



GABBY & ELLEN



HI/HOLA! WE'RE ELLEN, GABBY, AND JULIA.



Thank you for taking the time to learn about us. We are a bilingual, "Mexicanadian" family and we truly love spending time together. We come to adoption after pregnancy loss and are no longer able to have biological children. Parenting our daughter has been our greatest joy, and we are excited about the possibility of adding another child to our family. We hope this book gives you a glimpse into our daily lives and the future we hope to provide for any child we are lucky enough to parent.

You will have many decisions to make during this process. We hope you have the support and information to feel comfortable with whatever you decide. If you choose our family to raise your child, they would have our unconditional love and would also always know how loved they are by you. We would be honored to walk alongside you on this journey.





It all started because Ellen liked Gabby's glasses. We met at a coffee shop and extended our first date with a long walk. We dated for two years and got married in 2016.



Our wedding blended our cultures and favorite music and foods. We had so much fun!

Friends and family came from Canada, Mexico, and all around the US.

A surprise mariachi serenade was a highlight!



¡HOLA!

MEET GABBY



Born in Mexico and moved to Texas in second grade

Is a CPA and actually enjoys doing taxes

Finds cleaning to be therapeutic, especially with music

Has a playlist for every occasion; our family DJ!

Stays healthy with yoga, running, and kayaking

ABOUT GABBY (BY ELLEN)



Gabby is the best!

I feel so fortunate to get to spend my life with her. She is **so much fun** to be around and keeps us laughing every day. She is **fiercely loyal** to our family and friends and is also a talented and **motivated professional**. I have never seen someone study with as much dedication as she did for her CPA exams.



She makes **amazing pancakes**, finds the perfect songs to dance to, and always makes us **feel loved**. She is Julia's **go-to mom** at night and when she hurts herself, and they love to cook and bike together.

Your child would laugh hard, dance daily, and be loved unconditionally with Gabby as a parent.

MEET ELLEN

Born and raised in Canada



Went to college in Toronto and Chicago

Speaks Spanish fluently

Enjoys a rewarding career working with children as a speech therapist

Loves going for long drives and seeing the ocean

Had never tried a breakfast taco before moving to Texas and now could eat them every day



ABOUT ELLEN (BY GABBY)



I am so lucky to have Ellen in my life!

Ellen is the most genuine person I know. She is kind, thoughtful, patient, and empathetic. She is extremely supportive and would do anything for the people she loves.



More importantly, Ellen is an incredible mother. Before we met, her love for children led her to her career in speech therapy. She's always thinking about Julia and anticipating the books, toys, and activities she'll enjoy at every stage. With Ellen, our life is full of art projects, nature hikes, and joy. She loves to cook and is looking forward to hosting family and friends for weekly "Friday night meatballs." One of Julia's favorite activities with "Mami" is checking out library books weekly.

ABOUT JULIA (BY MAMI Y MAMÁ)



SOME OF JULIA'S FAVORITE THINGS:





