



COREY & BAILEE





Our Letter to You

Dear Expectant Mother,

First and foremost, **thank you for taking the time to learn about our family.** We know that considering adoption comes with tremendous **courage, love, and sacrifice.** While we cannot fully understand what this journey has been like for you, we want you to know that we **respect you deeply** and are **grateful** that you would consider us as part of your child's story.

We are **Corey and Bailee**, a married couple from Virginia, and parents to our energetic four-year-old son, **Wesley.** We have dreamed of growing our family through adoption for many years, even before becoming parents ourselves. Through friends and relatives who have experienced adoption, we have witnessed the incredible love, connection, and belonging that adoption can create, and it has only strengthened our desire to welcome another child into our family.

Our lives are filled with **laughter, family walks, neighborhood gatherings, pizza nights, holiday traditions, and lots of love.** More importantly, it is a place where children are **heard, encouraged, and supported** as they grow into their own unique selves. We believe every child deserves to feel **safe, valued, and deeply loved.**

If you choose adoption, we promise **your child will always know how loved and chosen they are.** We will **honor their story, celebrate who they are, and help them understand the courage and love that brought them into our family.** We are open to maintaining a relationship that supports your child's well-being and sense of identity, and we will always speak of you with **respect and gratitude.**

Thank you for considering our family. We are humbled by your strength and grateful for the opportunity to share a small glimpse into our lives.



ABOUT Bailee

(from Corey!)

Bailee is one of the most **caring, organized, and determined** people I know. She has a natural ability to make others **feel welcome and cared for**, whether it's family, friends, neighbors, or complete strangers. She currently works as a Marketing Specialist and brings the same **creativity, dedication, and attention to detail** to our family life as she does to her career.

Bailee loves reading, cooking, baking, spending time outdoors gardening or walking local trails, creating meaningful traditions for our family, and organizing fun get-togethers and outings with friends. She is always researching, learning, and finding ways to make **life better and more fulfilling** for those she loves. She has an incredible ability to **anticipate needs, stay calm under pressure, and approach challenges** with confidence and determination.

As a mother, Bailee is **patient, intentional, and deeply invested** in helping children learn and grow, creating plenty of fun and lasting memories as they do. She is Wesley's **biggest advocate and greatest cheerleader**, and she approaches parenting with both **love and purpose**. Her **compassion, resilience, and commitment to family** are just a few of the reasons I know she will be an incredible mother to another child.



ABOUT Corey

(from Bailee!)

If there is one thing that defines Corey, it is the **way he shows up for the people he loves**. He is **thoughtful, dependable, compassionate**, and the kind of person who **always makes time for family**. As a Senior Probation Officer currently working towards a clinical treatment certification, he spends his career **helping people navigate difficult circumstances**, re-enter into the community and make **positive changes** in their lives. He approaches both his work and his family with **patience, empathy, and a strong sense of responsibility**.

At home, Corey is a **devoted husband and father** who **genuinely loves** spending time with his family. Whether he's walking Wesley to preschool, building woodworking projects in the garage, riding his bike, watching sports, or organizing activities with family and friends, he brings **enthusiasm and encouragement** to everything he does. He is a **great listener** and has a unique ability to make people feel **comfortable, supported, and understood**.

One of the things I admire most about Corey is his **calm presence**. During some of the most challenging moments we've experienced over the years, he has remained **steady, supportive, and focused**. He is the type of father who **celebrates every milestone, creates lasting memories, and never misses an opportunity** to remind his family how much they are loved.



How We Met - Our Love Story



Our high school prom and our wedding day



We love to laugh together!



Traveling and making new memories

Our story began in **high school** in 2008 when we were teenagers who quickly became **inseparable**. What started as a friendship grew into a relationship built on **trust, laughter, and shared values**. After dating for several years, we were married in 2014 and **have now been married for more than 12 years**. Over the years, we experienced many of life's milestones together - graduating, college, starting careers, getting married, buying a home, and eventually becoming parents.

One of the things that has always made our relationship special is **how naturally we work as a team**. We **encourage one another, celebrate each other's successes, and support one another through life's challenges**. Looking back, we are grateful that we have had the opportunity to grow up together. Each stage of life has **strengthened our relationship and deepened our appreciation** for one another. Today, our greatest joy is **building a life and family together**, and we are excited about the possibility of welcoming another child into that story through adoption.



