Jaejinmusic.com ([00:00:07](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=u1xWZWSx9d0mFcp1KfPfGxNR5mEsr-Q4obl2f9gexXyjfdt0oUf2QlY9VbckoxHrUmyom2FRhFeCUr0jThTB4ML3Q9M&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=7.55)):

Yay.

Adapted Podcast ([00:00:08](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=yeXSUWnXd0F26qxjwnDuJ8Cfs_GJw5wSWGGIa4DLrhUnzCdYF_mVDqQmxE1MJOOBR9T7faTH4vLgAW-KorQXL0kQQfk&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=8.86)):

Welcome to adapted podcast. Season five episode 17 starts now

Jaejinmusic.com ([00:00:18](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=1p4SctnehgbsB3MD_ARHP53wTMqHJJil20TooXlJLXykPB-ekoh5xTpeZK6SDj36TGrzVLVuCt1vEX4JiNVMlq7-JoI&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=18.989)):

Feel the sun rising from below. I keep running. I keep running to a place where no one knows it's

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:00:30](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=_RZDrei917KzgZtkFBu7jgBN_Lt1m4j_-UXfo5_bkbfognTWY2dlUQVUluyMZJP0ugZozr5ZHhc-tq5ygKaE0b_4b7g&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=30.01)):

What I've needed most is the becoming the parent to myself that I've always needed. That I, that I missed out on

Jaejinmusic.com ([00:00:38](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=wzn4qwl0fUUPuRFVYp8_z5SPcf9ZUqbSfnwr3Q4lfkMDajXcBLn8Bbuj6-vzEktkudpxcbRfjRSC0Fk3q7G0EmBaovc&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=38.93)):

Way to go.

Adapted Podcast ([00:00:40](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=Z002cZ6wk2vy1Hk75a3TwZS3odktNeD-JAhTJAOaNPlu8I7J5SFKWjRzXLWr2Hwz4b_OfdM9XX4udR33u2jdhXitevM&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=40.67)):

Hi, I'm your host, Kami Lee. You're listening to one of the first Korean adoptee podcasts ever created with over a hundred interviews. We talk about all things related to the international adoptee experience. Thanks to Jae Jin for our show opening music to find out more, go to jaejinmusic.com. In one of the longest interviews in the podcast history. This next story centers on the theme of mothers, we'll hear from an adopted woman who experienced the loss of not only her original mother, but her adoptive one too. And while on the verge of becoming one herself, what it was like to find her natural mother again now onto the show, no

Jaejinmusic.com ([00:01:21](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=TWAAh2rWMx8fN77DYfpeQiE1t-qpHCGoPkm1E1l2ZP6kAfuSRyjCb8ktITuOE9igDuAAQTiwpyKz6rmD22EJrGWtm5A&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=81.75)):

One knows is a big sky.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:01:26](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=c2w5Q-2YQ1xcp1-CIzHSaZH79rmv_V8ovtWeAtPn8vrCYvkkFaNmsY6hD93UzySP3FsL2ZCjSj4X03TYflHM6DRwEZc&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=86.319)):

Great. Hi, I'm Carisa St. Laurent. I currently live in Liberty Hill, Texas, although that might be changing soon and I'm 48 years old. It, you know, becoming a mother was probably the most profound experience of my life. And definitely had to do with the fact of, of just having had growing up, you know, as, as many of your listeners probably can relate to of just not having anybody that was my, my blood or that looked like me. You know, just even the, that basic <laugh> basic human need of having anyone who looked like me and who I could identify with in that way. So that was a major major thing for me. And then, you know, on a personal level, it was extremely transforming because I, I just, you know, I was in a, a state when we, you know, still still healing, which I still am, right.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:02:32](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=uxpdXXle35nEqz2JezDMJio0VTy4Xxid6QjED3lchYRcdtdbz0fE_BtC2JLMooq_G29BKo5ykjk7iHtw_BYxBtLlcJ0&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=152.21)):

It never ends still healing, still transforming, still evolving into my true wise soul self. But at that time I was a little, not as advanced in this journey. And although I had processed so much of, of this pain and trauma and suffering, I was still really in that phase of self abuse and self destructive behaviors, things that were you know, the opposite of self care, the opposite of self love. I was, you know, I was in a, a state of alcohol addiction. I call it that. And I, and I say that with the knowing that there are people who are much more addicted than I was. And, and so I'm always careful of how I, or I, I guess I always like to put that caveat on it that and maybe I don't have to, I don't know. It just feels <laugh>, it feels like that's what I need to do to honor the pain and suffering that other people have experienced with that kind of addiction.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:03:42](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=zH2kweKPG7UfOqee358jaS9Qbfvb8BqKs1O8Qd4lFb73YA7NmZDTKvQrkEu3AOY-V8oo1fQEulvXtKuqUMtJGWv30fU&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=222.75)):

For me, it was for sure something I experienced that impeded my life that stopped me from being in my full health, my full self and my full knowing and understanding of the power that I had within me. It was a solve to my pain and my suffering. It was a way to avoid who I really am. I mean, it was all those things. So I chalked that up to addiction because, you know, it was something I couldn't live without, at that time. It was, you know, I needed it for fun. I needed it for, you know, life and I, I think it just become very habitual in my, my life, my lifestyle. And I could go on a tangent about that because I think we live in such a, a society that is, it's so easily to, easy to get addicted to things, whether it's something like alcohol drugs, or it's addicted to recognition and success, or work or accomplishments in general, or addicted to, you know, all those other vices that, that we're surrounded with.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:04:57](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=PnxLigGXbHsUxFWAuh0CTNnIFgSgGIJCqV-O-sYrqGrdrl3CJtBqpwedwgFkzI7P46yedsw6zcTZ5f_AoDkBz4kDB4E&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=297.15)):

And so I spent a lifetime in that state, in that place of okay. I'm I understand once I did understand, you know, what kind of circumstance I was actually in from a mental, emotional level and started to address those things. I still spent decades trapped in that cycle of, okay, I'm gonna address these things and heal and work on some stuff, but then I'm also going to continue to drink away my <laugh> my worries, or, you know, do whatever. I mean, other things too that were allowing me to avoid the, really the deepest deepest stuff and having my son was another turning point milestone in facing myself and, and realizing, oh, I am not <laugh> at the place that I think I am. I am not at this elevated soul consciousness healed place that I really think I am, I have so much work to do still. And the motivation to do that was him.

Speaker 4 ([00:06:30](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=A-i9EiUyZtFayESfzHGyczebcoIwWGSrmhZJMHizPjejO0s25acKcBYA1b4HVyHLCWnYZDlNh1TmQ3MqeczG9Nuug0k&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=390.81)):

Do you know specifically, do you have pinpointed why you started?

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:06:35](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=tBo17N11c-7oBexfrITN0ErFopULiAfFT4ITqrEHuXiBSId68nclQnXXAAJSmojiQ6wMtdRRjbQURKd6lsFuiBFwTS8&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=395.529)):

Yeah, I think, you know, there's some common elements, you know, not maybe just because of adoption and abandonment. And, but certainly that was my thing. That was the reason for me that would maybe equate to someone else's reason of, you know, their, they had a abusive parent or, you know, there, right. We've all got a reason, a trigger. And that trigger for me of being disconnected to the real root right. This, this mother, this country, this language, all the things that I lost as I was adopted, I was three. So I came over after, and I know my story because I've met my birth mother and I know what happened. But I was only in the orphanage for a month and a half, and then came to the United States and, and into this new family. So it was just like, this is this overnight probably felt like to me, transform transformation change that I, you know, it's, I don't remember it.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:07:44](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=xHcspCqlC27vUlCj2hPRJr5xNX1u9JcCb1oLh-tKhvIpiDsZmYmL4UgHybCrdw80E_d9xuArNE5Debd99OSJ2q40A0Y&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=464.45)):

