

DEAR BIRTH MOTHER,

I have so much awe for you in your difficult decision to choose adoption for your child. If you choose to place your baby with me, I promise to do my utmost to deserve this amazing gift. Thank you for reading my letter and learning about me and my family.

My name is Rivka. I am a very healthy and energetic, single woman who has wanted to be a mother for a long time. The “right” relationship with a man that might have lead to biological motherhood has not manifested for me. I don’t want to miss out on the life experiences and growth opportunities that come with being a mother, loving a child and being responsible for another human being.

I spent some time trying to conceive but it didn’t happen. I was not willing to go the route of extreme, medical intervention since I am more oriented toward natural health care and healing. So after a year I turned my hopes to adoption for the sort of fulfillment I am seeking. I believe that adoption is simply the right thing to do; there are so many people in the world and I believe we are all responsible for one another, including raising one another’s children when asked to, when we can. I am wide open to parenting a child whose biological/racial background is different from mine and is anywhere on the spectrum. I am hoping to adopt an infant in order to be able to bond deeply with her or him and to learn about the child from the very beginning of life.



## WHAT DO I HAVE TO OFFER?

What I can bring to my relationship with your child is a breadth of life experience and intense dedication to his or her well-being and success, especially when it comes to education and the blossoming of the spirit.

As a sign language interpreter with a Master's degree in interpreting and twenty years in the field, I will begin talking **and** signing to your baby the moment I meet her. Research has shown that babies can learn to form signs at an earlier age than they can physically form words and can therefore communicate some of their needs, wants and feelings to their mothers earlier. I also know several spoken languages including Hebrew, some Spanish and some German and have a background in Arabic. I intend to expose my child to a rich diversity of human communication. Communication is extremely important to me; I am a good listener and am someone who values being present and connected. If you choose me to become your baby's mother, you will always know I am committed to being here for the child no matter what. I am also happy to stay in contact with you over the years, if that is something you find you want.

I have traveled widely, both internationally and domestically and bring a fascination with learning to everything in my life. Living in an economically, religiously, ethnically and socially mixed neighborhood, the same neighborhood I grew up in, I am excited to raise a child with as much variety as I was lucky enough to be raised with myself. The neighborhood is safe and almost everything we need can be found here within walking distance, from great medical care to health food to parks, the lake, cultural activities, good schools and opportunities to play with the many neighborhood kids who are of all races.

As a child, I sang in the Chicago Children's Choir under the direction of its founding director, the late Reverend Christopher Moore, an amazingly big-hearted visionary who saw music as the way to raise children up from whatever they might be suffering and to encourage them to find unity through heartfelt song. I want the same kind of loving "song" for my child, in whatever form her heart calls for. I am still singing and studying voice and am very excited to sing to and with my child.

My years of spiritual studies include yoga and meditation and have all been and continue to be focused on finding a more close and fulfilling connection with God, no matter whose tradition inspires it. I intend to try to instill in my child a love of and fascination with the world's spiritual traditions. I am somewhat more oriented toward Judaism than toward other "religions" and enjoy activities in the Jewish community, but I am equally at home in Churches, Yoga/Hindu Ashrams, Baha'i Temples and Buddhist meditation halls. I would wish for my child that he find Truth and Joy wherever they call to him and I will be with him on this path.

## LIFESTYLE

My work as a sign language interpreter affords me a great deal of flexibility and the opportunity to book extra hours as needed. I have been blessed to never lack work. I also have the flexibility to choose when to be home, which is why I am optimistic about keeping childcare in the family as my mother and I (and sometimes brother and father) mesh our schedules. I have a number of friends who are eager to babysit from time to time.

I am quite health-conscious and maintain a healthful diet, using herbal healing approaches as a first line of defense, but do see my MD regularly as well, as will my child. I practice yoga and meditation and get regular, outdoor exercise. I hope to instill my child with knowledge and love of a greener life so that she can grow up knowing her body and herself well, practicing compassion toward animals and people, caring about the planet and realizing her purpose.

I live in a spacious, sunny, apartment across from two playgrounds, a wonderful museum and only three blocks from the lake. My home is filled with books and plants. My parents live walking distance from me.



## MORE ABOUT MY BACKGROUND

I have an involved family and close friends as I am somebody who craves stable, connected relationships. My intent is to create a little family of my own, passing on what's precious to me, nurturing my support network and showing devotion and love to a child. Growing up I had a great deal of freedom, though I didn't appreciate it at the time, of course. At the same time, I always knew my mother was keeping tabs on me, making sure I was always safe, that she knew where I was and that I knew she cared and was protecting me. I hope to emulate her in that way, the way of steadiness, stability and undying love.

Both of my parents have always been very child-oriented, each in a different way. My father is a retired high school biology teacher and was actually my biology teacher for two years. From him I have inherited my love of learning and my knowledge that it is lifelong and fun!

My mother was a teacher in the lower grades for many, many decades and holds advanced degrees in early childhood education and in child and adolescent psychotherapy. She continues to work as a therapist and will be the primary “babysitter” two to three days a week when I am at work and she is not. She is very excited to become a grandma and has been supportive and involved throughout my process.

My brother is one of the most creative people I know. He is a talented bicycle mechanic, drummer and drum-maker, artist, gardener, designer and energetic, insightful and brilliant person. A few years younger than I and having no kids of his own (yet?), he is looking forward to being an uncle and occasional babysitter as well. My child will have positive, male role models who respect women.

Although we are all adults and live separately, our family gets together often for each of our birthdays, holidays, concerts in Grant Park, our yearly trip to the Steam Show in Indiana and other musical and cultural events. Your baby will fit into our family easily and she or he will be loved and cherished by every one of us.

#### CLOSING STATEMENT

I feel my raising a child as an independent woman will bring several advantages to your child: I will dedicate myself fully to this child and to providing the kind of life you envision for him or her. The child will be the first grandbaby in a child-focused family of educators and will enjoy doting attention from its grandparents and uncle. It takes a thoughtful, unique and loving mother to place her baby for adoption and to choose a single woman to raise her child. I hope you will decide to get to know me better and to give me the opportunity to learn about you so that you can determine if we are the right family for your baby.

You can contact me at 888-363-4825 or, if you prefer, you can call my adoption counselor, Tobi Ehrenpreis, at 800-869-1005. I can also be reached at the following email address: [wannabelmommy@yahoo.com](mailto:wannabelmommy@yahoo.com)

