Anita

About Me

Hi, my name is Anita. Growing up on the East Coast, I've always had an appreciation for a fast pace and four seasons. My childhood pictures are all blurry—I could never stay still for a shot. For a long time, I was the only girl in my neighborhood and used my imagination to lead all the boys as "Wendy" from "Peter Pan and the Lost Boys." We'd trek through the woods in the summertime and make snow forts in the winters. I'm still the same in a lot of ways: I am a ball of energy and am the only adult in my friend group able to keep up with their toddlers. I enjoy spending as much time as I can outside, and I have an imagination fueled by books that I would love to share with a child.

Out of a desire to help my family members and friends when they were sick, I became a doctor. More than the science, my favorite part of this job is connecting with my patients and their loved ones in their times of greatest need. This is such a special privilege. My career brought me to the Midwest, where I hope to build my family.

Always on the move.

Cruising with the woman I've always considered an extra grandmother.

About Anita, written by a friend.

Have you ever felt uniquely important, special, seen, and heard? Exceptionally valued and accepted and safe to be your authentic, truest, genuine self? Have you ever felt unconditional love, patience, and forgiveness if at some point you were not your best self? Anita brings all these things to others. She enters the world of those around her to be fully present to them. She is loving, caring, attentive, quiet, gentle, and an approachable listener. She is funny and remarkably creative. She is responsible and mature yet playful. Not taking everything so seriously, she can delight in activities like a kid again. She is a talented artist (photographer), chef, teacher, writer, and physician. She has a deep love of literature, music, visual, and performing arts, especially ballet. She loves spending time outdoors. She is the best friend to animals. She loves to run, dance, and shoot hoops. She is passionate about fairness, superb public education, and addressing barriers and disparities in her community. She brings beauty into the world.

My Home

I love my home. It's a warm, quaint cottage with plenty of windows and a small, fenced-in yard with an apple tree. My friends' kids have taught me where all the best hiding spots are in the house: the bottom of the toy closet, behind the couch in the playroom, and, of course, under all the beds. The majority of my waking hours are spent in the kitchen, where I love to cook and bake for my friends and their families. Everyone tends to congregate around the stove and keep me company as I bread chicken or melt chocolate.

My suburban neighborhood is filled with young families, whose children attend the elementary school a few blocks away. They are always eager to make new friends, and remind me of my old neighborhood friends. There are also several playful dogs in the neighborhood; one of my neighbors dog-sits Minnie and the rest of her pack during the day. There is a strong sense of community, with summer nights spent hanging out in each other's yards.

Waterworks at the park!

A friend from medical school

My Family

I am biracial. Among the many lessons I learned from my exposure to different cultures, traditions, and ways of family life was that you can never have too many people who love you. My childhood home was usually full of friends and relatives from varying backgrounds and walks of life, some of whom stayed with us for months or years at a time, and I enjoyed living and growing up with this big, chosen family.

"Family" became a word I learned to use generously. I now treat my work friends like my siblings and their children like my nieces and nephews. Though we all met at work, these friends are more than just colleagues; they represent my support system in the Midwest. We've spent much of our time outside of the hospital together—picnicking in local parks, grocery shopping in bulk at Sam's Club (I have enough ketchup to last a lifetime), celebrating birthdays with way-too-big cakes.

I have a little beagle named Minnie who's a favorite among the kids in the neighborhood, enjoys lounging in the sun, and diligently taste-tests all my baked goods.

Four generations of strong women and great cooks.

An introduction to the ballet!

My first attempt at a Thanksgiving turkey.

My Interests

I am rarely a doctor outside of the hospital. I prefer to spend my free time with my family, read, or take pictures. Sharing these hobbies with the children in my life has already made them all the more magical for me.

I enjoyed reading Disney fairy tales and have kept the original copies of these books to share with a child. More recently, I've built a library of stories that I feel aren't told enough—novels by powerful authors like Gabriel Garcia Marquez and Toni Morrison, who weren't represented in the required reading lists I remember from school. I would love to help a child create a library of his or her own, filled with books that bring joy and reflection.

Particularly in this day and age, I think no one is too young to be a photographer! While I personally enjoy taking pictures of flowers or landscapes, I'm always so curious to see what catches a child's eye. Besides books, Kodak cameras are my favorite presents to give my nieces and nephews because I know the cameras will be put to use immediately after they're opened and it's heartwarming to be a part of that first experience.

Friends, kids, and the dog gathering after work.

Christmas cookies are basically all about the sprinkles.

The best birthday parties are office fondue parties.

Exploring and discovering at new heights.

Teamwork in the kitchen.

Dear Birth Parent(s),

Thank you so much for taking the time to learn a little about me as you decide the next best steps for you and your child.

Throughout my life, I've really cherished chosen family—from the friends and relatives who stayed in my childhood home, to the work friends and neighbors I spend time with now. Getting to know and love people of different backgrounds, with different experiences and stories, is a part of who I am. To me, choosing to form a lifelong bond with another family through adoption is the most natural way to build my own family.

With so much love and care,

Anita

Why Adoption?

While we've never met, my heart goes out to you, as I know you are in the process of making very important decisions for yourself and your child. I'm grateful that you'd like to learn a little about me and consider how I might fit into your decisions.

Experiences like caring for my younger brother, looking after all of my cousins at family gatherings, and doting on my friends and their children have taught me that I have a lot of love to give and that I truly enjoy loving the people around me. Just as I've treasured my relationships with family members and friends, I would treasure the opportunity to develop a nurturing relationship with a child. I think children are such bright lights, and I would be so grateful to encourage and celebrate the discoveries and passions of a child learning to walk through the world.