So I can't say, oh, it was traumatic in these ways. I can just know deeply in my bones, how traumatic that must have been for me. So I know that drinking was tied to that because I was one drinking to be popular and, oh, you know, all the cool kids drinking, two drinking. Then when I felt the effects able, allowed me to be free of the anxiety that I experienced. So the anxiety that I had growing up honestly, was probably more tied to my adoptive family than it was to my birth family or to my birth conditions and, and the birth the being relinquished and all of that. I was adopted when I was three and raised in New Hampshire. And probably not unlike a lot of your listeners, you know, in a, all white community and not among other Koreans or Asians or, or really anybody who was not white.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:08:55](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=Sn0-SXm7LmzaFJtf5xCnNHr5wtmZSkaIoXlpaTgeiNCimMro9nmL1NHL-d4VpvPDtF0JDXq-bMi3CMg7qzRMg64Fro4&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=535.14)):

And so my earliest, my earliest memories were of not liking who I was at the most surface, which was my looks in my appearance because I didn't look like anyone else around me. My mom, my adoptive mom is blonde and blue-eyed and beautiful. And I wanted to look like her, you know, and I, so all, all of that was a struggle. This identity struggle at the beginning because I felt that way inside. I felt like them <laugh>, you know, I felt like all of them, I didn't feel there was no, I had no traces of my Korean identity anymore. In my conscious mind, even though I came over or only spoke Korean, I, I didn't you know, I had to learn English and all of that, that was was quick to transform and then gone for my consciousness. So all I know in my conscious life is, is feeling white. And so when I looked at myself, I just hated what I saw.

Adapted Podcast ([00:10:19](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=-YsxOzv3mPN4R2ld7PLeDiAx6o_70iiIWZxR08uJjv4s_D8zGgo3YnAIDW1TssnOfszSj0ZdFY9WkBkEGT6IrtBNXms&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=619.74)):

And do you have brothers and sisters?

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:10:21](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=0WXxNwArUOI9Ie6DRkBpQ88kyfkFd44r7OyAaec0su7M8Fzc8g8mW4UIMfxsBrgE3yD63ksTi9od8tK-IfB19LRKlKw&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=621.52)):

I do. I have a, a brother who my parents had biologically before they adopted me. So he was four years old when I came over.

Adapted Podcast ([00:10:28](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=layN7lpwsjJWqxjcsgjZjb0kYp7RUQC2vWZI7eZc7_bYouQhM3-Sp2k6TcphSxLPiUIzVn5jKjRbfwYlagOXMEf7lw8&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=628.94)):

Okay. So it wasn't infertility issues?

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:10:32](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=-pQb3XEHIp8b_mw228YXntHd4qxhUsDcRVSN0CZ4QH1SE54goffZkls2QAGCPPJvqS3lFnBDMd5LkL-WLAaegA-EgKU&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=632.61)):

No, no. They the story that they've shared, at least my Mo my mother shared this. I'm not, I haven't actually corroborated this with my dad, but my mom said that when the Vietnam war was ending, they wanted to adopt a, a Vietnamese child from Vietnam. But that was difficult and it never came to be, so the adoption agency said, oh, you know, there's actually adoptees in Korea and it's not that far away. And they basically looked the same <laugh> I don't know if that's what they said, but, you know, there was too appealing to, you know, this, these, this white couple, like, Hey, you know, Hey, so not that far off. And so that's why they, they chose ended up choosing me because of, of, I guess, wanting to save or help a child out of Vietnam. Who'd been whose parents had been killed potentially in the war.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:11:44](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=RE5a4dG0JfDHXq19jHGaU67tpBKcFxRjgMTtWV1g37meNNbdnZU-Hm59hvD3fzO7XWgp5pm9hiTfe2_ZZ2OOLj7VZu4&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=704.77)):

My family life was somewhat typical, I would say of growing up in the seventies, eighties in a white suburb, but it was atypical in the sense of, you know, my, my mother, my adopted mother, you know, she had a traumatic childhood, extremely traumatic childhood was also adopted and struggled a lot. And that cannot be separated from the way I was raised and the way that the, what happened within our own, in our relationship. And then my parents got divorced, which was difficult. And she moved, like I said away across the country. So it wasn't just, you know, it wasn't like, well, I could visit her on the weekends or anything like that. So we and that happened, you know, fairly early on. So I was adopted when I was three. I my parents got divorced when I was 14. She moved then. So not, you know, with my childhood is marked by a lot of tragedy trauma, but within it sweet moments, you know, I would say there's, you know, some, some sweet and lovely things in between. But also these really dark heavy things that what overshadowed a lot of what I experienced and, and what I held deeply within

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:13:23](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=HhG2qmVvk3GiwXilssQdzPRuQr4utoxiDSwzb9_TWQCE2Ox0xHVB4BvohJSLPaD9kaSiinxgvSkA-Ia8X9SkVoZoIMI&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=803.88)):

My brother and I, you know, very close early on, but, you know, I, I, I believe that, you know, our mom moving away really, really hurt him deeply and it hurt our relationship, he, and, and my relationship, so that we're that we know it drove a wedge between us as well.

Adapted Podcast ([00:13:46](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=RiTTLNGio5ZjX3SgwGJ7pa2l8vM2D8bmQw0ovhqOpxlTfIF8Sa3_dgRTFDyel-Y3S1CfKwRNFbriZMokwv8P6wXbaBM&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=826.929)):

That must have, that must have hurt you, that she would move and move so far away.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:13:51](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=CwN-qmxf6lDqTMPRqgERPb6jDTfl2ks1rgdHIxBbOKC6f87q4FaQCApUDc3uI8Ghp3P9k72ZHupXXpd3GFJwu1z4YeU&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=831.52)):

It was more deeply traumatizing than, you know, in, in the work that I've done, the healing that I've done the recognition of, of my trauma over the years. I, I, I think that it was more traumatizing than my original relinquishment to be honest. And so at the time I didn't recognize that at the time it was all just whew, stuffed down, just not in my consciousness at all. But deeply painful. And, and, and, you know, the, the, the facts around it, at least my memories of the facts around it, or, or that I could have moved with her, you know, it wasn't like she just ran off and left us. She wanted us to move with her. And but I wasn't ready to make that decision, or, you know, it was a decision that was so, so hard for me and I chose otherwise, you know, so I, I had to, I was forced to make that decision.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:15:00](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=EQTFkxq-hNYGcrOlTspSMZO7HRTNTVz578Xl2Y7mEzkZ0wYpfWonn7iThg5PSadK_ussVtpV-op4F3iKmiVar2T2NlA&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=900.96)):

I chose to stay and finish high school in New Hampshire and, you know, she moved to Beverly Hills and it was, you know, I saw that high school. I, I visited, there was no way that my insecure 14 year old self would have been able to do that. At least I didn't think I could at the time, maybe, maybe had I, you know, gotten into that situation and who knows where life would've gone at that point. I didn't feel at all capable of taking that on and just completely changing my life. So I stayed in New Hampshire and, and she moved.

Adapted Podcast ([00:15:42](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=Im8c6Z_9478TIzlF5QMfjPoAvcHmhK_aNO6EnNOg3iNeQEPHzfJ5yFUIsOmMvZSGVupdeAtWRkxTvg21OCXtxe5vm3I&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=942.57)):

Okay. So you guys were given the choice, you were, you remember. Okay. Mm-Hmm <affirmative> and which is a hard choice for any kid. Why did she have to move so far away?

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:15:53](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=LGKpq1v5IUM4IyNZznY--PCFS1_APDuV_C6Mdatu-CKTxl1UabepMGa1AarVHpOugzZT64v_cT5MFoDsLYZZLOKVVzs&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=953.79)):

Her family was there, you know, she, she was adopted also, but she also reunited with her birth family her birth origins and half sisters of hers that all grew up in Los Angeles and my, her father, her you know, birth father lived there. And I think she, I just think for her, it was a, a safer place to go than remaining in New Hampshire. And I think she saw opportunity there and a way for her to on the one hand be more herself, but probably on the other hand to escape herself too. So I don't know all of her reasons for that, but those are some, some of them and you know, LA to her was, was really exciting. She, she moved and had a completely different life than, you know, being a, a homemaker, a mom in New Hampshire.

