



MICHAEL
AND **TIM**

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DANCING THE NIGHT AWAY

≡ Hello! ≡

WE ARE
**MICHAEL
AND TIM**



SIDE SADDLE IN
PALM SPRINGS

WE *Love*
TO TRAVEL
TOGETHER!

Whether it is a Midwestern road trip to the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, or a long weekend in Mexico City, we love an adventure. We go to Palm Springs in the winter for some sunshine and aim for one international trip a year. **WE CAN'T WAIT TO GIVE OUR CHILD THE CHANCE TO SEE THE WORLD AND EXPERIENCE NEW CULTURES.**

OUR
STORY
so far

WE HAVE BEEN TOGETHER FOR 15 YEARS AND HAVE ALWAYS DREAMED OF EXPANDING OUR

FAMILY THROUGH ADOPTION. We live in Chicago close to Lake Michigan in one of the most **diverse neighborhoods** in Chicago. We have lots of friends and family who are close by, many with kids, who are so excited to help us welcome a child into our home. We are so grateful to you for learning more about who we are, what our values are, and why we are so excited to expand our family.

We were introduced to each another by mutual friends. For our first date, we went to dinner and then a dessert bar. **THE NIGHT WAS FILLED WITH LAUGHTER, WHICH HASN'T STOPPED IN THE 15 YEARS WE'VE KNOWN EACH OTHER.**

Before gay marriage was legal, we became Civil Union Partners. We stood before a judge at City Hall, said our vows and exchanged rings. It was a beautiful day, and after a stroll through Millennium Park in Chicago, we had an intimate reception with our dearest friends and family. Once marriage equality became legal, our Civil Union date became our wedding anniversary.



ALWAYS SMILING!



RELAXING
AT HOME

WE CAN'T *Wait* TO MEET YOU!



EXPLORING
SPAIN
TOGETHER



SEASIDE IN MAINE



By
MICHAEL

I LOVE TIM'S KINDNESS. He is smart, strong and very resourceful. Tim comes from a very loving family and his values – like mine – reflect the importance of community, compassion and respect. I especially love Tim's cooking! He has a huge collection of cookbooks and loves to experiment with global cuisines, such as Mexico, Thai, Vietnamese and Middle Eastern. **TIM IS HUMBLE, FUNNY, CHARMING AND MY FAVORITE HUMAN IN THE WHOLE WORLD!**



TIM WITH HIS BEST FRIEND

MEET MICHAEL

By
TIM

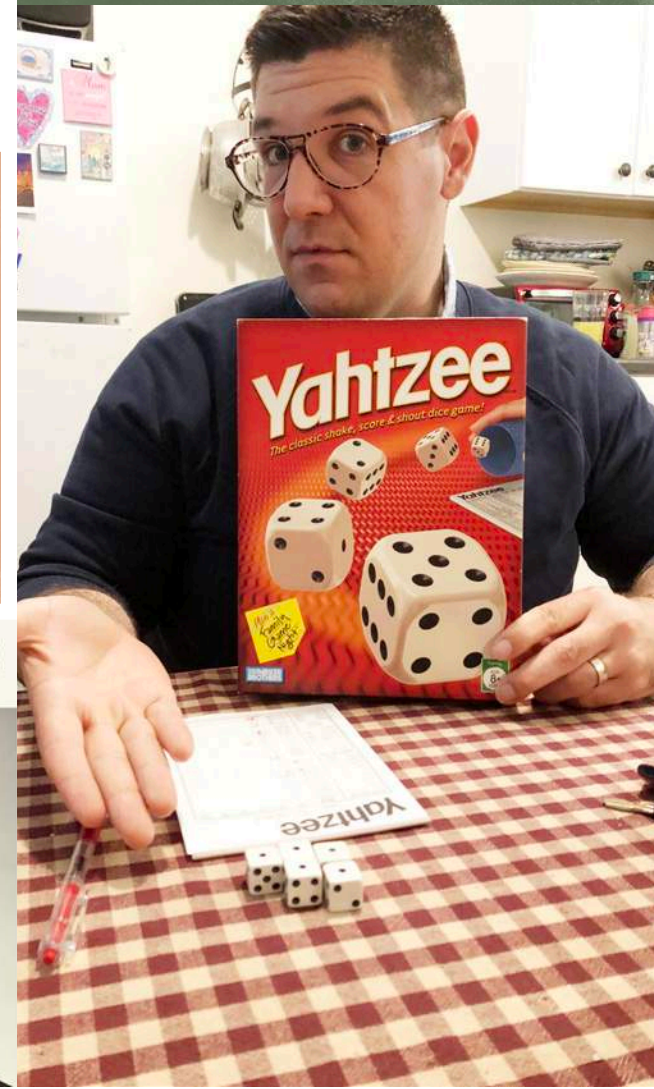
I AM INCREDIBLY LUCKY TO HAVE MICHAEL IN MY LIFE. HE IS VERY SMART, HARD-WORKING AND DEDICATED. One of the things that I appreciate most about Michael is how good he is at making our house a home. When friends come over for dinner or to hang out, they often comment on how cozy and welcoming our home is, and Michael is to thank for that. He is deeply committed to his friends and his recovery community. I love that he is sentimental and appreciates making memories and traditions – qualities that are wonderful as a husband and will be wonderful as a dad! **MICHAEL IS ALSO WICKEDLY FUNNY, WHICH IS ONE OF THE THINGS THAT FIRST MADE ME FALL IN LOVE WITH HIM. HE IS MY FAVORITE.**



