



LAINY AND ANTHONY

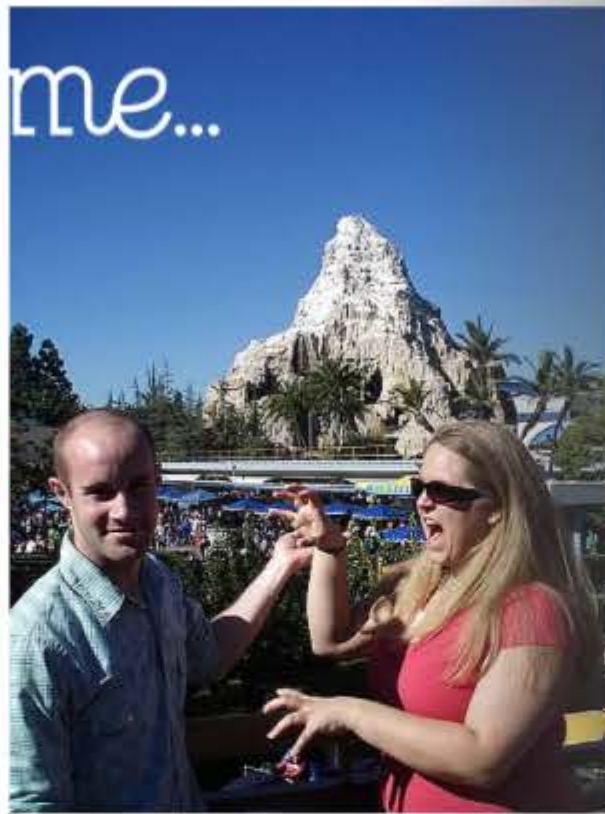


Hi there! We are
Anthony and Lainey
and we are so excited
to introduce ourselves!
We are outdoorsy video
game nerds with a zest
for life and adventure
and can't wait to start
this new journey in our
lives!

Welcome to our
story!

Once Upon A Time...

We met in college, while both going through the same demanding art program. That was many years (and more hair) ago back in 2006! We quickly bonded over similar interests in art and the outdoors and found ourselves spending all of our time together, which helped us both get through the program. Our free time was spent traveling (we went to England for one spring break), hiking, and playing video games (we called it "research" since we both were planning careers working in games!)



Lainey shared her love for Disneyland with Anthony, and even though it took him a little bit, he came to love and enjoy the Disneyland trips as much as she does! For about 8 years, there was a yearly tradition of a trip to Disneyland for Thanksgiving.



We got engaged about a year after graduating from college and married the following year in May of 2011. We had a beautiful backyard wedding at Lainey's parent's house. Her dad even built a gazebo just for the affair. We got engaged in a gazebo, so it only seemed right to be married in one as well! It was a fairly small celebration with close family and friends. As a super fun surprise and in true "us" form, we made out entrance to Tom Jones' "It's Not Unusual", dancing The Carlton when we were announced at the start of our reception. Since we don't drink, we toasted with fancy bottles of Pepsi!

Happily Ever After!

Adventure



Together we are just a pair of goofballs. We hike with our doggos, we travel both domestically and internationally, we go to soccer games, to Disneyland (did we mention we love Disneyland???), but above all, we have fun. We value experiences over material objects and are always saving up for our next adventure!



MEET LAINEY!



OCCUPATION

3D Artist for a Social VR game

HOBBIES/INTERESTS

Hiking/snowshoeing
Playing/watching soccer
Reading
Gardening
Jigsaw Puzzles
Board games
Video games



FUN FACTS

1. I have played soccer since I was 5 years old
2. I absolutely love the snow! I will use any excuse to go outside when it is snowing just to be in it!
3. In school, I played Flute and Alto Sax in marching band and Baritone Sax in Jazz band
4. I've had a couple knee surgeries due to self-inflicted soccer injuries (wah wah)
5. I was a dog groomer in college
6. I love wearing quirky, fun scarves
7. One of the games I worked on got sent to the International Space Station for the Astronauts to play

LAINNEY'S STORY

I grew up in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada mountains in California. My days were spent playing outside, tending to our many animals (horses, chickens, dogs, cats, to name a few), drawing, and playing soccer. My room had unicorns but I was still a tomboy at heart!



My parents were very involved in our lives, coming to every soccer game, ballet recital, and band performance. We had dinner together almost every night and took family trips every summer.



My sister and I would explore, build forts, and create little mud villages together. Both of my parents were teachers, so they valued us spending time together and learning through doing. Being a younger sister made me tough and independent!



My mom taught me how to sew, cook, manage money, and how to create a welcoming home for both friends and strangers. From my dad, I learned how to weed eat, roof a shed, do home repairs, and my snarky sense of humor. Oh, and my mom also taught me to tell people "I get my good manners from my mom, and my bad manners from my dad!"

I have always been very outgoing and somewhat outspoken, valuing honest and open relationships. I am a strong-willed, quick to laugh, caring, quirky woman who enjoys making people smile. For me, every day should contain laughter and fun. This doesn't mean I can't be serious when necessary, it just means that I believe everyone needs joy in their lives and if I can provide that, I will!

ANTHONY SAYS...

What I love most about Lainey is that when she sets her mind to something she makes it happen. She is very driven not just in her career ambitions but in her general zest for life. I can't imagine doing a fraction of the things we have done in our lives without Lainey setting the goals and then achieving them.

Lainey is very driven to have a life filled with great experiences and memories.



MEET ANTHONY!



