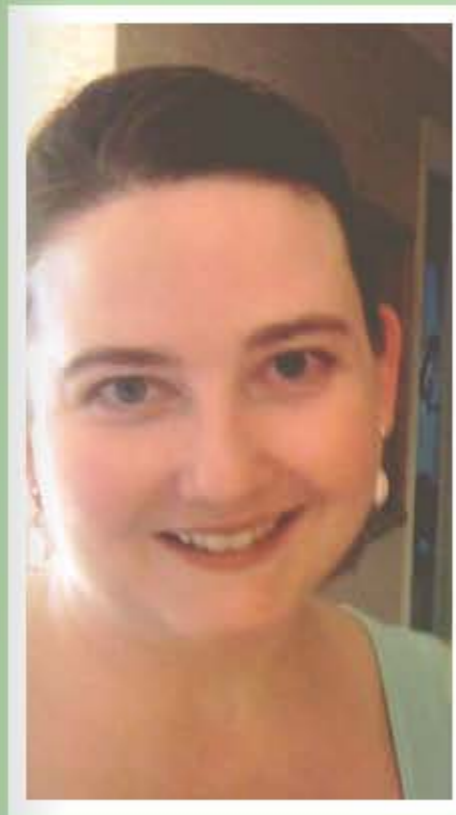




*Becca's
Family Book*



HELLO

my name is

Becca



BOSTON

SEATTLE



Hi! I'm Becca, a former Boston girl who relocated to Seattle in 2016. I'm a pediatrician, and I've been taking care of kids and families for over a decade.



BECCA'S FAVORITE THINGS:

FUN FACTS ABOUT BECCA:

Hanging out with friends and family, especially if I can cook for everyone when they come over.

Reading as many books as I can - I'm in two different book groups, and it's something I share with my mom and sister as well.

Traveling! I visit the east coast to see family, and I also travel around the US and internationally. Spain, Honduras, Ireland are a few of the places I've been and there are so many more places I'd love to see.

Gardening. This is a new hobby and mostly centered on growing tomatoes!

Swimming is my favorite form of exercise. I love spending a day at the beach (with lots of sunscreen!) and dipping into the ocean when it gets too hot.

I once spent a week in Costa Rica on a Raw Food Retreat and I snuck out in the middle of it and had a ham sandwich.

I'm fluent in Spanish.

When I was three our family lived in England and I started talking with an English accent. It will still come out sometimes if I watch too much British TV.

I'm a certified yoga instructor.

I'm terrified of heights but one of my proudest moments was hiking the Grand Canyon. I hugged the edge.

Once I tried to dye my hair blonde at home. It did not go well.



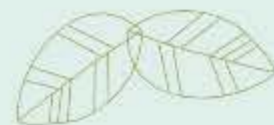
GROWING UP:



I grew up in a few different places - I was born in snowy Wisconsin and we lived there for several years. I remember a close community of friends and lots of time swimming in Lake Michigan. My sister Johanna was born when I was 5. We lived in the midwest for another 4 years, then moved to Boston.

I had some health challenges as a kid, and I had to have surgery on my legs twice when we lived in Milwaukee. I spent the summer recovering - my parents taught me how to play poker and I fleeced all my hospital visitors. We also got our very first VCR - it was fancy new technology that almost made up for missing our annual trip to the beach. I was up and running around again by the time first grade started. I think this experience was also part of what inspired me to become a pediatrician.

We traveled a lot when I was a kid - my father is a professor so we spent time in England when I was little. We also went back to Boston to visit extended family. We hung out at the beach and enjoyed bike rides and lazy summer days. I had a really happy childhood.

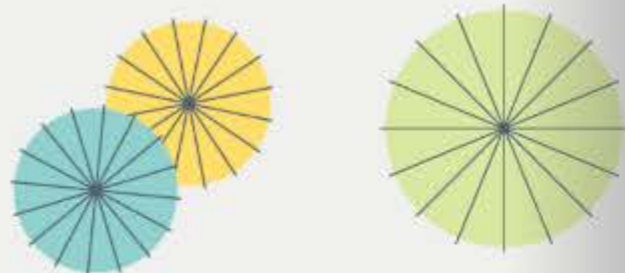


BECCA'S FAMILY:



I am super close to my family. While my parents still live in Boston, they come to visit at least twice a year and I go back to Boston regularly as well.

My parents divorced when I was in college. They have both remarried and have been with their significant others for over fifteen years. Both my stepmother and stepfather are an integral part of my life.



My extended family of aunts and cousins is a huge support system to me. My cousin Kathleen has adopted 3 children into her family, and I know how supportive everyone has been of her choices.



Our family values spending time together, hard work and education, and talking about just about everything. We are an open and supportive group, and I learned how to be welcoming and kind hearted from them.





SISTERS:

My sister Johanna lives with her husband, Jared, and her daughter, CC, right down the street, which has been really fun. They moved to Seattle a year after I did, so I've gotten to be an active part of my niece's growing up. We typically go out to breakfast together on Saturday mornings while my brother in law, who is a stay at home dad, sleeps in for the morning.