Dating - Engaged - Married - Pregnant - Parents

Our Lifestyle

Our favorite place to be is **together**. Most weekends are spent making memories as a family, whether we're taking walks through the neighborhood, riding bikes, visiting a playground, having a beach day, attending community events, or getting together with loved ones. Living so close to both sides of the family has been a blessing as many weekends are spent with them in some capacity.

We love hosting friends and neighbors in our home for meals, game nights, and celebrations throughout the year. Many of our friends share the same hobbies and interests as us which makes them all the more fulfilling. We also try to schedule regular date nights so we can have 1:1 time away from parenthood - this has been a crucial part of maintaining our marriage since starting a family.

One of our favorite regular outings is grabbing pizza at the small shop one street over where we know the owner and regular customers. It has become a special way for us to slow down and enjoy time together during the week. If it's not pizza, we're walking to get ice cream or a pastry at the bakery down the street as a treat. We are thankful to live in a walkable neighborhood that is family-friendly and filled with so many people and places we love.



At a local baseball game!



Bailee hiking with girlfriends



Corey with friends at a local "Survivor" competition



Bailee + friend grab a pizza



Entertaining at our house



At the local aquarium



At our neighborhood beach/pier



Date night at a concert



Our Beliefs



Outside our son's Presbyterian Preschool



Volunteering together for the YWCA



Bailee volunteering for the foodbank with local Junior League

We were both raised by Christian parents and grew up attending church and Christian school. While we are not currently active in church, we strive to live out the Christian values that were ingrained in us such as kindness, compassion, acceptance, gratitude, and service to others.

Our faith influences how we treat people and how we hope to raise our children - with empathy, respect, and grace.



Our Firsthand Experience with Adoption



**Bailee's Mom's extended family with (4) adopted cousins
(two not shown).**

Adoption has always been something we have viewed positively because of the people we know and love. Bailee has four cousins who were adopted domestically, and over the years we have had several close friends build their families through both adoption through foster care and international adoption.

What has always stood out to us is the love and connection within those families. We have watched children grow up surrounded by support, belonging, and opportunities, while also maintaining pride in their individual stories and identities. Seeing those families thrive helped us understand that family is built through love, commitment, open communication, and shared experiences.

Those examples inspired us long before we began pursuing adoption ourselves. They showed us that adoption is not simply about welcoming a child into a family - it's about honoring where that child came from, celebrating who they are, and helping them grow with confidence in every part of their story.



**Bailee's long-time friend (left) who
adopted through foster care.**



Meet big brother *Wesley*



Our son Wesley is four years old and is one of the **greatest joys of our lives**. He is **curious, energetic, tenderhearted, and silly** - bringing laughter into every day. He loves reading books with us, imaginative play, playing with playdough, cars and trains, building with Legos and magnatiles, taking care of his baby dolls and stuffed animals, going on family walks, trips to new places, movie nights, sweet treats, painting, and visiting our local beach, museums, parks and playgrounds. Watching him learn, grow, and discover the world has been one of the **most rewarding experiences** we have ever had.



Our Parenting Style & Experience



Parenting has taught us the importance of **patience, flexibility, and being fully present**. We focus on **teaching rather than punishing** and strive to understand what a child needs developmentally (and uniquely) at each stage of life. We want our children to feel **heard, respected, and supported** while also learning **responsibility, kindness, and empathy**.

The experiences we have had raising Wesley, including navigating his early medical challenges and ongoing specialized care afterwards, have strengthened our confidence as parents and deepened our appreciation for the privilege of helping children grow into **confident, compassionate individuals**.



Corey with one of his nieces (bottom upper left + top of page right);
Bailee with one of her nephews (bottom lower right)

Our Parenting Style & Experience



If there's one defining experience that has shaped who we are as parents, it's the journey we've had with our son.

When he was born, we were unexpectedly faced with a few congenital defects that caused him both immediate and some lifelong medical complications. His early life involved surgeries, hospital stays, and a complete reimagining of what parenting would look like during that stage. It was a season of uncertainty, fear, and constant adaptation, but also of growth and unity. We learned to navigate medical systems, advocate for his needs, and manage the emotional and logistical weight of caregiving.

There were moments that were overwhelming, but they revealed our strength as a couple and a family. We discovered that the key to thriving wasn't perfection, but teamwork, relying on each other's strengths, communicating openly, and always keeping our child's well-being at the center of every decision.

A couple years removed, we are happy that he's in a stable place and his medical needs are managed at home by us, and we have a great team of doctors that work to ensure he stays healthy as he continues to grow.



