

John and Patience

Dear Birthparent,

- ▶ We are Patience and John; and we thank you so much for giving us the opportunity to introduce ourselves.
- ▶ We truly admire the strength and courage it takes for you to consider adoption for your baby.
- ▶ It is a brave and selfless decision and we would be honored to be considered as the adoptive family for your baby. We hope that this letter provides you with a picture of what your child's life would be with our family.





Who we are:

We like to think of ourselves as happy, fun and hardworking people and, unless our friends and family have been lying to us, we are not far off the mark. We believe in working hard and playing even harder.

Many people do not believe in love at first site but for us, it was.

With our very busy work lives, we decided to find love through online dating. We met at an online dating site. We are opposites yet perfect for each other. John is shy and quiet where I am outgoing and love having people around. I like to cook and John stays as far away from the kitchen as he can. I like to talk on the phone for hours, five minutes for him is enough.

Our meeting felt like coming home- We have been inseparable since the beginning. We have been together for nearly 9 years and married for 4. Our love has only deepened over time, and we have learned that we can count on each other no matter what life presents.

Our lives before:

John

I am the 2nd child in a family of 6 children. I have one older brother, 2 younger brothers and two sisters. The girls are the babies of the family. I was born and raised catholic in Northern Ireland, UK where I attended catholic primary and secondary schools. My Mom was a stay at home mom while my Dad is a Fisherman, from whom I learned good work ethics and importance of family

I was very good in school. I went on to University and after graduation, i worked at several companies in London and Ireland. In 2002, I married but it ended due to irreconcilable differences.

I moved to Saudi Arabia for career advancement.

Patience

I am the 1^{st} child in a family of 8 children. I had 3 younger sisters but sadly one died in 2004 from Malaria. I have 4 younger brothers.

I was born and raised catholic in Nigeria, where i attended catholic primary and secondary schools. Both my parents are hardworking farmers who worked hard to give their children better options in life.

Education is very important to my parents. They instilled it in me and my other siblings at an early age the importance of a good education as door openers to possibilities in life. They wanted to give what they (themselves) didn't have in life.

As the eldest, i was sent to live with my Paternal uncle who lived in the city to give me an opportunity to attend good schools. While in the City, i learned not only hard work but also cooking and baking skills, social skills and childcare as i had to help in caring for my Cousins.

I was a good student and went on to attend University where i studied and obtained a Law Degree. I went on to obtain a masters in Maritime law while still working full time.

i never forgot the values of family and the importance of education instilled in me. I assisted my Parents financially in educating my brothers and sisters who also went on to study various courses in Universities.

Official First date in London:

At the time we met, John was working in Kuwait while I was in London after completing my MBA, looking for work. He visited me in London after 3 months of Skype calls, emails and telephone conversations. It was very special to finally meet in person.



For our 2nd date, we went on a tour of London and visited several places of interest like the Royal museums, Buckingham Palace and Sky Studios.

It was a beautiful and fun filled day. I wouldn't change it for the world.

The highlight of the day for us was the visit to sky studios. We found out that we both enjoyed animated movies. And it was nice to see their cartooned cars.









We continued a very difficult but exciting long distance relationship with John coming to England to see me every 2½ months for 2 weeks. We spent a lot of our time travelling all over the UK and Europe as well as visiting his family in Ireland.

Our relationship blossomed, we would talk as many as 3 times daily with each skype call lasting hours. We could talk about anything and everything. It was nice to finally meet someone who I could be 'ME' with.

We visited Paris-France, Greece, Switzerland, Belgium and Italy.

We talked a lot about getting married and starting a family. We both always dreamed of having children.

Travel around the UK

Visit to Oxford, England







Visit to Edinburgh castle, Scotland









John's family

First visit to John's family in Northern Ireland, UK



John and Pat



Patience, John's sister Agnes and Mary



John's brother Nicholas and wife Mary



John and his sister Agnes

Pictures taken behind our UK home with John's brother Gary









Our Relationship..

Engagement dinner at the Claridges, London

Wedding....

We got married in a Registry office on the 4^{th} of January 2014 with a few of our good friends present.

On the 13th October 2013, we got engaged.









Reception ...

We had a small and beautiful intimate reception afterwards •















After wedding photos with Nigerian traditional attire.



Honeymoon in Lux Resort, Maldives

Maldives is the best Holiday destination you could ever ask for.

With clear blue sky, white sand and clear blue water..... We couldn't ask for more. It was the best.



























Sunset fishing trip in the Maldives...

- On a boat ride out to sea to do some sunset fishing.
- Who said fishing was easy!
- Finally caught a fish after a long and tedious wait.

John and I enjoy spending our free time doing the things we love.