My sister and I have always been close, and now we see each other more than ever. I know my sister is so excited to become an aunt, and Jo and Jared are ready to be supportive any way they can be.

BECCA'S SECOND FAMILY. HER FRIENDS:



Me and Tove



Me and Jenny, my BFF from college

My friends are a second family to me. I live with one of my best friends, Tove, who I've known for 15 years. We met when I moved out to the west coast to do my residency at Children's Hospital Los Angeles, and it was an immediate best friend connection. When I moved to Seattle, I knew it would be awesome to reconnect. It has been really fun to be roommates again, and she is really excited to be an "auntie" to my child!

I also have a great group of college friends. We're scattered around the country now but work hard to keep in touch. Jenny, Lila, and Joe are all really important to me, and I love having people in my life who've known me forever.

From my time in Boston and in LA, I also have a great group of people I stay in close contact with. I love knowing that whenever I'm back in town visiting family, I have friends I can pick right back up with.

Here in Seattle I love hanging out with my book club ladies and a few other close friends. We spend time going for walks in Seward Park, going out to enjoy Seattle's great restaurant scene, and shopping the Farmer's Market.



Me, Jenny and Lila



Camila and I at my going away party in Boston



Tove and me (windblown)

My friends are:
Funny
Generous
Nerdy
Kind



Bookclub!



Brandt, Jenny and Lila



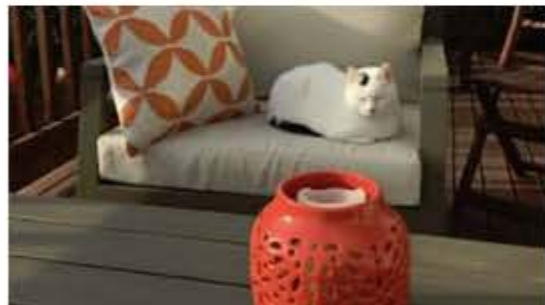
Charissa with her new book



Joe, Jenny, Lila and me

HOUSE AND HOME:

I live in a family friendly neighborhood in Seattle, in a 3 bedroom house with a great yard and back deck, currently covered in tomato plants.



I have an 11 year old cat named Sasha, whose main goal in life is to be as comfortable as possible for naps. She is a big cuddler and very gentle.



As much as I love to travel and explore the world, I also love to curl up at home with a puzzle or a good book, my cat Sasha, and a cup of tea. My house is a calm, welcoming space where I can relax, and I hope it always feels like home for my friends and family as well. My niece CC loves coming over and is always on the lookout for the kitty. My close friend and roommate Tove lives in downstairs in a private space, and we have a great time being home together.



CELEBRATING:

Christmas is a big deal in my family! We go way overboard with gifts and food, and pretend to be little kids again. Having a big extended family meant that we had lots of people to see at the holidays, which for me was always really fun.

Now we keep it a little more intimate, but still can't seem to help ourselves with the Christmas spirit.



Ariana, Jason and me



Family and friends at Jo's wedding



Dad at family brunch



CC's first birthday



Grammie's Irish bread

My favorite way of celebrating is with a family meal - I'm always happy to have people over for a special occasion, or sometimes just for soup on a cold Sunday night in the winter. I have a few family recipes I've perfected over time - my mom's chicken soup, my grandmother's Irish soda bread, and perfectly grilled steak from my dad. My grandfather ran a restaurant in Boston, maybe that's where I get it from!



GOING PLACES:



Sailing, hiking, ferry rides, live music, baseball games, and hometown parades...



The beach is my favorite place in the world - I find the water calming and I love to swim, even here in the Pacific Northwest. I grew up going to Cape Cod every summer. Now I live close to the beach here in Seattle, and I go at least once a week.



Dreams for My Child

I HOPE...

- .. to raise my child surrounded by love, supported by family and friends.
 - ... to provide opportunity for adventure and discovery, while also creating a secure home base.
 - ... to foster a love of stories, books and reading in my child, as well as providing ample opportunities to explore the natural world we are so lucky to have at our doorstep in the Pacific Northwest.
 - ... to encourage my child to explore the world while learning to value and respect the differences between people.
 - ... to teach my child the value of kindness.
 - ... that my child will have the confidence to explore their passions, pursue their dreams, and create an independent future where they can move with joy and purpose through the world.
- I will be there cheering all the way.



Aspirations for Open Adoption

I am choosing open adoption because to me it seems like a beautiful way to grow a family. I believe family can come in all different shapes and sizes - there is no one right way to love. For many of us, family looks a little different, but at its core, I think all families are about loving, cherishing and respecting each other.

My child will grow up knowing their adoption story, and I hope that they have the opportunity to know their birth family as well. Whatever that relationship looks like over time, I will honor their adoption and birth family story as essential parts of my child's identity.

I also understand that, just as every family is unique, so is every birth parent. While there will always be space in our life for my child's birth family, I believe that you need to do what is right for you.

I hope that my child's birth family will always feel like a valued, loved, and respected part of our lives.



Thank you for taking a look at my photo book. I hope it gives you a strong sense of who I am, and how excited I am to welcome a child into my family.