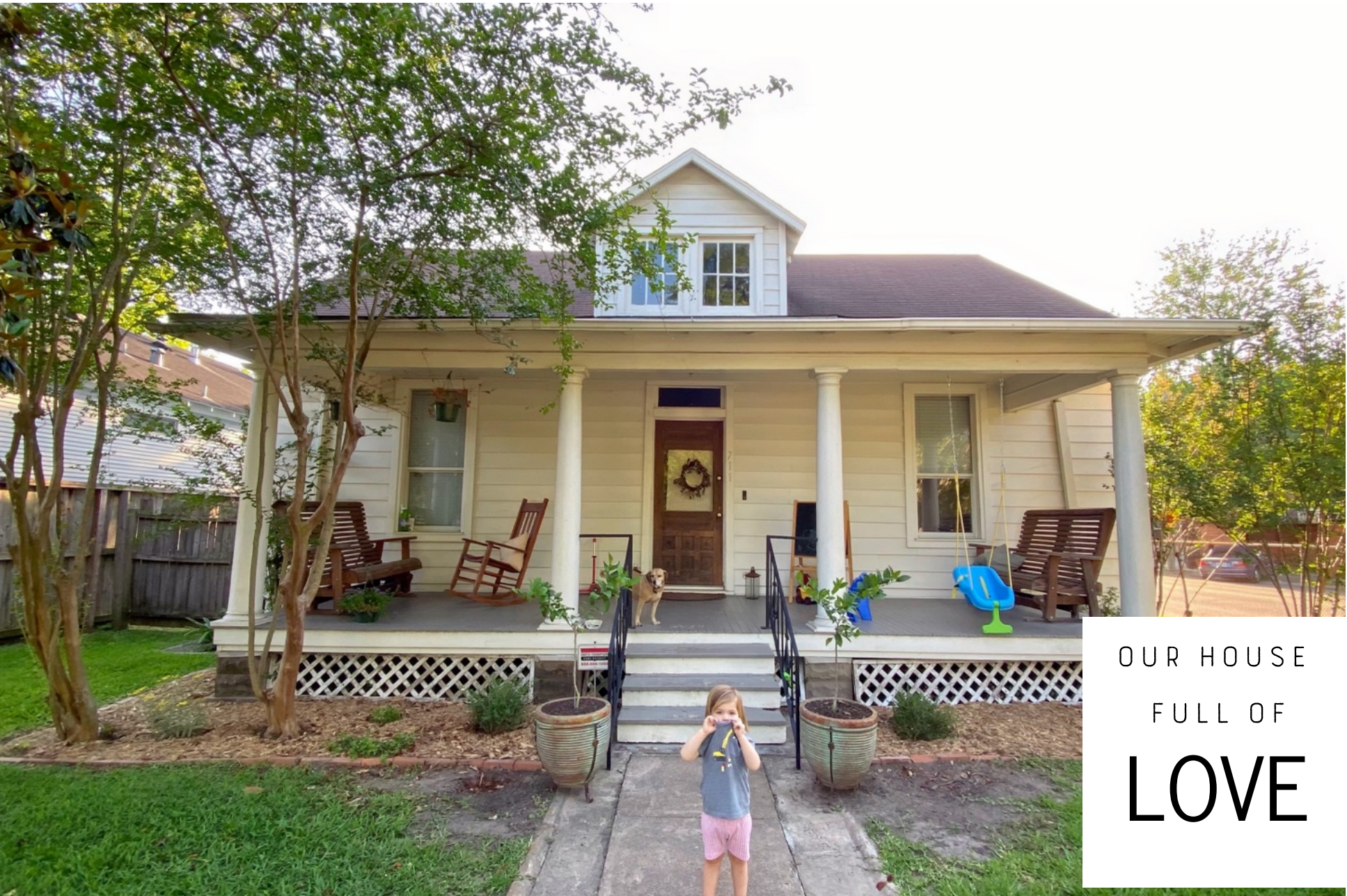
Our daughter Julia was born at the end of 2019 and our lives have been filled with **dance parties, bike rides, and race cars** ever since. Julia is curious, persistent, creative, and loving. She speaks Spanish fluently. She is an adventurous eater and loves things like avocado, seaweed, salmon, and nopales (cactus).



We're very **open as a family** about the fact that Julia was conceived using donor sperm. We chose a donor whose identity will eventually be available to Julia. We will support her in **learning about her heritage as much as possible**.

Julia helps us slow down and see the world through new eyes. We hope you can **feel the love** we have for our little girl and can imagine life for a baby as her sibling. **We know she's ready for the role of big sister.**

We have lived in our home since 2017 and love our friendly, urban neighborhood. We're now renovating to allow this to be our "forever home": Stay tuned for an updated photo! We look forward to our home being a welcoming place for all, gardening together, and game nights on our porch.



OUR HOUSE
FULL OF
LOVE



Our home is casual and kid-friendly.

We play lots of games like Uno, Rummikub and Loteria.

We love to try new recipes and favorites like aguas frescas, roasted veggies, and cupcakes.



OUR PETS



Bay (beagle mix) and Milo (cat) are both **big sweethearts** and they get along incredibly well with each other. They also both **love Julia** and are happiest sleeping nearby while she plays. We recently lost Lulu (chihuahua) due to old age and all miss her. **We love our furry family members!**

LOVING WHERE WE LIVE



Planting trees at our local park

We are lucky to live close to so much that Houston has to offer. We **walk and bike** to our neighborhood parks, pool, library, and favorite breakfast taco spot. We are active members of our local **civic club**. Your child would grow up a part of a **diverse, thriving community**.



Art by Gabby's mom at our neighborhood Dia de Muertos Festival



Neighborhood sights



We are big on holidays and traditions! Our favorite holiday is **Christmas**: We cut down a real tree, decorate it with friends and family, and go to a local light festival. We celebrate Christmas Eve Mexican-style (with **tamales!**) and Christmas Day in the Canadian way with **paper crowns** and matching pjs.



C E L E B R A T E



We also love having things to celebrate throughout the year. Some favorites:

- Halloween with family themes
- Special birthday breakfasts
- Watching for colorful leaves in the fall and flowers in the spring
- Paletas on the porch all summer



We'd love to hear more about **your traditions** and incorporate them into our year.



EXPLORING
THE WORLD



ON A GLACIER IN CANADA

WINDY DAY IN GREECE



We love to see new places, try new foods, and enjoy time away. We would continue these adventures and show your baby what a wonderful world we live in.



TASTING POUTINE IN TORONTO



BACK TO GABBY'S ROOTS IN MEXICO



EXPLORING TEXAS: WEEKEND GETAWAYS



This is one of our favorite family activities. Our **flexible schedules** allow us to take **long weekends** and get to know the amazing landscapes that surround us. Some favorites are Surfside Beach, Hill Country, Caddo Lake, and farm stays. We'd love to get to know places that are **special to you and your family**.



TOBOGGANING WITH CANADIAN FAMILY

LA FAMILIA



BIRTHDAY FUN WITH "TIAS"



HIKING WITH GRANDPA

COUSINS/TIOS



GRANDMAS!