We both enjoy travelling and visiting different countries. We have visited over 15 countries since we first met. We would love to show you pictures of all the places we have visited but this letter will take forever if we do.

We also love to entertain and have people over to our home. I love to bake and cook, and our friends and their kids know there is always a buttery cookie waiting for them at ours.

Our life together....

We both love watching movies. While John prefers the Cinema, I love to curl up on the sofa or bed whiling watching a good comedy. We have found a compromise. We go to the cinema twice a month.

John loves to listen to world news. I don't like sad news so I avoid it as much as I possibly can.

We both love shopping. Whether it is for clothes and shoes or furniture. It is not out of the ordinary for us to get up and decide to take a day trip somewhere or to go to the local auctions to find that antique piece of furniture that we've found a place for in our home.

Holiday pictures..



Visit to the floating village, Cambodia



Rome



Christmas mass at the Vatican, Rome

Mass at the Vatican, Rome



Cambodia dancers



Angkor Wat, Cambodia Ancient Temple





Petronas twin towers, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.





Bird park, Malaysia



Zoo night safari, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



Angkor Wat, Cambodia Ancient Temple





Kuwait Towers



Bubble maker in the Science Center



On top Kuwait Towers



View from top of the Kuwait Towers



The Souq



The Avenues,

Visit to Kuwait





On a cable car to Santosa island, Singapore



Universal studios, Santosa island, Singapore



Thailand



Garden dome, Singapore



Titanic Museum, Belfast. N.Ireland



Garden of the Gods, Colorado



Time Square, New York



Desert safari, Dubai



Giant Causeway, Northern Ireland, UK



Garden of the Gods, Colorado



The Broadmoore Gardens, Colorado Springs



Desert safari, Dubai



Acropolis, Athens, Greece



View from the Acropolis, Athens, Greece



I left the UK to join John in Saudi Arabia. Our life was beautiful. We created a beautiful home full of love, fun and laughter; but something was missing. Children!!

I got pregnant three months after arriving there, but had a miscarriage a few weeks later. We tried for another 6 months unsuccessfully and then decided to seek medical help. After trying unsuccessfully to conceive after several fertility treatments and surgery, we know that we are meant to build our family through adoption.

Our struggle with infertility has made us stronger individually and strengthened our relationship as a couple and made us better future parents.

Our love has only deepened over time, and we've learned that we can count on each other no matter what life presents.

We are proud and happy in the life we share together and want so much to grow our family. We are excited about our decision to adopt and have the support from friends and family.

Special events...

Christmas holidays, Weddings and Child Christenings are very special events in our family. Its is a time when we all come together to support each other and enjoy our time together. Below pictures were taken at John's sister Agnes's wedding.



John's parents, Brendan and Mary



John's sister Agnes and her husband Michael



John's older brother Eugene, wife Karen and daughter Cara



John's mum and brother Gary



Aodhan and Eimear, John's sister Brenda's kids





Patience and John's parents



John and Patience



John's brother Nicholas with his wife Mary and son James



John's sister Brenda and her son Aodhan



John's brother Gary, niece and nephew



Matthew, Cara and Nicholas



Benjamin – 4th sibling



Anthony – 3rd sibling



Charity - 2nd sibling



Pius – 5th sibling



Henry- 6th sibling





L-R, Augustina, Papa, Charity, Mama and Pius



Mama and Grandson (Charity's son)



Augustina. Anthony's wife



Benjamin's wife, Ifeoma and my two nephews



Newest member of the family,



Anthony's daughter, Mercy

Pat's sister charity's customary marriage....

Nigerian is a country of over 170 million people who speak about 360 languages. Our cultures, customs and traditions are as diverse as the languages. Our culture is highly manifested in our marriage systems and traditional marriage attires and fashion styles popularly referred to as traditional wears. Marriages, child birth and Christmas are special occasions for our family to come together and enjoy each other.



Pat's sister Charity and her husband (couple)



Pat's parents



Brides' siblings



Couple with Bride's brother Anthony



Couple with bride's parents



Bride in her customary marriage attire with little bride



Bride's siblings – left to right Henry, Paulina and Benjamin



Paulina, Henry & Ifeoma (Benjamin's wife)

We both come from strong catholic and supportive families. John's maternal Aunty adopted a son over 20 years ago and his elder brother is currently fostering two young boys. Growing up, one of my good friends, Florence was adopted. While undergoing fertility treatments, my parents told me that God's plan for me will come whether it is having biological children or adopting children. They believe that love transcends all.

Our families have showed us throughout their lives that adoption is a very special way to create a family filled with unconditional love and support.

We want to provide a loving home and family for a very special child or children. We are very much looking forward to adopting a child of any race.