Adapted Podcast ([00:16:58](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=0Poa4PiJgTpq-sAE9PsMUv7EpdST3D0UufZrJl3ss8PP6BWtRQbDKzp3EUf3Dxj6hgiSiXlThjnEIhDBz8gl0_yst6g&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1018.64)):

So do you think that being adopted in any way impacted her parenting?

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:17:05](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=2BGLU8o2MlRR0iqhLq6mSZWu2Jsl1P_dt0u22GI-9ksvfPXyg-N1JKx5bv-_HcJvopw9lvL5f8AUk1lh4zE5A88OAuM&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1025.03)):

Oh, absolutely. I mean, it's like, I, you know, I was saying earlier that there, it's hard to separate a, a fact like that even, and, and extrapolate that over a whole thing. Like her parenting, that there's a lot to that impacted her parenting that came from the, the trauma of her childhood. And part of the trauma of her childhood is the adoption. My mother was adopted when she was 10 and prior to that was in and out of state homes. And if any, you know, so, so conscious of not being wanted by her mother. Whereas I don't have memory. I know it's in my subconscious that this feeling of not being wanted by my mother, although that that's not, I know that's not true now, but I know growing up in my, at least in my subconscious, I had that feeling, but she had that conscious knowing that her mother didn't want her for, for whatever reasons it would put her in and out of these state homes until she finally gave her up for adoption and at 10. And so that whole, everything impacted her parenting.

Adapted Podcast ([00:18:26](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=L7CAp-JELR61xCfuzmOfe3MBDZtLFpHm6YB2auSW5aXB1jWpVsfiD0Yixw7zO0vx7Tp6YImVOsDsPklIbYCvk247sWA&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1106.29)):

Did you feel close to her growing up? Did you feel you had a close connection?

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:18:31](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=k2tCsf6grpeVdcjdvOgn5xRz52l8uhG9e5X5o2ETqYvptvuf6v97OuWRrxI4aH7bY7-T6HUhzYK9idb_NFQhZigUQ_Y&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1111.42)):

I felt like I had a close connection. I felt like I, I needed a close connection, but maybe didn't know how to have that close connection. So I don't know. It was, it's like you're thrown a life raft and you're drowning in the ocean and someone throws you this life raft and it might have a bunch of patches on it. And it's maybe got a slow leak in it, but it's all you've got. And I clung to that thing. So I don't know whether my closeness with her was out of desperation of just needing to be close to someone and a mother, or if it was real and true in therapy years later, my mom and I have only done therapy therapy together. We did it when my parents got divorced. And then later on in my early adulthood, we went and we saw her therapist together.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:19:35](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=H4SOogYYZOxHlzYKoC-5Ong-iLJjZ3L7ZjB6g7C6OLdzqWOOnVHuqNI13zzY4adYqjssxtucagJDlEgaBgNmvtLr-i4&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1175.13)):

And she said in that session that she never felt like I bonded with her. So you can take that <laugh> as you will, the way I took it was that she blamed me for not bonding with her, but what did she do to bond with me? I don't know if she had the capability to bond with me. So, you know, I spent many years blaming her for that, not bonding with me, not doing X, Y, or Z doing X, a, B, and C. Right. All of those things. But in the end, she did what she could do BA you know, in the light of who she is as a person, all of her experiences, all of the traumas I know about. And, and I'm sure many of the ones I don't know about. And that didn't amount to great parenting mothering when you look at it objectively, but it is what she could do.

Adapted Podcast ([00:20:55](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=j902-N_km2MmkRfIoX3e-sqmscHB_ycCtaUxVzlW9f90Vqccp0j1W_C0pACSiZw7C9AXLgZICmJHpTCydeJ3s1sETVU&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1255.58)):

You're not close with her now. You're

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:20:57](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=JsuzaSIJBYU1CAj-tDTm0cfIpas2TXgFou2vHG90lCLwsz0nenqz3_jlH0W5DSvCcPE07VPO2E0yu_jPWywa5KaRIAY&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1257.16)):

Not, no, we haven't spoken in 11 years. It's deeply tied to finding my birth mother and what she, what she, I think feels was the, this final rejection.

Adapted Podcast ([00:21:11](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=s68ZeTCx5J7m9cJwUrdi0Le9jqxDiDm-6RnVYUDjRZ50MqpTjpSlKHfnWDKm54l8eZwiMIwRngdm6DIVmZmchxa5eA4&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1271.44)):

And by connecting with your birth mother, that was the final rejection.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:21:14](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=cnP_C4l0MD2K7rCb510O_LOxwhbFn_cTJVPoORuuBXXr0g5QYqSmIGH31kPxmyFxfYyIxVaX2T9JWk_I3YHGG07HJ7U&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1274.859)):

So I think that's how it went down in her mind. And so painful for her that she then, you know, broke our ties. She hasn't, I mean, she's tried to reconnect our ties. She's reached out. She's wanted to, but I've chosen not to because, and that is tied to all the other life stuff, the, the history of our life together.

Adapted Podcast ([00:21:47](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=JaA2zvltabggTorb2nzQfRfor7yMkJctTRGnBaWBTHnPnyxnZMSRVsL9j1z5wWvC-CLLSmKf1OxD-l5qEyxbGqOsl0g&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1307.08)):

How did you find your birth family?

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:21:51](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=OyKtNdL23eLzJMMjtcHgPp7t1LSb3WN1k2QE4XQ9Al4Sv3jjvCgVZLPP1gXIe6eyiei5eYmut0-tL05a2FdWeBQmW50&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1311.22)):

Wow. So when I was 35, my husband and I got married and we decided to go to Korea and Japan for our honeymoon. And even in the decision to go there, I was still not even thinking, oh, birth family search, gonna do this whole thing. He however, was like, well, okay, if we're gonna go to Korea, we should contact your orphanage. We should, you know, go try to do some digging. And it took a little bit of convincing. I, I wasn't, my entire life was not prepared to do that. Didn't want to all the excuses right. Of, oh, oh, I was abandoned, naked at a police station. There's no, you know, there's no way I'm gonna find out who, you know, anything anyway. So why even bother, you know, all of those different excuses. And however, since realized, you know, it was all just the, those excuses were a cover up to the emotional pain. I wasn't ready to face.

Adapted Podcast ([00:22:50](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=T4LeXkDDZxBMybhAMnGLd_UyRY00KduW7u_69ofyVLKmobhZMnUYxXA78N265GNJirzGjyv5us6cDern1cDxLzfO5vc&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1370.3)):

Yeah. The ambivalence was a way to protect yourself. Oh,

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:22:53](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=I-wjrGBOjlISdgH4OipJPxFdFAAV4qYzhGGvKOr1su_ju0BhNkwhERS6ltlbLj3x7aX4VG_zZHuc0rFbqnKgl3EkaHI&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1373.29)):

For sure. For sure. And so I, I needed somebody like my husband to, to be enthusiastic about it and be really curious with me about it and

Adapted Podcast ([00:23:06](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=M5U3BaS8-4YXfQmvEuyhCzLZnBzB9d03BlpqIPkri-sI1vFrxOvO6NtQrnEIpWyq6gG2kpq-og6r2U-hvQS6GUyr5vY&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1386.25)):

They don't have the baggage connected to it. So it's funny how spouses can be so like excited and, and other people like, oh, did you meet your birth family? Like it's and they don't, they don't carry with it. They don't understand. They don't feel the, just how heavy it is.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:23:24](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=7FGiw5rpsti1HC9IqbGH_R54wDA9qawY5sQ2IiCifjLveWUifMP3-7VRWKe0vCqAU0-OWr6FLDcT-qP9YC2JIVSBJ0E&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1404.88)):