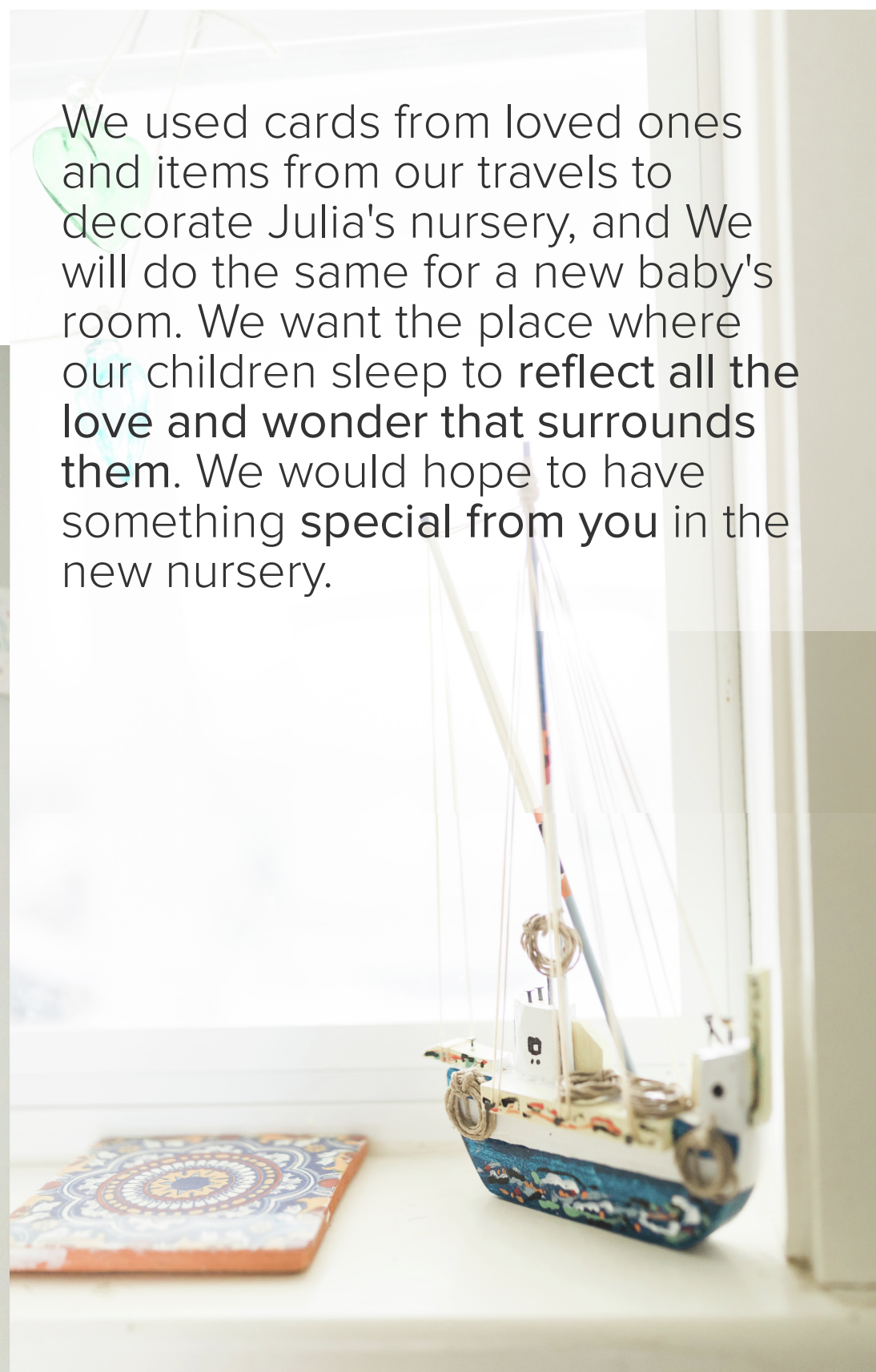
We have a loving, lively extended family. Some are local and others live in Mexico, Canada, and England. We see everyone as often as we can. They are ready to **welcome** a new addition to our family with open arms.



SWEET DREAMS



We used cards from loved ones and items from our travels to decorate Julia's nursery, and We will do the same for a new baby's room. We want the place where our children sleep to **reflect all the love and wonder that surrounds them**. We would hope to have something **special from you** in the new nursery.



OUR PROMISE TO YOU

Thank you for taking the time to get to know us. We are thinking of you in this process no matter what you decide.

We promise to **love your baby unconditionally**. We will delight in being his or her parents. We will provide a **safe, loving environment** for your baby to thrive in our house full of love.

We commit to making sure your child would have the opportunity to have a **relationship with you**.



Every night before bed, we read stories and go outside to see the moon. Julia loves to hear that people who love her all around the world are seeing the same moon. **Your baby would always know you're one of those people.**



THANK YOU!

Mixbook
PHOTO CO.