OCCUPATION

Art Reviewer for
Electronic Arts

HOBBIES/INTERESTS

Drawing
Weightlifting
Woodworking
Building and riding
bicycles
Drinking coffee
Video games



FUN FACTS

1. As a kid, I made my own action figures by drawing characters, cutting them out, and laminating them with tape.
2. I owned a motorcycle for a couple years in college but sold it to pay for our trip to England.
3. On a whim, I joined a band as the drummer for a single gig.
4. I was an art teacher for kids in college.
5. I have a "Worst Uncle Ever" shirt, but my nephew actually really loves me
6. I design and sell coffee cups at our local coffee shop and donate part of the money to local charities

ANTHONY'S STORY

I grew up in a small town near Lake Tahoe, California. I spent a lot of time outside building dirt ramps, riding bikes, and climbing trees. I developed a passion for drawing at a young age, copying my favorite comic book characters.



In college I lived with my grandma and helped take care of her while going to school. In return I was able to live rent free which was a huge help. It was an extremely valuable experience and instilled in me a lot of discipline.



Despite my short stature, my mom encouraged me to pursue a wide variety of sports. I played soccer, football, and wrestled. In high school I even played defense on the JV football team despite being the smallest person on the team.



My mom imparted on me the values of hard work and setting and achieving your goals. She was very supportive of all my endeavors and when I told her that I wanted to have a career as an artist, at a time when the idea of a career in arts wasn't known for being all that lucrative, she supported my decisions and encouraged me to follow my dreams.

I have always found that the best way to get to know people is to make them laugh. I always strive to be a joyful and humorous person, looking for the fun in all corners of life. I infuse that sense of joy and humor in all my creative endeavors. I like to consider myself kind of a hobbit: A lover of food, good company, green spaces, and the occasional adventure!

LAINY SAYS...

What I love most about Anthony is how much he makes me laugh. He has such an interesting mind and comes up with hilarious things to say and do. There is never a dull moment with him.

He is very much a "go with the flow" kind of person; someone who is happy if other people are happy. He encourages me to get into my comfy, frumpy pajamas when I get home from work because to him, my comfort is more important than my appearance.



MEET COOPER!

HOBBIES/INTERESTS

Begging for pets
Napping with Anthony
Chasing Finn
Barking at delivery people
Being adorable
Crumb hunts

FUN FACTS

1. Joined our family at 6 months old
2. Loves taking toys from Finn
3. A superb cuddler
4. Is easily taunted by bunnies and squirrels
5. Nickname is Rage Potato because he barks at everything



MEET FINN!

HOBBIES/INTERESTS

Walks!
Being handsome
Goading Cooper into playing
Cuddling on the couch
Eating snow
Playing tug-of-war with Lainey

FUN FACTS

1. Our second sheltie
2. Is afraid of thunder and requires cuddles to cope
3. Loves lying on the deck in the sun
4. Has selective hearing!
5. Very good at extorting treats out of our local coffee shop



SMALL TOWN LIFE!

We live in a small town in the mountains in Washington, about 45 minutes from Seattle. There are several parks within easy walking distance with a variety of play structures as well as paths perfect for walking and riding bikes. We are also close to both the elementary and high schools.



Always take the
SCENIC ROUTE



On our multiple daily dog walks, the beauty of our little corner of the world never fails to amaze us! There are several elk herds in the area, the morning fog from the nearby river is magical, the myriad of trails means there is always something new to explore, and we could never tire of the gorgeous mountain views



Favorite Traditions

+ Since our Honeymoon was in Ireland, we plan to go back every 5 years for our anniversary. On our 5th anniversary, we visited both Ireland and Scotland

+ We collect salt and pepper shakers from each country we visit so we can relive the memories with every meal

+ We decorate the house for Fall on the first weekend of September while watching Nightmare Before Christmas

+ Every October, we take at least one Fall drive through the mountains to see the beautiful Fall foliage!

+ The weekend after Thanksgiving, we get our Christmas tree and decorate our house while watching Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer

+ We try to do yearly trips to Disneyland during the holiday season because nothing compares to the magic of Disneyland decorated for the holidays!

+ Every Christmas, we volunteer at the Forgotten Children's Fund to help provide presents to underprivileged families

+ If there is snow on the ground New Year's Day, we do a family snowshoe





Dreams for Our Child

Life can be a messy, complicated, confusing experiment. There is no one right way to go through life, and that is what makes it beautiful. What helps turn it into an amazing journey is love, laughter, and stability. We truly believe that we can provide this for our child in spades! We are fun and imaginative people and we want to impart that sense of whimsy and creativity onto our child. Growing up is about discovery, exploration, failure, and success and learning from every experience. We not only want to provide a safe environment both physically and emotionally for our child, but also one where they see and experience love every day of their lives. We want to introduce them to the world, to show them different cultures and countries, and to discover a whole new way to experience the world through their eyes. Sure, we love Disneyland now, but we will love it exponentially more when getting to introduce our child to all of the magic and wonder there is to behold!



Open Adoption Aspirations

We want to create a large, diverse support system for our child, one that includes not only our families, but our child's birth parents and their families. A child can never have too many people providing them with love and support.

Sure, there will be struggles and strife as we navigate through these new relationships, but we will approach these new challenges with the same compassion, empathy, and understanding that makes our relationship so successful. We value open and honest communication, being direct but kind, with an awareness that we are all human with different thoughts, feelings, emotions, and desires. Adventure is in our souls, and what greater adventure is there than being a parent and raising an awesome little human.

Our hearts and arms are open.