Exactly. And they don't shut down when it starts to feel really heavy. And it starts to be hurtful and painful and like, oh, I'm worried about where this is gonna go. They don't go into that shutdown mode. And so he, you know, he was my night <laugh> through the, all of that and encouraged me to contact the orphanage. And I sent off an email. I mean, one thing which I found was miraculous because, and I was adopted in 76 and I never had any inkling or thought that this agency would still be around. You know, I just thought, oh, that was so long ago. It, it can't even exist. I just Googled it. And there, it was, I'm like, oh, <laugh>, they're actually still in operation. Okay. So I sent them an email and asked for an appointment. I wanted to, you know, open up my birth family search and, and sent them my K number.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:24:20](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=AeBipMbmj8cdnGOf_iWYDBxJvv8P0Sy8mpKCspW7JB5xwQL_8jNFAa-qYVs-3gUiAJVmlnU3i9zYh_TagOn8QsMAlD0&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1460.01)):

And then it was a couple months that went by before I heard anything. And I got an email a couple months later, and it was super simple, very short said, you know, here's your appointment, date and time. Yes. You know, looking forward to meeting you. And then it said at the end, we have information on your birth mother. And I com what <laugh>, you know, it's just completely shocking because not unlike most, I think Korean adoptees, my parents were told. And so therefore my knowing my entire life was that I was abandoned at a police station, naked, no information, Jane DOE just brought to the orphanage and, and that's where it all began. So there was never any information on me that we knew about. And this was, you know, the early days of Korean adoption, not early, early, obviously that all began in the fifties. But the earlier stage, I would say of where there were, were still that kind, that, that kind of cover up and that kind of subterfuge,

Adapted Podcast ([00:25:28](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=wvZLudVwXCjWimXo8C5gpOWqWVrUk-bA-nhAW-RrkkNAmn6sFczs-soREpGfzxS7uPFIBHV6jVQaEsQUaAZa1Sh2jyk&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1528.18)):

Your parents were told your parents were told a story.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:25:30](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=JC8Pms21HpoHqYYHd8CT5lXh8eWFKbpqOIICokYzoJgSDAmhQ7PzE8A5qngAfxMr8zx0LUHzfL8OzpJDF0e3D6Yu3QU&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1530.89)):

Oh yeah. They were told lies, complete lies. So we get this email, we have information on your birth mother couldn't believe it. And then shot back an email with a gazillion questions on what, how, who, where the, you know, all the questions. And then I didn't hear back from them again, a couple more months. I no response from them, which was you know, at first it was a little bit irksome, but then just like everything else that I had learned to do in my life, I just shut it away. I just was like, okay, well, I'll just go put that over here in this box that I don't have to deal with. And we'll just go and we'll see what happened. So I put it out of my mind. And and then we went, we went to Korea and our, we landed in Seoul, went to the orphanage the next day and got there and walked into our meeting room.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:26:30](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=dS6Ic-SZFjuGg0xdF6VDip2NCzm_pQvZZY-1W5B8mRjY8lBMAUP7c1cmWT5NvDQE7VYdpsEkmvu4CMo6R44eHM2cddo&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1590.58)):

And she, the woman walks in with a, well, they bring gifts. They brought me, you know, some Korean items at first the gifts. And so someone that brought those in and just didn't even say anything, they just kind of like put them there, left. And then mark and I are sitting there that's my husband, and just going, what's going on? You know what, and it was a very fairly small conference room for our standards. Right. It, you know, conference, it was a conference room, but it wasn't what you picture as this American conference room. It was this little, teeny room, super bright fluorescent lights. And it was hot as Hades in there. It was so, so it felt like we hear, oh, my we being interrogated to it, this something's happening. They bring these gifts walk out. And then what felt like ages later, this woman comes in and she had her a file and she just sits down and, you know, just very simple pleasantries and asks me, you know, some things about myself now, you know, where, how is my life now?

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:27:38](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=TwNbP637-_CkwDVM-GNBRbAr8rnSjHKSdD0sxZnwlfVuA7ce-buTRpzDijwEujowelHtG7_P2eeuC3nELtoL1crgpgA&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1658.4)):

Oh, you know, this is your husband. Okay. You know, just some basics. And then she just opens it up and starts to tell me all about my life and my, my birth mother, her age her job where she lived and, and just starts giving me this information. But what the, what, I, don't not sure if either you or any of your other guests have, did experience this, but she would give me information and then she would stop. And then she would say, what else would you like to know? And I would go <laugh> okay. And I would come up with with more questions and she would answer them and then she would stop. And she would say, what else would you like to know? <Laugh> it was like, just please tell me everything that is in there, but it was this process. It was this, this very grueling kind of

Adapted Podcast ([00:28:37](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=8Btp7mIAh3JOVHE3Tz0Hu8_Yrc-wx46weljwe28oCyXiUW-nZq-L9y59yV1twYCXezBv6eUxZwyVfzM3Dj2kYakO0jk&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1717.05)):

Like the, the onus was on you to find out the information, but she wasn't going to freely give it

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:28:43](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=udzhYIJ9YyEJcZ2dI-rz7kZ0nU0yBZC5wCIhmNaKZHnfUPIB9STvWEXddRm9760uHypuckOmfZupCe9pte8IAmaCPXg&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1723.77)):

Exactly. It was like, I had to ask the right questions or I had to ask all the questions, everything I wanted to know. And she was only gonna tell me the things I asked. And so, okay. Imagine if I hadn't asked about X, Y, or Z I, I wouldn't have known that. And you know, not being able to take the file or a copy of the file is, is at the time, you know, I, we had, no, I had no rights to my, my adoption record.

Adapted Podcast ([00:29:13](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=CsARKgUbup08IB178dqBrmhhpBGzpBIYoXIFWXJHltU9Dh0UVhy_bT0dBIS7TSUAAPn1Q79OIpZCRRILjmqE8VtRoag&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1753.39)):

Shouldn't take it. They wouldn't let you take it.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:29:15](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=j_AuhxSJdCVLYXtMW9h55ueBPPih0p2PhxNXVjTuC3oNwngXlnYuTxDOTvat7e2ixRkQGK-u4mYcGaRgRNis2ny9W48&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1755.28)):

Couldn't take a copy. So I just had to write everything down that she was telling me that, that she was answering all of my questions. And so it was a really infuriating sort of process, but I stayed, I tried to stay centered and mark just helped me greatly during the time, because he would, you know, remind be like, I'd turned to him and be like, please help, because I don't remember. And he'd be like, ask about your time. I'm like, okay. And then I would ask more questions. And so that's what the process went. And it, it went back and forth, back and forth. And, and I don't know if that's just the way the process goes or whether she was doing something that was not protocol. And she was like, okay, well, here's a way I can tell you more as if you ask me <laugh> the question. I am not sure exactly what was going on, but that's, that's how it all went down. Got I got all this information and then they said, okay, well, she said, we will try to find her now. Now that you've,

Adapted Podcast ([00:30:19](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=aPAnQi06BXJwBS3pSRVCK1iJzWjGNak7WB0GbOdPfZfsCIw3wxV-w9GoHaB-RLvD6KJvOB4ESDsEyR-5B9t0z-bDMJc&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1819.01)):

What year? What year was it? And what, what agency? This,

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:30:22](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=39d1dLkt-mmNTavTGBoeRSl6DrOz25PM46d62eG1Ve7MZdsRrsgmIO0tasmscSNtx4rMFp_Q1PKbN0MpJ75HB72u47s&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1822.18)):

This was 2008 and Korea, Social Services, KSS.

Adapted Podcast ([00:30:30](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=iMUYbrPo-RPtuSwS-vIfmQU9KHjkAPHQnIIIdb2eBp7UlO38NgCHYDkMJ1oxuSiBwFcUNXAa0drNHuoMAxhsFF0I-Xw&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1830.2)):

And, and were, was the information on your records that you saw redacted, like names? Did they tell you names at that point?

