Pen-sketch Donor # 1640

My partner has PCOS and this is what initially made us look into fertility and the struggles of gaining parenthood; moreover, through my work in education, I have seen the joy of and adventure in nurturing children. It would be my pleasure to help you in your journey and I would love to share a little of my story with you.

I am Kenyan but I have always travelled around the world. My life has seen me living in Pakistan, Kenya, Switzerland, and Hungary; as a result, I have always loved learning and the adventure of unknown. Whilst initially I sought this adventure through my environment, as I became more confident in school, I was able to discover it in literature and books. I especially gravitated towards science fiction and the futuristic world that they create. I also fell in love with the sciences and the stories of Marie Curie, Einstein, Rosalind Franklin and Newton as they wrestled humanity from ignorance towards knowledge, creativity and utility. I loved encyclopaedias and the many facets of world all opened in front of me. When I was bored in Kenya since we sometimes didn't have electricity, and the internet hadn't arrived, I played with memorising those facts to try and weave them into the fabric of my identity. Immersed in these books, the world around me disappeared. As I became better able to read and got great English teachers, this spread to fiction.

My love for adventure has always been rooted in a desire to develop myself as a person. To that end I have viewed life as a vehicle for self-discovery, self-reflection, and now after meeting my partner and welcoming my first child in the world, a chance to enrich, enliven, and nurture the lives of others. I have always sought that responsibility because it has given my life meaning and purpose.

Temperamentally, I have been blessed with a calm disposition especially under pressure. Through my life journey and my travels around the world and within myself, I have found deep and anxious lows as well as amazing highs. Through it all, I have wanted to maintain my sense of self. I have strived for self- control. Nonetheless, a life without flavour and passion isn't what I want. I really like to inhabit my interests whether it be environmentalism, yoga, my career in education, or Veganism. I really like committing to my ideals at least insofar as they benefit myself, my environment (socially and physically), and my health.

Despite my desire for self-control, I fell into my career in education. I wanted to improve my understanding of mathematics and, through my partners pushing, I start tutoring children in maths and science. You can already tell what my favourite subjects at school were. It has since become my full-time occupation and I hope to change the education sector. I love children and the joy of helping them first and foremost achieve their goals and learn about our common history. I love maths and science, but I also really enjoy literature the likes of War and Peace, Things Fall Apart, and The Dune series. I am an avid reader of non-fiction: "Think fast, Think Slow", "Superforcasters", "Black British History", "The Invisible Women", "This Changes Everything", "Black Swan", and "Gun, Germs, and Steel".

Whilst I wanted to take English, Economics and Philosophy as my subjects at sixth form/high school, I was convinced to take Maths, Physics and Chemistry. Initially, it was difficult, but I rediscovered my love for those subjects and it helped bring me to London.

Outside academic I have various other pursuits. I enjoy walking around London and the various non-touristic spots. My partner and I are avid finders of vegan food and with our new child we hope to continue the trend. I love doing Yoga, and am a budding cyclist using my Brompton to traverse the city for work, exploration, and pleasure.

As to how I look on these outings, I would describe myself as lean and with a kind face. My hair is usually dishevelled, and I like to wear large glasses.

I hope this has helped you understand a bit about me and helped you on your journey.

My partner and I wanted to give someone the opportunity to become a parent because it wasn't easy for us to conceive our own child. Children are amazing and change your entire world completely and we wanted to ensure that other people going through this journey could experience parenthood.

I hope that you pursue all your dreams and visions while maintaining a nurturing circle of loved ones, being mindful of those less fortunate than yourself, and minimising your impact on our precarious environment. I also hope you can change the world both at home and in public through your actions. My partner read the above lines and found them a bit too intense so I would also suggest you learn the important complementary skill of letting your expectations go.

18 marked a challenging transition point for me. I was ready for responsibility and independence and yet I didn't have the most supportive parents. Thankfully, I had already met my current partner and we could begin sculpting a life for ourselves. The advice that I would have given myself at 18 is that it is okay to be worried and anxious. In fact, it is crucial because if you have a drive to change yourself, those you love, and the wider world you need an internal sense of judgment. So, I would tell myself to keep worrying but push faster to action and communicate more to your supporters. It is easy to get stuck in a rut of worrying, or indeed not worrying, but if you can move yourself to action especially through communicating your thoughts, fears, excitements, and anxieties, you can bring your environment and the world a little closer to your vision. This is difficult so be biased towards communicating to your supporter be it friends, family, or beyond.

The world is a challenging, exciting and fractured landscape and the further I get away from my family, school, and university bubble the more it becomes apparent that we all craft unique journey through life. I hope that my journey is as open and free as possible whilst not stopping others from achieving the same. This donation is part of enacting that vision. I hope that you can do the same and more with your journey because you are desperately needed. You make the world a better place.