Our Family

Family has always been one of the most important parts of our lives, and one of the things we are most excited about is sharing that with another child.

Both of our parents live nearby and are actively involved in our everyday lives. Dee-Dee and Pop-Pop (Corey's Parents) and Nonay and Pops (Bailee's Parents) regularly spend time with our son, Wesley, help with childcare, attend family dinners, celebrate holidays, and join us for outings throughout the year. In addition to grandparents close by, Wesley (and any new sibling) has close access to all of their cousins, including Bailee's sister's children ages 6 and 4, as well as Corey's godsister's children, ages 6, 4, and 3.

Wesley is fortunate to have close relationships with all of his grandparents and cousins, and we know another child would be welcomed with that same love and excitement.



Helping Corey's sister Madison move into her dorm at college



Bailee's sister Maddi with Wesley & her kids on an outing



Playing at "Nonay" and "Pops" house



"Dee-Dee" and "Pop-Pop" take Wesley to the park



Recent outing with Corey's family



Recent beach vacation with Bailee's family

Extended Family & Friends



While our immediate families both live in Virginia, we have extended family throughout West Virginia, North Carolina, and Texas as well. Family gatherings and visits are frequent and filled with food, laughter, games, and plenty of opportunities for children to play together.

In addition to our relatives, we are blessed with lifelong friendships that feel like family. Corey grew up next door to his godparents whose children are like siblings to him, and those relationships continue today. We also have a close-knit group of friends and neighbors with young children who regularly gather together for dinners, celebrations, and events.

Our children will grow up surrounded by people who will cheer them on, support them through challenges, celebrate milestones, and remind them every day how loved they are.



NC visit with Bailee's dad's side



Corey's friends from college annual golf trip



Corey's Grandfather + Father



Corey's family with his godparent's family



Visit with Corey's grandmother



Trip with Corey's aunt & uncle from TX



Some of our neighborhood group of friends



Corey's godsister's kids & Wesley at the museum

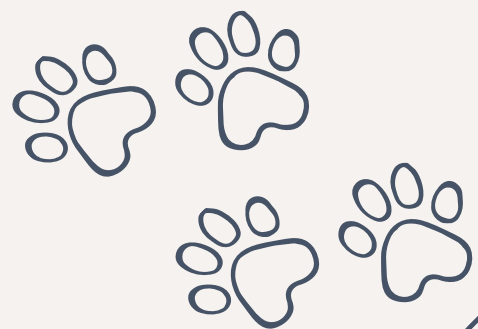


Meet our dog, *Dobby*



We have an **11-year-old Corgi-Pomeranian** mix named Dobby who has been part of our family for many years. Dobby is **gentle, friendly, and enjoys being around people of all ages**. He loves joining us on walks, relaxing nearby during gatherings and greeting visitors at the door.

He has grown up around children and has always been **patient and affectionate**. Whether he's playing in the backyard or curled up next to us on the couch, Dobby is a **beloved member of our family** and will be excited to welcome another little companion into the home.





Family Celebrations & Spring-Summer Traditions

We love celebrating milestones, holidays, and creating traditions together as a family. Throughout the year, we enjoy neighborhood celebrations, community festivals, birthdays, and other seasonal events. We believe traditions create lasting memories and help children feel connected, loved, and excited about spending time together as a family.

For birthdays, we display beloved stuffies with birthday hats to wake up to, eat off a special plate, and pick our menu for the day's meals. At Easter, we have a neighborhood Easter egg hunt and also do an egg hunt at Bailee and/or Corey's parents' house. July 4th also comes with a neighborhood parade and gathering where we eat and the kids get together and play.



Birthday Breakfast



Surprise Birthday Set-Up



Neighborhood Easter Egg Hunt



First Birthday Build-A-Bear



Easter Egg Hunt with Family



July 4th Parade



Annual Thanksgiving Day 5k



Fall Family Traditions

During the fall, we typically head to the pumpkin patch and participate in Corey's family's annual pumpkin carving contest. We celebrate Halloween by attending Wesley's preschool's costume parade and trick-or-treating in the neighborhood (sometimes with a fun family costume). At Thanksgiving, we do a morning charity 5k "turkey trot" that supports our local foodbank, and we typically volunteer around that time as well.



Volunteering at local food drive



At the pumpkin patch!