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:30:38](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=gx5vQCKPtls3lJsKdp_J3Xawy76NTAmHK2ei1wJwP5NR8xyUHhDEUcDlLVnPvaYKV4CXZlQGuv3-Zqt7tAO4uaPkeJU&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1838.43)):

But yeah, they told me names. They told me they had pictures, they had two photos of me that she gave me. Actually, those are the only things that I got. I didn't get the information, but she gave me these photos and they had my Cray name and birthdate on the back. And I couldn't see, like, I, I was peeking over to try to see into the papers that she was reading. And I didn't see any reduction. I didn't get to look at it. I never, she didn't like slide it in front of me and go, okay, here, it's all in Korean. I couldn't have read it anyway. But it was just what she gave me for information. And having gone through this process, which took, you know, this two year journey that I went on, I do now know that there's things that she didn't tell me that were in there that that were never shared.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:31:32](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=WHsd65woswt7QoX_4gMIY9K2-9K7pnlNfSwdk9a9ke5siZ-MQj2tpAK8sUFqPNa8y3IITQwnHTIJyWk60b7SdUNkuYs&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1892.48)):

And that's just because of what I've learned since then. So it was a wild process. After that we spent, you know, the rest of our honeymoon in Korea, we went to Japan and then we got back and waited. We waited, waited, waited. It was six, seven months or so. And we didn't hear a thing from them. And, you know, maybe that's not a lot of time for them, you know, to try to find a missing person or, you know, this person that maybe didn't wanna be found, who knows obviously can take any amount of time, but it felt like forever for me. And it also felt like forever because they didn't actually get back in touch with me. I sent them many emails during that period of time and never got a response. So it felt, I felt like they weren't trying that they weren't looking that, you know, who knows what they were doing, but it didn't feel like anything because I had no communication around it.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:32:28](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=y8PAJ3U-wzxS9z7_ehlUKmd8GNrkiH56PdABydM0DBC_dWSm_JIm7iYdUNVA7v4hwS54jre1pd6GQyLOLyXwD9_rA4Q&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1948.93)):

And so I contacted goal and Jane at track at the time, you know, who were based in Seoul and asked them for Jane Trenka. Yes. Yeah. And, and I reached out to both them both of those organizations and asked for their help and they both, yeah. They both got on it as far as, you know, we'll see what we can do. We'll help out in whatever way we can. And within a month, I think, or short amount of time that's when I got an email from them. So it could have been all coincidental or it could have been pressure that they had put on from within country in Seoul, who knows. But I got an email coincidentally at I was at an AKA conference in New York city. When I got this email, I'm sitting on a break and I, you know, go onto my Blackberry to check my emails. And I see this email from KSS, oh my God, <laugh> I yelled at my husband. I'm like, and he comes over and we read it together. And the, she apologized at first for not having been in touch, but then said, we reach, we found your mother's sister. And she told us that your mother moved to the United States, approximately she didn't know, but 20 ish years ago, and that she didn't know where she was now, but the last she knew she was in New York.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:34:00](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=1VXtu2hWUrBqXwCyASfjUkdnuPJSxz4PIyoN7Vn6DeXYUy0-ZZHmj6AQWX7CqM8o4PuuG2znwbuaMvZZPcz-0-uTIt4&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2040.39)):

We, we look at each other. My, we literal, like we were what, and we're sitting in this cafe in New York city, not very far from the, you know, Korean, it's not really a Korea town in New York city, but you know, the, the Korean portion of Manhattan because that's where they, you know, they planned the AKA conference near there. And we're literally sitting like a block from there with this email that that's the last known place she was in. And we freaked out. We <laugh>, we ran out of the cafe. We ran over to this like one strip of Korean businesses. And I wish we had video of this because we probably looked like complete lunatic. We ran into these businesses and just like, started asking, like, do you know? And, you know, ask them if they knew my mother, if they, you know, she, she owned a salon and you know, this is her name. And everyone just looked at us like, oh my God, they are insane. And just like with fearful eyes would just shake their heads in us. And we <laugh>, we would leave and run, you know, breathless to the next place. And we did that, you know, we hit all the businesses in this block or two of, of space and knew that it was a long shot, knew that it was crazy, but couldn't not do it because of what we had just found out. And

Adapted Podcast ([00:35:22](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=R5RwzC0v8TXM20KNciy2DxOluBwkNEB7AGWO3nsk0Cgh6ZS6rJfC-YocHA8hbZDVI8RCcfdQAe_LNw4PwNk-HBeXO2E&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2122.91)):

Did you look, and you probably looked at all the women kind of like your mother's age that you saw?

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:35:27](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=rJqvhuTM0pW-0KuEVs1JdGamtL59y-iFLHHBJvOw-MrzZ_zcRUHzYXht8cCgu_ll8WNc8JZN3kFFP6wzWf3N25Z5Yzk&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2127.86)):

Oh yeah. Just like every face, right? Like, do I see myself in that face? Is that like, does, this is someone who looks like me? And we, we, at that point knowing, well, we were also told at that point, through that email that I had a brother or sister that my mother had been married before me or before she had me. So that was not information that I had from the visit to KSS found out that my older sister and older brother existed for one and that my older sister had also moved to the United States as well. When she was 16. So we had that information, my mother, the information on, about my mother and that my mother had remarried and that we had his name in this email along with the fact that he was a real estate agent.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:36:24](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=onqpc_vVnrPjZSyQwO1yyzqEGz89UYNqHkvKtrbQqTaCh_SzUkZYuuFQG_3rK0b9wL6MMUBzdDKX-iswYd5YfHqWrZE&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2184.56)):

So we had all of these like really interesting information, kind of like, you know, just this, these facts that a detective might use to try to piece together a case. And, and that's what my, my husband did. He took charge really you know, cause at this point as exciting and amazing and wonderful and extraordinary of circumstances that it was, I was also shutting down and getting into this place of this is too much. This is getting too real. I, I don't know. It's get, you know, it's, it's, it's becoming heavy. And so he's like, I'm on it. <Laugh> he? He, along with a friend just did, just did crazy internet searching and pieced together through people search sites and all of these, like, you know, the internet is a crazy wild open place. If you dig <laugh> deep enough and <laugh> on the one hand, it's like, oh man, there's, there's a lot in there about all of us that we probably don't know about because we were able to find and piece together, more facts that potentially tied to, to them, you know, still didn't know, but we pieced together because of addresses that they shared these three names.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:37:57](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=UtlJTn77cEKJqMS0L6l7t3z4982pbkAfo7D3GbpMFgKIsO_On90iuuug4DcYruistcI42OKN9RATOTC8p6jmh5Qg-mk&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2277.85)):

We're like, okay, well that's gotta be them. They all shared this one address. That's gotta have been one of their addresses and this is, was in New York. And so, but piecing information like that together, they found these three addresses that could potentially be tied to my birth mother. And during this two year period, we found my my, my birth mother's husband, the guy that she had been married to and actually spoke to him on the phone. He said, you know, we, he identified himself as yes, he, he was married to her and then was just like, but no, I don't know where she is. And I, and he hadn't, he didn't wanna add anything to do with this. And, you know, he wasn't very open to our questions. And so

Adapted Podcast ([00:38:45](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=mikEYLSZ0lJ2SHdIyJ98-yC_r3f9fdV5_2q9sTW19YU1S0VuH8T_0nwZIX0Qf5GAtDLJZ6Q9af5T_wm1lAqp5EjJYkE&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2325.5)):

Was he American?

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:38:46](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=Fr-XpBjGdFMPOKL46Ztt7kgFX81c2QmooBNpzV1-8UEM4qhpi7cNt4oUYGV4MPJiT_sFsbmASiRvXRlhTMg07ZNy2fE&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2326.62)):

No Korean man.

Adapted Podcast ([00:38:48](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=Sy9BC4Afb3mcwdcXUW81C9QEsIWCdlksn-kQTIgot2GXltvi3FqDijRVjWzcCEt5Fh58U2QLfHr4fNcsYCb4ZDCrf-s&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2328.86)):

So is this her husband in America?

