

Dear future Parent(s),

What an exciting and life-changing journey you have chosen to embark on.

I am thrilled to be considered in your search for a donor and hope that you find the perfect match. Please allow me to share with you some more information about myself so that you can get a better understanding of who I am as an individual, where I come from, but also what I stand for.

I was born in the South West of France, and have to admit that I was very privileged to be raised by warm and loving parents. My mother, the most loving and selfless person that I know, worked as a midwife her entire life whilst my dad, a more reserved but yet very empathetic and loving man, worked as a painter/decorator from the age of the 14. I grew up with with a single sibling, and have to say that my sister, who happens to be older than me by 5 years, was quite a character as a teen and definitely kept us on our toes. My school years proved to be rather traumatic, I was bullied from a very young age and struggled connecting with my peers which really affected me growing up. This disconnect led me to turn to what would later turn out to be my very first love, acting. I joined my first theatre group age 12, and was able to find a sense of belonging and connect with older, but like-minded people. I grew to become an actor and received a national distinction as I was headed towards adulthood.

It is around the same time that I found the courage to admit to myself, as well as to my family, that I was gay which I am glad to report was received with great support. My first boyfriend lived in the U.K. and so it is in the name of love that I packed my bag and opted for a fresh start. Things did not work out, however, the U.K. felt like home and so I decided to stay and have been living here up until this day. My uncle being a chef, I remember spending much time in his kitchen and restaurant as a kid and naturally developed a keen interest in cooking. I later attended cookery school myself and graduated from it. I found working in kitchens rather stressful and so I decided to opt for a different career path. I set up my own company just before turning 21, and was in charge of International students and young professionals looking to move to London. My job consisted in providing them with an accommodation, English lessons and a job. When Brexit was voted, business slowed down and so I decided to move on. Having plenty of experience in the catering/hospitality industry, I started managing coffee shops and other food-related businesses. Whilst I really enjoyed my work, I found it hard to delegate and would often overwork myself. I care tremendously for others and would like to believe that I am an empathetic person, but I also have very high expectations both for myself and others. I think it is fair to say that the bullying and failed relationships had left me emotionally scared and so I developed an interest for psychology. I think I felt the need to understand the human mind so that I could make better sense of my own experience. In the midst of the pandemic (Covid-19) and with plenty of time on my hands, I decided to sign up for a wide range of online courses (Life coaching, Neuro-linguistic programming, Cognitive Behavioural Therapy, Hypnosis, Thought Field Therapy, Reiki ...) which I found truly fascinating. I realised that the words we use shape our reality and greatly affect our experience. It is important that we talk to others the same way we would talk to a good friend and vulnerability is a sign of strength, not a weakness. It soon became clear to me that I wanted to become a counsellor and use my experience as a mean to relate to others but also help those in need. Soon before turning 29, I then decided to go back into education and attend university for the very first time, studying counselling. Choosing to go back to school 11 years after getting my baccalaureate (French equivalent to A-levels) is a big challenge but one worth taking.

I am proud to report that I have now found my calling.

Family is and has always been a priority of mine. I owe mine all that I have and all that I grew up to become. I hope that someday I will be fortunate enough to have my own, and am beyond excited knowing that you are about to get yours. Throughout the years, I got to meet and know couples who were not fortunate enough to get pregnant, I witnessed their pain and the struggle they faced on a daily basis. Whilst I hurt for them, they are the reason that I decided to join the donor program in the first place.

As a gay man, I also know that I may never get the chance to have biological children, and whilst it saddens me, it also motivates me further to extend my help to couples and individuals who feel so

dearly about becoming a parent. Whether it is through my counselling practice, or by being a donor, I want to contribute and be there for those facing some of life's greatest challenges. Whoever you choose as a donor, I know that you will make the very best of choices. I have no doubt in mind that you will soon blossom to be the most caring, loving, and attentive parent(s) there is/are.

Whilst it might not always be one smooth ride, I trust you will value each step of the process and embrace this new journey which is only the beginning of a bright and fuller future.

I am proud of you for not giving up and for choosing to go the extra mile to have a child whose birth I wish to congratulate you for in advance. I will forever be grateful for the love and care this lucky child will be gifted with.

With all my love x

Dear child,

I trust that you have received all the love, care and attention I know you deserve.

Through the following lines, I will attempt to give you an insight into what my own childhood and life have been like. I hope that you find this useful and am glad that you chose to find out more about me.

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Again, I hope that you are living a bright and fulfilling life surrounded by warm and loving parents and friends.

With much love x