

\* Berket & Elizabeth





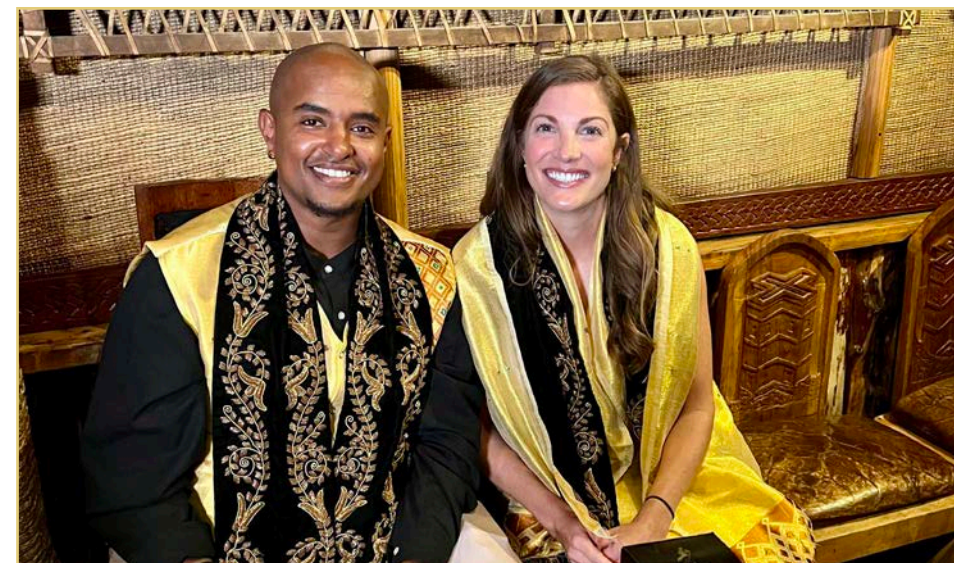
Hello there,

Wow, what an honor it is that you are taking the time to read our profile! We are Bereket and Elizabeth and we are so excited to grow our family through adoption. We cannot begin to imagine what you are feeling right now, and we truly appreciate you considering including us in your child's family. We are both educators who have decades of experience working with children

and are so excited to finally become parents. We look forward to creating a family environment filled with love, joy, laughter, learning, and adventure. Our hope is that through this profile, you will learn more about us and the type of family that we will be.

With love and gratitude,

*Bereket & Elizabeth*



# Bereket & Elizabeth



## About Us

We met when we worked together at a local high school, after Bereket joined the staff in 2018. We shared a passion for working with youth and a general zest for life, leading us to become good friends. We started dating in 2020, after Bereket took a job at another school. Because we were already so close, we knew early on in our relationship that we wanted to spend the rest of our lives together. We got engaged in our favorite city, New Orleans, in Fall of 2022 and were married in Texas in Spring of 2023.

It sounds silly, but we truly are the perfect match. We share many similar interests like working out, cooking and traveling. We both prioritize spending time with loved ones, including our friends and family. We also take time to cultivate our individual passions. For example, Bereket loves being a basketball referee and Elizabeth enjoys reading.

We strive to maintain a warm and welcoming home. Nothing brings us more joy than hosting friends and family. It is our desire to have a home filled with love and laughter.

*“Bereket and Elizabeth are truly best friends and would make great parents, especially since they work with kids on a daily basis.”*

*- Close Family Friend*



*Occupation:* High School Math Teacher

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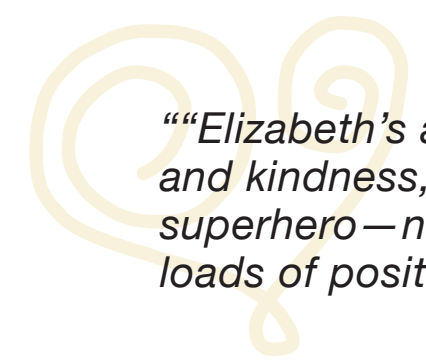
*favorite movie:* Remember the Titans

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*Can't Live Without:* I've always had a dog and can't imagine life without one!