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:38:52](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=yDGtyOfO304QIvqcQfjfohQyByIlkTJuy9asTjscTD4xPh2cnDEHZaOXCG8pMebzXenQ0jIjaioyLu1s1YhHSG0e6A4&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2332.82)):

He, she married him at some point when, after she had moved to the states.

Adapted Podcast ([00:38:58](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=97dykSBsUbpxXX--n8w4ZMr7kN4zV4ZJ1O4lZBbbyefWQd9E0cgT7EF8Pnra4tL9GPsOZZrZC5UVuHRvMePOHCo5zlM&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2338.06)):

Okay. So she had married a Korean I immigrant or a Korean American, right. Okay.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:39:03](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=U1ihVBxU0UeGSpWh8EhNdxMZzxuLFnuL1z47VC4kvkZQnyXxkwVRPdgZbefENKNJDt4SEMjH0HSVJiihrf00G2M_OSg&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2343.969)):

Yes. And he we had become friends with a, a woman, a Korean woman who her and her husband, her husband was a professor and, and they were on his year sabbatical and they lived in the states. So we met them during that period of time and became friends with them. And so she helped us with communication. So she helped us with these phone calls. And I spoke to my aunt through her and she spoke to this my mother's hus ex-husband and trans, you know, she spoke to him in Korean. He spoke English, but, you know, she spoke to him in Korean just for comfort levels. And then I just listened in and then she told us what he said. So every communication we had within the, the Mo the bulk of that two years was dead, were dead ends. So as much information as my husband had discovered it all just led to these dead ends.

Adapted Podcast ([00:40:06](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=ZDM-IPjbqWIwYCJ4CBKPgHh3x1Be_fNTXsQt7_EKnWx1i36dPybdgyVtq9m321qaob9yTu9JbwzcLfIyrpJ7Kg8Q5tQ&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2406.28)):

Well, let me, let me ask Corissa, did, did did this man who was, had been married to your mother or your birth mother, did he seem to, had he been aware of you?

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:40:18](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=G7ccC2lvaSSl6P5cZju8qHJikAZvPo8XktcDD5GMaFkOyrtXj0qsO57EC_p7OUaWXdprW4XZjrff8041S_FbKbopVB4&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2418.13)):

No. He wasn't aware of me. He didn't wanna have anything to do with this conversation, even he was, he was not very helpful. I mean, he, he actually hung up on our, our friend probably five times before he said anything. So he was highly suspicious. And I don't know if that's just his nature <laugh> or he was suspicious of what was, what we were trying to do, but he just was not helpful. And then finally he said some things which were that, yes, he was married to her. No, he doesn't know where she is. He doesn't want anything to do with this. And bye. So we got that out of him. But that's about it. So, yeah, I guess we never got to ask him that, like, did he even know about me, but he, he wasn't giving up any information.

Adapted Podcast ([00:41:07](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=rlJHvBjgZrLbvyom4bxVFo-Kddc4zkjDTCty7OHMCHevo-NZG4AG9pZw5y1BDNstp5pbau4ECX1FS_WPVrTErHAqj4A&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2467.34)):

And the aunt, the bio aunt that was in the states, did she have, was she helpful?

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:41:14](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=UNOeNzBOR2Ey6Q9_ls-IeUROnK1YP2OiJY8G-HG0Pxkb8nbV5gKubqpzipYkn_6y_F8sQ3wP8IyKHBHB2MW3vWnx7Ug&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2474.2)):

Actually, she was actually in Korea, so she was not we spoke to her long distance long. She spoke zero English. So LaMi spoke, you know, spoke to her. And then I actually spoke to her, meaning my, the phone was up at my ear <laugh> and she was speaking to me and I told her, you know, I I'm sorry, I don't speak Korean. I said it probably three times during the conversation, but she just kept going, going, going, just talking, talking, talking to me. And I heard in her voice, in her tone regret, I heard compassion in her tone. And then LOI told me that she didn't know about me, that she, they had no idea. And she, she felt she did feel regretful about that and not having known and sh she was really sorry. And so that was our conversation. And that was the only time I ever spoke to her. I, I probably do have her number somewhere, but that was that one conversation.

Adapted Podcast ([00:42:27](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=cWR5i5RvM0s8J0S8XEQ3WP257L0oQuzCrn8lMnnnimiHtyVfRwtA_GVxf2GlXNpfEzUy_eWyTbSjGeu-QOw5va2d9jw&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2547.81)):

Yeah. So, I mean, how did, what was the next step or what you must have felt that it had all, like, it was kind of exciting. You had suddenly, like names were popping up and, and leads, but then they didn't lead anywhere. And then you were also like afraid of where they would lead. So there just must have been so much going on in your, in your

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:42:51](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=Mt1RdgoE7sqj3YqK6TkNh1OjvjpVE6uTAnATiUcRpT5lTQEU1bKiNT9mV3XnBP3PF-QMqmC86H3gFw-MwRhza2T803s&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2571.44)):

Head. Yeah. It was a, an emotional roller coaster. And I was very, like I said, I don't know if I would've made it through without my husband or gotten to the point of which we did without him, because I, I probably would've said, okay, let me off <laugh> I want, I want off the rollercoaster now. But yeah, it was really, you know, it got to the point where the disappointment was so real that we stopped, we stopped the search. And we also, you know, if we had just gotten married I had, you know, this new corporate job. I mean, I also wanted to experience my life as it was without this story, without this search going on as well. And so that's the sort of rational part on the one hand. And then the other part was the emotional depths that I wasn't ready to go to yet.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:43:46](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=fIaw785rZKgjLdU7ntwXFBwe2s2x2b5tZQ7Nf1tKJmI2NnohI8cFWEBoHyPc8h_jmpLQY5pz5xQCwtyKKkUqFpP-56U&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2626.59)):

So I needed, needed that break. And so we took a break. Actually I don't, I don't remember how long it was, but we decided in our, in our life to have a child. And we did it <laugh>, you know, we got pregnant pretty quickly and when I was pregnant or, you know, within the first month or so we you know, we, we decided together that we were gonna start the search again. And, you know, for me, you know, at that point I'm 37 and <affirmative>, and we're gonna have a baby. Our life was already busy. I mean, we traveled a ton. I, you know, worked just, we just had a, you know, a vibrant life. I felt like if we didn't do it then, and now it may never happen. I may, I may discard it for other things in my life.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:44:38](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=QhNCy_ENBY52qS4axvKQ7WEPpPFYk2sbNfRIhRIneRdk8DdenEYbqRXu1NVAY_iUHDXzFVHPp5Jf3i09VAQqS403IjY&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2678.9)):

And my husband was super determined too. He's like, yes, we gotta do it now. And so we had these three addresses that never amounted to anything by phone. But they were all close by. We lived in, in New Hampshire at the time. All of these addresses were in flushing, New York, which is part of Queens. And we were like, screw it. Let's just go, we'll go down there and visit these addresses and see if we can meet anybody that might know her, know where she was. None of these addresses that we had were her address, at least on paper. None of them were like, oh, this could be her residence, but we figured someone, we might find somebody. So one of them was a salon that she had owned maybe that address, the other was potentially this real estate ex-husband's address.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:45:30](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=-cvjGOvKrAXwN61sSplejBu1Kgmh6_BOCQLZWx1ofZU5Cvi8NBefrr_og1RLDkeNih5h9fqPR9GO4TUb53kk4yIh0uQ&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2730.95)):