MEET TIM



TIM LOVES MAGIC



WITH A FRIEND AND HER BABY



FUN
FACTS
about Tim

TIM LOVES TO PLAY TENNIS AND VOLUNTEERS WITH VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS, INCLUDING A WOMEN'S THEATRE AND WITH THE LOCAL BUSINESS ALLIANCE OUR COMMUNITY.

2018 CHICAGO'S NOTABLE LGBTQ EXECUTIVES



FUN FACTS about Michael

MICHAEL PARTICIPATES IN HIS COMPANY'S LGBT BUSINESS RESOURCE GROUP. MICHAEL IS ALSO VERY ARTISTIC AND LOVES PROJECTS AROUND THE HOUSE.



STORY TIME



GOING TO A JENNY SLATE READING WITH FRIENDS





OUR LOVED ONES

Michael's mom, Karen, is a hoot! She is a nurse who loves babies and is very excited to become NaNa! Michael's dad, Mike, is a tough guy on the outside who melts at the site of babies (and dogs)! He will be called PupPup.

Granny Martha, is a social worker who dedicates her life to helping people in need and advocating for people who are often

not heard in society. Granny is an artist who can be found in the summer on her porch in Maine making mosaics and other projects. She is also a fabulous baker who can't wait to make your child their favorite treats. Grampy Dan is a great cook, so together, they can't be beat in the kitchen! Grampy is a real character. He works for a school doing maintenance and grounds keeping and loves to tell stories to keep people entertained. Dan is an avid gardener, and is known for his tomatoes and sky-high sunflowers. He will take your child and his other grandchildren to the beach, to the lake to fish, and to pick wild blueberries in the summer.



CELEBRATING A FRIEND'S BIRTHDAY

FAMILY TRADITIONS

- ▶ WE ALWAYS PUT UP A BEAUTIFUL CHRISTMAS TREE the weekend following Thanksgiving and dream of doing this with a child.
- ▶ ON CHRISTMAS EVE, WE DRIVE AROUND AND LOOK AT THE BEAUTIFUL LIGHTS. We pick a favorite restaurant to eat and when we get home, we each get to open one gift as we have dessert in front of the fire. It is one of our favorite nights.
- ▶ Between Christmas and New Year, WE HOST AN OPEN HOUSE FOR OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY to come over and cheers to the season. Everyone is welcome and our friends with children usually bring their kids!
- ▶ WE LOVE TO WALK TO THE LAKE ON JULY 4TH and watch the fireworks with other families and friends from the neighborhood and also love Summer road trips.
- ▶ WE USUALLY HAVE A JOINT BIRTHDAY PARTY since our birthdays are only 4 days apart. It's always fun and full of laughs - one year it was a magic show!

Tim's brother, Peter, loves his job as an uncle and Tim's sister, Jennifer, has three girls, cousins Gwynn (22yo), Lacie (11yo) and Emmerson (4yo). WE LOVE BEING UNCLES AND KNOW EXACTLY WHO TO TURN TO FOR PARENTING ADVICE.



FUN IN NYC!



AT A Refugee MARCH

WALKING ON THE BEACH WITH DIXIE



WHIPPING UP A TASTY MEAL AT HOME

Meet DIXIE

We rescued Dixie from a life as a racing greyhound. She loves to snuggle, play at the park and coming with us to the farmer's market in the summers. SHE IS AN ABUNDANT SOURCE OF JOY IN OUR LIVES AND IS WONDERFUL WITH CHILDREN.



OUR Work LIFE

WE ARE BOTH ATTORNEYS, ALTHOUGH NEITHER OF US WORK AT LAW FIRMS. Michael works for a pharmacy company where he helps to ensure that the company follows the law and operates ethically and effectively. Tim works for a community foundation that raises money to support community needs and other nonprofits. We both work for family-friendly organizations. Our employers know about and are supportive of our adoption plans.

≡ OUR PROMISE *to you and* YOUR CHILD ≡

- ▶ We promise to **LOVE YOUR CHILD UNCONDITIONALLY** and to say I love you every day.
- ▶ We promise to **PROVIDE YOUR BABY WITH A SAFE, HAPPY LIFE FULL OF OPPORTUNITIES.**
- ▶ We promise to provide a home that is **FUN, ENGAGING AND FULL OF LAUGHTER.**
- ▶ We promise to **FOSTER A SPIRIT OF KINDNESS AND CURIOSITY** by exposing him or her to a wide variety of experiences in a culturally diverse environment.
- ▶ We promise to **FOCUS ON MAKING MEMORIES** instead of focusing on material possessions.



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