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*Best Day:* Spent enjoying the outdoors on a beautiful, sunny day with the people I love most.



*“Elizabeth’s all about fairness and kindness, spreading joy like a superhero—no cape needed, just loads of positivity wherever she goes!”*  
- Bereket

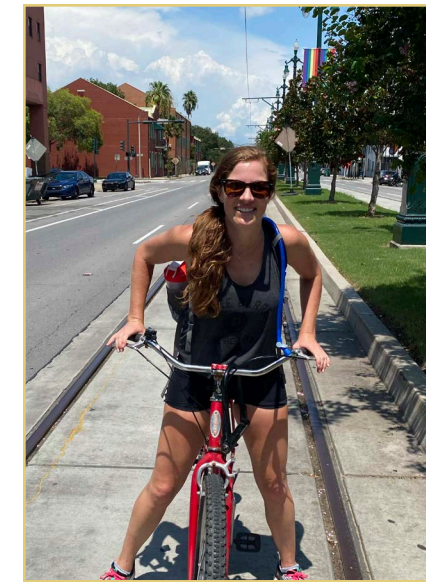


Giggles with friend's baby

## Meet Elizabeth in Bereket's Words

Elizabeth is one of the kindest people I've ever met. She acts selflessly for those she loves and is unwaveringly loyal to her closest friends and family. As an educator for underprivileged kids, she champions equity and lives out her values daily, which is what drew me to her over six years ago when we were both teaching. Elizabeth loves the outdoors and the simple pleasures in life, like sharing meals together and walking as a family. Her nurturing and supportive nature has driven our emotional journey together!

Elizabeth has a thirst for learning about the world and seeing it from the perspective of others, making us great travel partners as we constantly break out of our comfort zones. This love for travel and understanding others is something she will always share with our child. Elizabeth is loving and non-judgmental, creating a space where everyone feels safe in her presence. Her warmth, compassion, and dedication to caring for others will make her a wonderful mother, and I am excited to continue this journey of life with her.



Naptime for friend's son

*"I don't believe that there is a better human on this earth than Bereket, he is the most thoughtful and joyful person I've ever known!"*

*- Elizabeth*



## Meet Bereket

*in Elizabeth's Words*

When I think about Bereket, the first thing that comes to mind is sunshine. He radiates positive energy. He is the most thoughtful, friendly, and encouraging person that I know. Having him around can make any activity, no matter how mundane, infinitely more fun. Bereket is loved by everyone he meets. He is also one of the hardest workers I've ever known. He is driven to pursue his passions and to achieve success in any task that he sets his mind to.

I can't imagine anyone that will make a more loving and dedicated father than Bereket. He's spoken about his desire for children from the first day we met and being a dad is one of his greatest aspirations. Something I appreciate the most about Bereket is that he is very hands on in his relationships. In everything from planning our wedding to working through the adoption process, he always wants to collaborate and make decisions together. I know that he will be a very involved and active father.



Fun with friend's son



**Occupation:** School Administration

**favorite movie:** Coach Carter & Rush Hour 1

**Can't Live Without:** One thing I cannot live without is spending time with my family, including extended family, as it is a top priority in my life.

**Best Day:** My perfect day starts early with a 5am workout, includes every meal shared with someone I love, time spent outside at the park, and ends with a family walk with our dog in the neighborhood before winding down for bed.