And then the other was potentially my sister's residence. And so we booked a trip, went down to New York and I was in my first trimester of pregnancy at the time and super nauseous, sick, exhausted, I would sleep like on my face for four hours a day couldn't could barely stay awake. But we drove down and just did the search. We met a translator who we were connected to through a Korean church in New Hampshire where we lived and they set us up with a translator who met us in flushing. And this woman connected with us there created a flyer that we were gonna post all over flushing. And and then we set out to go and visit these three addresses. And so the, the, the journey from literally like getting down there, which we did, we kind of, I think we drove down.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:46:31](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=ypkHNVclWlEqGapt67p2eadAQFJAVX4zmt2LQhdiMK8mD99j5Adz_1AYBpB3gCbSp61wnMQJlBeCDLYniVbA7hxCdhs&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2791.81)):

It's about, you know, four and a half hour drive from where we lived in New Hampshire to New York city, Queens, where we were going. And we got there in the afternoon, met grace at the hotel and went, she, we went, we created a flyer together. And then we went out to, you know, in the late afternoon to visit these three addresses and hit all three of them. And within that period in my, my whole life changed within this one afternoon evening we never put the flyers up. We went to the first address and that was the salon, this salon that she could have potentially owned. And we had spoken to those own, you know, them before coincidentally the woman we spoke to at the salon shares the name of my sister. So when we called originally this woman answers the phone, she asked my sister's name.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:47:35](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=YhufWgGMYbIshPxyktiJQhZhC9vAlKFhp22A74fG0_RdLyBIn3fiSDVMta4flVs48OZ2XQh3T9Dm7vXJ1XZbXTdyrR4&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2855.62)):

We were like, are you this, you know, particular person? No, not her. Okay. So that's why it was all these connections that were so close, but nothing amounted to them. And it felt like she didn't wanna be found. It felt like this was, you know, a, a fruitless kind of search. But when we got there, when we visited the salon, we met that woman who has my sister's name. And she it wa she was way younger than my sister would be. So we knew it wasn't her. There were no, you know, no cover up going on there. When we got to flushing and went to these three addresses, you know, they were all, you know, addresses. We had tried to contact before the salon, you know, we tried to reach, spoke to them. Woman had my sister's name. I mean, it was so crazy coincidental where we were like, you have to be her, but no, it wasn't her.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:48:37](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=n0GUqi0KDv3p35SAvbDyrkxy4kuhsFVlbTPJC60Cog90Udp-PA0srwLVTG74Aeat0akNDUmP3dvo6P5v7LYPqhBHD0s&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2917.81)):

We then meet this woman face to face. It's not her, she's much too young to be my sister. So that was a, a dead end. And then we go to the next address, which was the ex-husband, who is a real estate agent. And we get there and meet the guy. I mean, he happens to be home and it was just so miraculous that he even, you know, that we even got to stand in front of him. And, and he, he, he had the same reservations as he had on the phone, but, you know, now there's like two Korean women standing in front of him going, excuse me, <laugh> and being, you know, it's a little more persistent when they're right, you know, at your doorstep. So he went a little further in giving us a, a teeny bit more information, which was that the last he knew my birth mother lived in Connecticut and then emphasized that he didn't wanna have anything to do with this.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:49:34](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=xlR_J_AYClm8oVxHQz27Av5bY-gzagCcrbddib_yvjjI1nfNTlpBMMKVhJMhwWhyc43NaLJL40QuuwusjNrtzUt3Tj4&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2974.1)):

And, you know, please go and, and all of this stuff. So we, we left him. And then the last address we had was the one that we honestly thought would be the, the least the, the worst lead, because it was very, it wasn't as sure of a bet that this could be connected in any way to my birth mother. And it was potentially my birth sister's last residence. And so we go to this, this place and we go to the, you know, where the tenant listing is on a, on an apartment building. And we go to the apartment number and it had literally been recently covered over with a tick, you know, the ticker ticker tape that makes a, a temporary name. And we just look at this, my husband literally like locked. You know, he like dropped his head in complete you know, just defeat that.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:50:34](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=JBHPRxiG1tlO5qeMoiCpdHgis-UD9OZxvFYeIOvUd7Zuvv3uQkDbcqaa7yiPcoueZBvD63xrunusWCzBFkseCbfAFfQ&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3034.66)):

How could we be so close and I'll look at it just with this apartment, which, you know, she just moved, oh my cat. And he started walking away from the building and I took a deep breath and looked at the rest of the tenant listing and just scrolled further down from that apartment number. And I saw another ticker tape, new listing, and it was my sister's initial first the initial of her first name and her last name on a different apartment number. And I screamed at him cuz he had already started walking back to the car. He was like, I'm done. And I was like, come back mark. And he, and I was like, look, look, look. And as soon as he came back up the door opened of the apartment building and a man was walking out. And so we were like, oh, Hey, thanks.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:51:26](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=uts43ELau6vOtx4Wh-iPcgHoOLBl440DrkEFMe5xhtHQpjLdCdNaEsWGEgZeheevPG0NHwoxd3bVfJQB6p0KHk1X3Z0&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3086.75)):

And we slipped into the apartment building and her apartment number. The, the one we were found happened to be just right on that first floor. And we go over and knock on the door. I had mark HDE because <laugh>, I didn't want, you know, my, my husband's white he's, you know, six feet tall. I just didn't want her to feel like sh she was being, you know, set on set upon by anyone. So it was just grace and I went to the door and a woman answered and we, grace spoke to her in Korean and but it was, you know, E I could tell the context of what she was saying was like, are you my sister's name? And then she said, are you the daughter of my mother's name? And then she just blurts out in English, this is your sister <laugh>. And I, and I just froze.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:52:18](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=7OxYNdAqR4BJly1BojkjtCnnN5JucFJWoCCZaerpwnVJip9lgiSMgsDYrKU9Yc3n62bzf1e1YzazjzZ_rg-z6Rxd7Gs&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3138.18)):

I was like, wait why'd you say that like she does, she doesn't know who I am and, and, oh my, we, we just let the cat out the bag. And that was super crazy and sensitive. But my, my this woman just swings the door open and she just yells out my name in like a, it wasn't exactly my name, but what I found out is like, it's the common form of my name. So my Korean name is Byul nim and she said, "Byor-im", and I, I look at her and I was like, you know who I am? And she was like yes, of course I know who you are, I'm your sister. And I, I was just like, cause my whole world was spinning because I, you know, I had no idea whether or not she would know about me, you know, my birth, my, my origins are, you know, from this, you know, unmarried, you know, my mother was UN not married to the, my father.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:53:16](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=XsviMxU2tX1mZYhPHTi7pblpLH3LI6hNIVuONfsF7k_XSvL93jmubJmlFeWqu7UhNfyLtvP_KZPgb1x2ZDzMeUYkLck&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3196.5)):

And that's how, you know, that's how I ended up where I am. And so I had no idea that she would know who I was. She was older than me. She's five years older and you know, come to find out. She, although my mother, my birth mother and her first husband were divorced. My brother and sister would come to Seoul every summer and live with and stay with my birth mother. So from the moment I was born, my sister has known me and was with me until so she was eight years old when I was given up. So she absolutely knew I was, she was crying. She was like, how'd you find me? And so we went in and then I had, you know, I had to introduce my husband and like take him out of the shadows. And she invited us all in and we just sat down and told her the story of how we found her.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:54:11](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=UEa0oxioCJrBTvglw860x3N70m8Xqsxe2VrnE3-edi48cF_ZPNbGU62kuToNHBejtpc9_SizU8PKS7Yz1OV6FZDOlkw&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3251.6)):

And we were, you know, in between tears and, and, and amazement and, you know, how is this all happening? She just picks up her phone and she's like, okay, well, I'll, I'll call mom. And I <laugh> just so in that moment, which was spanned from, you know, late afternoon, it's now, you know, sun is setting it's November in new England. So, you know, the sun was starting to go down. So just within this short timeframe, I go from showing up to in New York, in flushing, ready to hang up these flyers to now my sister am sitting in her living room and she's about to call my birth mother. And so she calls her and they start talking and they're speaking in Korean she's saying, and I could hear her. She's kind of like getting excited, excited, like what, like trying to calm my mom down.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:55:12](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=YazLTkGzMh9qOOswMlOxwjYGYxV_z0blO85QawLHmqkympap6pKTiyjHwoi5SPq2ar8n_Ifz1uYX4YfvJHvQ4YqQOcI&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3312.8)):