Annual Pumpkin Carving Contest



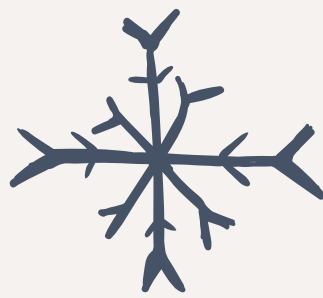
First family costume!



Neighborhood Scarecrow Contest



Seeing Santa!



Wintertime Family Traditions

Christmas is especially meaningful in our home, including activities such as family gatherings, baking cookies, making gingerbread houses, watching holiday movies, visiting Santa, going to Busch Gardens Christmastown, decorating the house, attending our neighborhood parade and festival, and driving around to see lights with hot chocolate, to name a few. We have also have a personal tradition of going to Chili's the week of Christmas each year to celebrate the anniversary of our first date.



Christmastown Visit



Putting the tree up



Watching the ball drop on NYE



Decorating cookies with cousins



Matching Family PJs on Christmas



Neighborhood Christmas Parade



"Driving" through the Christmas lights



Annual Chili's Date

Our Adventures in Travel



Italy in 2019



Ireland in 2016



Mexico for our 10th Anniversary

We enjoy exploring new places and creating memories through travel. Some of our favorite trips have included opportunities to experience new communities and cultures.

Before welcoming a child into our home, we have had the privilege of traveling across the world to places throughout Europe, Canada, Mexico, and the Caribbean. As our family grows, we look forward to sharing new experiences with our children - whether it's a weekend road trip to the mountains, a visit to see relatives or friends, a beach vacation (our favorite!), or a trip based on their interests or passions.

While our travel plans will look different with a new baby at home, we are excited about all of the adventures that come with experiencing the world through a child's eyes.



Disney World with Bailee's Family



Outer Banks, NC



Shenandoah National Park



'Day out with Thomas' at
NC Transportation Museum





OUR HOME

Our home is two stories and has **three-bedrooms, two-bathrooms**, and two living spaces. It also has a large **fenced-in backyard** with a playset where children can safely play. Being a historic home, we have spent many years making renovations and upgrading it to accommodate our growing family. There is a **dedicated bedroom ready for a future child**, and plenty of space for family activities both indoors and outdoors.



Future child's room



Our Kitchen



Living Room



Wesley's Room / Playroom



Kid's Bathroom



2nd Living Space/Home Office



Outside





OUR BACKYARD

We spend a lot of time in our backyard where we have a playset and toys for every stage of development for children to play with outside and have fun! Our neighborhood also is surrounded by sidewalks, making it safe to walk, bike, ride scooters, etc.





WHERE WE LIVE

We live in a historic neighborhood in Southeastern Virginia, which has a **diverse population**, including **41% African Americans, 40% Caucasians, 11% Latinos, 11% Multiracial, and 3% Asian**. When choosing the area we wanted to live in long-term, this was an **important factor** to us so that our children would grow up with others of diverse backgrounds and cultures.

Our area is close to many family-friendly attractions such as theme parks, the zoo, aquarium, museums, and more. We spend a lot of time taking walks to the shops, restaurants, parks, playgrounds, library, and even the small beach all within our neighborhood. One of the things we love most about our neighborhood is the **strong sense of community**. Many families with young children live nearby, and neighbors regularly gather for events, celebrations, and activities throughout the year. Our neighborhood puts on seasonal festivals, parades, and events we enjoy attending. Wesley attends preschool just a short walk away - giving us another opportunity to stay connected and involved. We feel fortunate to live in a place where children can grow up **surrounded by friendship, support, and opportunities to explore, learn, and have fun**.



In Closing...

Thank you for taking the time to learn about our little family and for considering us as you make this deeply personal decision.

While it is impossible to fully understand the emotions that accompany this journey, we want you to know that we have tremendous respect for the love, courage, and strength it takes to consider adoption. We believe **your child's story begins with you**, and we are committed to honoring that story throughout their life.

If we are fortunate enough to be chosen, **your child will be welcomed into a home filled with love, advocacy, encouragement, and acceptance**. They will have a **big brother** who is excited to share adventures with them, grandparents, cousins and family friends who cannot wait to meet them, and parents who **genuinely love** being parents.

We promise to **celebrate who your child is, encourage who they are becoming, and support them through every stage of life**. We will teach them **kindness, empathy, curiosity, and resilience**. We will help them **understand their story** and know how **deeply loved** they are by all the people who helped shape it.

Most importantly, we promise to love them **wholeheartedly, unconditionally, every single day**.

With gratitude,

Corey, Bailee & Wesley

