no siblings to share our life experiences with, and we want more for Hudson than what we experienced growing up.



Our Daily Life



Robin is an attorney with her own practice. She goes to court for her clients. She also works part time at a local university (UCSB) and city college assisting students with their legal problems. While she keeps busy bouncing between her office and the campuses, it makes for a pretty flexible schedule that is not as demanding as the average attorney work-week. When Hudson was a baby she was known to bring him to her offices where she had a pack n play and toys set up at each location. The students loved him!

Dan, a college graduate from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, was a chef in a former life, but after a bad fall caused him to have a back injury that limited his ability to stand for long hours he switched careers to become a personal fitness trainer. Robin hit the jackpot marrying a chef and personal trainer! Dan enjoys working with people who are recovering from injuries or need to get back into shape. He is passionate about helping his clients achieve better health for themselves, and it shows in the results and satisfaction of his clients.



Hudson goes to pre-school at the university where Robin works. It is an amazing program. He goes 3 days a week because we have flexibility and do not have to take him daily. Plus, we think it is good that he has a mix of social and educational experience with down time with mom or dad. On his "home" days we will either play around the house or go on outings to a park, the beach, or the zoo. There's always something to do.

We have 3 dogs and 1 cat, all rescue pets from animal shelters. Hudson loves the dogs and is highly amused by Kiki the cat. We are not so sure Kiki feels the same way about Hudson. Our smallest dog, Paco, is a Chihuahua mix of sorts and takes the brunt of Hudson's "affection" because he loves the attention. The other dogs, Korley and Duke, are large mutts, and seem to prefer the quiet of the back part of our house where there is no boisterous two year old boy. Go figure.



For fun as a family we like to go for walks to the beach or zoo, visit with other friends who have kids, explore the Natural History Museum, water the plants in our gardens, celebrate all of the traditional holidays with splendor, travel when possible, and generally just enjoy life as a family. We are at a point in our lives where this is our priority, and we easily engage in family centered activities. We are mature, but youthful and energetic out of desire and necessity.

We are not religious, but we do believe that things happen for a reason. We aim to lead lives that set good examples for our children, and we can feel proud about at the end of the day. We aspire to be the kind of people and parents that our children will respect and want to be around.

Our Extended Family

Robin's parents own an auto parts business here in town, and live in Solvang, about half an hour away from us. They were young when they had Robin, and are still together. They strongly support our choice to adopt a child, and will love the child as they love Hudson. They live on an acre and have a lot of animals, including 2 horses, 3 dogs, too many cats, a rabbit, a turtle, and various wild birds that Robin's mom rescued. It is like going to a petting zoo whenever we visit their house.



Robin also has aunts and uncles near by, and a cousin who has 2 young kids.

Dan's family is divided between California and Vermont. His mom and step dad also live in Solvang in a beautiful valley near some wineries and vineyards. They are retired and have 2 dogs. Dan has 2 step brothers who have 4 kids between them. Holidays are very lively! Every few years we get together and go to Yosemite for Christmas and stay all together in a cabin. This is a tradition his family has been doing since Dan was a teenager. Dan's dad lives in Vermont, where most of Dan's aunts, uncles and cousins also live. Dan would go back to Vermont in the summers as a boy, and got to experience the charm of traditional east coast living. We try to go back once a year so Hudson's grandpa can spend time with him, and his grandpa comes to our home as well. We hope to experience a truly



traditional east coast, white Christmas very soon.

The grandparents are all very excited about the possibility of us expanding our family, especially since all of them only experienced parenthood with one child. Each miscarriage has brought sadness and disappointment to them, as well, because they would love for us to add to our family. I think we all look more forward to family gatherings ever since Hudson was born, and another child would enrich that even more. Everyone would welcome an adopted child into our family.

5 Cool Things About Us

1. We live in a house that Robin's Swedish immigrant great grandfather built, and are the 4th generation of her family to live here.
2. Robin and Hudson were actually born at the same hospital in Santa Barbara, although 38 years apart.
3. We are on a first name basis with our trash guy, Santiago, because every Thursday morning rain or shine we greet him with Hudson who loves watching the trash trucks do their thing. This is the highlight of his day, so we indulge him.
4. We are "hip" parents who enjoy current music, technology and social trends. No boring parents here!
5. For Easter we do an Easter egg hunt with a basket of surprises at the end for Hudson. For 4th of July we have a barbecue party and then walk to the beach to watch the fireworks. For Halloween we decorate the yard, dress up in costumes and pass out candy to the neighborhood kids. For Thanksgiving we gather at our house with whatever family members are available to join us and host a traditional dinner. For Christmas we (Dan) string up the lights, pick the most fragrant tree, hang stockings handmade by Robin, watch Charlie Brown Christmas, and put presents under the tree for Christmas morning. You could say that holidays are a big deal for us.



Thank you for taking time to learn about us. We hope you read something that you liked, and invite you to learn more about us. We would be honored and touched just to be a family you are considering as a forever home for your baby. We are open to an open adoption because we feel it would be beneficial for the child we adopt, and we want the birthmom to always feel she made the right decision for her baby. Good luck with the rest of your pregnancy, and best wishes for the choice you will make.

Dan and Robin