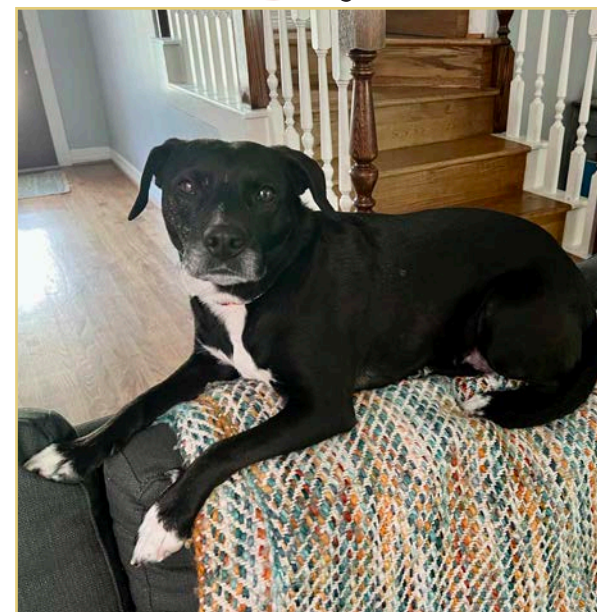


Our beautiful backyard

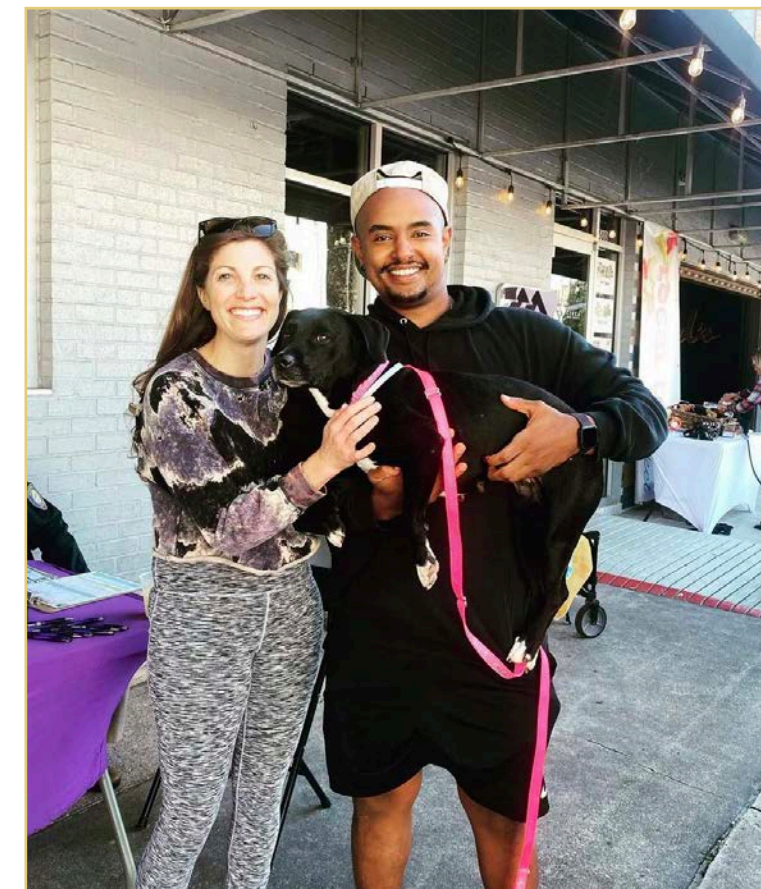


Our home

# Our Dog



Our sweet pup



Rescuing Nola

# Our Home & Community



We own a 3 bedroom and 2.5-bathroom house in Texas which we have strived to make feel like a home. It is located near many restaurants, coffee shops, schools and parks. One of our favorite things about our diverse community is that it is filled with children. It is a small, gated neighborhood with a park and walking trail. We have many family-friendly events, such as an annual Halloween parade.

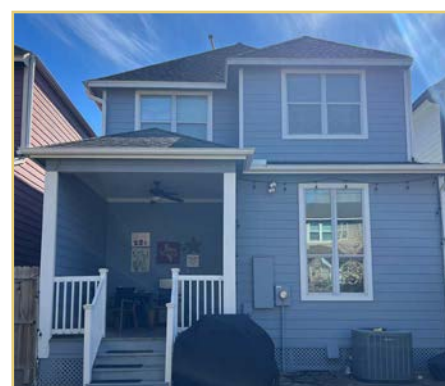
We have the sweetest dog named Nola. She is about 8 years old and joined our family 4 years ago. She is calm, mild mannered, and loves to snuggle. She has spent a significant amount of time with young children and gets along great with them!