For two people who generally would rather talk about anything other than themselves, pouring our collective life and heart on these pages is not a simple task. But the motivation is powerful and the sentiment genuine. We are fortunate – we both come from stable and loving families who have supported us throughout our lives. We found each other and are the better for it



Our Community in Saudi Arabia...

We live in a friendly expat community with people from different countries, race and religious background. There are many children in our neighborhood, and families often get together for birthdays and community activities. Your child will be welcome not only into our family but also our community.



John and his God son Jedediah on his 1st birthday.



Our community on Jedidiah's birthday



Jedidiah and Pat



Pat, Jedidiah and Leonora his mum



Our neighbour and her daughters



Pat and God sons (Jonathan and Jothan)



Community playground



Community playground 2



Swimming pool area



Our street in the gated community



Private beach for our community



Front of our home



Children play area on the beach



Our home....

Our home is a 3 bedroom, 2 ½ bath on two floors in a townhouse with car port and an extra room. John currently works 7-4 daily with weekends off. I have the ability to work from home, but am currently taking time out of work and intend to stay at home for at least one year so that I can take care of your child full time.

This provides us with a flexibility and a great work —life balance. We attend mass every Sunday, Monday and Wednesday. John is a reader in church and Patience sings in the choir. Our favourite weekend activities are bargain shopping and exploring museums or just relaxing at the beach. For extended time off, we love to travel to experience different cultures and food.



Entrance hallway



Living room



Sitting room



Dining Area



Upstairs' Lounge



Future baby room



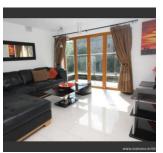
Spare bedroom

Other homes...

We also have a newly completed 6 bedroom home in Northern Ireland, UK and a 3 Bedroom holiday Apartment in Ireland. The UK house is in the countryside with a field for horse riding and side road leading to a lake for fishing. It is about 4 houses from John's brother Eugene and his parent's homes



3 bedroom holiday Apartment in Ireland



Sitting room of Apartment in Ireland



Our home in the UK

We consider the UK home as our permanent home because it is where we intend to retire.

The Ireland Apartment was purchased about 10 years ago when John lived and worked in Ireland. It is currently on lease as holiday home.



Lough Neagh behind our home



Road leading to the lake



Field with Horses grazing





Our decision to adopt from the USA...

Two of John's good friends and work colleagues here in Saudi Arabia are Americans. Patience's Cousins live in Colorado and Houston. Three of her childhood friends are also married to Americans and live in Florida, North Carolina and Petersburgh. Also, Our church community here in Saudi Arabia is 50% American with American Priests.

We have both travelled to the United States several times to visit our friends and family including road trips all around the east and west coast. We love the USA particularly because the people seem very helpful, friendly, open and active.

Patience had fertility treatments in the USA, and spent close to 4 and 5 months in the USA in 2015 and 2016 respectively. We are very happy with our experiences in the USA particularly the helpfulness and friendliness of the people we met on our stay.

We want you to be assured that if you choose us, your child's life will be full of love and support from us and our families. Your child will grow up with opportunities to thrive and he or she will never be lacking in love from us. This is our promise to you.

We look forward to visiting the USA and we will encourage your child to know the culture of his or her heritage. We hope to be the family that you choose to cherish your child. We are open to whatever relationship you desire to have with us and your child. No matter what type of relationship you would like to have, if you choose us, your child will grow up knowing about the incredible gift of life that you have given him or her.



Garden of the Gods, Colorado



Thank you..

Thank you so much for taking the time to learn about our family. Our hearts are full of gratitude and respect for the selfless decision you are making. Your gift of life is our family's greatest blessing and we are humbled that you are considering us as parents.

We are overjoyed knowing that we will have a child to bring into our loving family. We promise to provide a safe and loving home and environment for your child.

We have already begun to carry love in our hearts for the child that we will adopt.

Our families are thrilled to welcome another child into their hearts. We hope you see the love we share and the unconditional love we will forever have for your child.

Our promise to you...

- We promise to love your child unconditionally
- We promise to protect and keep your child safe
- We promise to provide a life full of adventure and laughter
- We promise to enrich your child's life with strong values and beliefs
- We promise to be open with our communications with the child
- We promise to always speak of you with respect

Thank you so much for reading about us. You are hopefully the beginning to what will be our happy ending. We hope you are feeling well and have an easy pregnancy and delivery.

For more information about us or the adoption process please contact our Adoption Agency, Forever Families Through Adoption at 1-914-939-1180 or toll free at 1-866-922-3678. website: www.Foreverfamiliesthroughadoption.org or our Attorney, Michael Goldstein at 1-914-939-1111.

, John and Patience