Christmas decorations



Neighborhood Park



Our back porch



Nola with friend's baby



A girl's best friend

# Our Extended families

*"I sustain myself with the love of family."*

- Maya Angelou

## Elizabeth's family in her words

I grew up in North Carolina with my parents, who have been married 42 years, and my younger brother. My family loves spending time together and we're always laughing. We are very active and love outdoor activities. Both of my parents have 3 siblings, so I have lots of aunts, uncles and cousins that I'm close to. We live all over the country but try to spend time together every year. We love catching up and eating good food!



Elizabeth & Bereket's sister

## Bereket's family in his words

My parents, Ethiopian immigrants, moved to the United States right as I was born. I am the oldest of three siblings, with two younger sisters, Sara and Hanna. We have many cousins near us in Texas and throughout the US. Growing up, our family events were always large and loud, as we gather regularly. These gatherings were a beautiful mix of fun, laughter, and spicy food!



Elizabeth with family



Family wedding picture



Family hanging in Florida



Elizabeth's aunt & uncle



Family in South Africa

## Our friends

Our city is truly a melting pot, and because of this, we have a wide variety of friends from different cultural backgrounds. Many of our friends have young kids, and we are excited to bring a child into this diverse environment. Our friends come from various professions, including educators, health professionals, engineers, and more. They are also fighters for equity and share our values. This diversity and commitment to equity are important to us because we want our child to be surrounded by successful, value-aligned people from different walks of life.



Fun times with friends



High school & college friends



Brothers sharing joyful moments

# Why Adoption?

**Elizabeth:** My desire to adopt traces back to 2006 when I nannied for a family, witnessing the beautiful bond between a mother and her adopted daughter. Unlike a strong inclination towards biological childbirth, I have always been drawn to adoption. My husband shares this sentiment, and after a brief attempt at conceiving, we realized adoption was the best path to expand our family. Motivated by the belief that we can provide a stable and loving home, we are excited about the prospect of adopting a child.

**Bereket:** I discovered paternal instincts during the foster process at 31. Though financial constraints limited my ability to provide fully at that time, the experience illuminated the profound impact I could have on a child's life. As my wife and I entered marriage, our shared dream of expanding our family evolved towards adoption. Initially considering biological children, our perspective shifted, recognizing adoption as the more fitting avenue to realize our dream of nurturing a family.



## We Promise

- We promise to provide unconditional love and support, being patient, quick to love, and slow to anger.
- We promise to cultivate a sense of curiosity, exploration, and adventure, encouraging our child to confidently embrace and express their culture and identity.
- As educators, we promise to instill a love of learning and a sense of fun and joy in everything we do as a family.
- We promise to teach our child about the importance of understanding and addressing inequities, fostering a sense of empathy and justice.
- We promise to instill the value of helping others, emphasizing the significance of compassion and support for those in need.



## Fun Facts

*We cook* together every Sunday. We love trying new foods and recipes.

*Elizabeth has* been a teacher for 13 years and actually won an award in 2022 for being one of the best teachers in her city!

*Elizabeth loves* to read, especially historical fiction. She reads about 15 books a year!

*Bereket has* been a basketball referee since 2009 (15 years) and this is something he loves, although most fans don't like him.

*We love* to travel and explore new places and cultures. For our honeymoon, we spent time in South Africa, Ethiopia, and Dubai.

*Bereket's parents* are immigrants from Ethiopia who came here with nothing and started what was soon to be a successful Ethiopian Bakery. He worked at this bakery, a lot of overnights, from about the age of 10 instilling a strong work ethic in him.

*Elizabeth studied* abroad in Barcelona in college and spent the summer in Mexico in 2022 so she is semi-fluent in Spanish.

*Bereket is* a first-generation college student, where he joined a Black Fraternity, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc, which to this day are most of his closest friends.

*New Orleans* is our favorite city – we got engaged there and named our dog after it.



Thanksgiving 10k with family







# Thank You



Thank you so much for taking the time to read our profile and learn about our family. We hope this gives you a glimpse into who we are as people and who we will be as parents. We hope to be a partner with you on this journey and provide the most loving home possible for your child. We have the ultimate respect and admiration for you and want you to know that we are keeping you in our thoughts and prayers. Thanks again for considering us!

From the bottom of our hearts,

*Bereket & Elizabeth*