She's like, Byul nim's in my living room and she's trying to calm her down. And then they're speaking a Korean a little bit. And then she, my sister, I hear her say, because she looks just like you. So what my birth mother had said was like, how do you know, how do you know it's her? And yeah, so my sister says, says that, and then I start crying because I don't, you know, I don't know at, at that point it was real, like she's talking to my real mother, she's talking and, you know, it was just completely surreal. And I was, you know, out of my body at the time, didn't have the same emotions, honestly, that I'm having now, because I was so in this heightened state of vigilance and, and in shock, you were in shock.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:56:09](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=QESj-NIzxXLc1V1Zon7tFMnmmrm0XrqWpRlsI8GX9Fnl_Rk_C1HjM4bTziGvl6lZCtKt-lrrM35unG4h8sNjAnbamlY&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3369.28)):

What shock? Yeah, totally. Just like I, what is happening in wanting to make sure I didn't miss anything? So I think I was so in my head, not in my body and she just hands the phone to me. And I'm just all of a sudden connected on the phone with my, my mother. And she has a heavy accent and starts talking to me. And I don't even really remember what I said to her. I remember her saying I'm, I'm so sorry. And, and I you know, she, she was apologetic, she was crying, she was regretful. She was kind of hyper. It was. And I was just like staying, trying to stay calm because <affirmative> because that calm center was the only place I could operate from at that moment. Otherwise I felt like I would've just lost, lost it emotionally. So I was just like, it's okay.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:57:13](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=B-xBoit9qiLQwarHcA_Z-j4-U0ud3Fxumyuq8CSFPZYMF40C-rdE1RIJBprCDtO0mJQy6F68ICxWsubedUNyNITb42w&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3433.65)):

It's okay. And yes, it's me. And so I remember saying those things and then, and then I think she may have been in midstream saying something. I just handed the phone back to my sister, cause I had no idea what to do anymore. I, I, I was like, I, I can't do this. Like, I don't know what to say. I don't know where to go from here. So I just handed her the phone and once she hung up, she said, you know mom wants to come down here, but I told her not to because she can't drive well at night. And I I'm scared for her being so excited right now that I'm scared for her driving. And, you know, would you be willing to drive up there? And I, we were like, oh my God. Yes, yes. Where is there? And, and she said, Connecticut, she lives up, you know, it's about two, two and a half hours from, from here.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:58:01](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=HHz7WHOksv76OLP59419R6MNudRfYobbqNWxTuokC90ENrTW7ndjUjjP9ZxdMtxMX1owa61eq0ULtCx3ADtv33NM2OA&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3481.37)):

So we were like yeah, of course. That's, you know, absolutely. So we went to dinner with my sister and like a, a good Korean older sister would do. She took us to the, the market and she bought us all these snacks and <laugh> these gifts and, you know, ed us up with those things. And we got in the car and drove. And at that point it was, you know, it was night at that point. And we I was exhausted from the emotions of everything, but also because of my pregnancy and in the first trimester. So I just passed out and slept the entire drive up to her house and woke up to my husband, shaking me, like, we're here, we're here. And we got out of the car and it was about nine 30 at night at that point. And she lives in this the buildings were all, you know, like one story homes that had their own front door, almost like a motel, like it, their own door, but all connected building and kind of, and, and it is like a senior housing sort of place.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([00:59:13](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=EEwTBUv2YYyXHrj6kc8c7AkXXgu7EX23RrbmvshKno8nSILA9gv5vjAfS05y0McXcaRaeO212XbYidBJjWQ522v6BkE&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3553.37)):

And so we got to her front door and knocked and then, you know, yeah, within seconds, I'm, I'm standing face to face with my birth mother and still again, in, in that shock, amazement, protective bubble kind of place taking it all in and trying to stay centered and trying not to it's. It's so interesting cuz I think I was trying so much to be there that I wasn't there in some ways, you know, I was there in that vigilant state, but not so much there in that emotional body. So we go in to her place and we go and she brings us in the living room. We sit on the floor and then you know, proceed to just connect and have this, you know, reconnection and moment of just looking at each other and crying. And it was a lot of more of her crying than me crying and she would, you know, we would talk and she was, you know, we're holding hands and then we'd be talking and, and sharing and then she would just collapse into my lap and ball.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([01:00:26](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=MD8BcvbeOYlsmlcJKCYneR_Cu_ccQoRIsYakmzSw8jq68g2oYQYtz80Nvfp7JfnPLGKC0O2CZx3uENnDP8cuZGYqPTA&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3626.51)):

And, and, and so, and, and just say, I'm so sorry. I'm so sorry. And you know, and I was consoling her for a large part portion of our initial reunion and it felt good to do that. It felt good to, to be there for her because I realized how much she loved me and I realized how painful it was for her to have given me up and how wanted I really was. And so as much as it could seem like, oh, wow, she wasn't there for you, like in your tears and in your moment, it was exactly what I needed from her to feel how deeply she loved me. And so we had, you know, this, this exchange or this moment, and from the, from the moment we walked in, I felt comfortable. Like I didn't recognize her at all. Didn't have, you know, wasn't like, oh, I know this woman. And I didn't have these memories flood into my mind of, of her and our time together. But I felt the knowing, I felt so comfortable with her. And so did my husband, we, we just, just felt like we knew her.

Adapted Podcast ([01:01:47](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=jXpnb3PQgd2EcmNrd4wr2i44uqboFQxckR95D0Lzzm25b86zu1dKZlg6g8WiqWZUMVdnq2InhqFySUfWAGQ6y9qIjzg&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3707.15)):

You felt like you belonged to her or

Corissa Saint Laurent ([01:01:49](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=BrkE3qanlXr_BDKa7QE7Tv10zx9i_zXwB6Ht8SWYJzT65P5hfNFmUE0ZAirP1SRbS-3KGMcKSwmf1zOzHYmfVLGK1HQ&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3709.52)):

Yes. Yeah. And it just felt comfortable and normal. It wasn't this like weird of who is this person and what, okay. Now we're gonna like sit down in her living room and it, it just, just felt comfortable. And so our evening proceeded and sharing, you know, just asking without it, you know, I wanted to know everything, right. Like in that moment wanted to know it all, but you know, how much can, you know, and hear and take in, even in this initial meeting. And so we would talk and then she would share, and then I would share. And then at one point she goes over to her little cabinet kind of night, you know, nightstand in her living room and opens it up and brings over this little crochet purse and opens up the crochet purse. And she has in plastic wrap all of these photos and they were all my baby photos.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([01:02:47](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=loQmmHKLiz7BZgSN-wHp632Y3CNYI8c9QGn0oDzfl_FXr8X2D_UxS-u9ceJdYNLxca3fUlMGufH-OO-lY_JMLz-VDNI&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3767.81)):

And so she had the, all the, the pictures from my, you know, my baby from when I was a baby to the last photo of her and I together before she gave me up and we're going through these photos and I'm just, you know, again, again, not as emotional as I am right now. I was more just like so excited and amazed. And I couldn't believe in, ah, like just in this state of, of amazement. And and then I get to the last two photos and they are of my parents, my adoptive parents. And it was just this crazy, like full circle moment of going well, how do you have these? And she she's just like, well, they gave them to me. They said, these are the people you're that are, that are gonna raise you and your new parents. And I just, it was such a crazy, surreal moment.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([01:03:42](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=dqAble2S-8z6y24cq9JbozA71cEZWvk08S7Ks71wKHOAAyNPMWrXbVgBVEXVDVTzsNb9-Hn44f10uKgh0lCo3DAS16A&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3822.22)):

I'm seeing my parents, the photos that they had sent to the orphanage, like, oh, Hey, we're good. Happy, you know, <laugh> upstanding, you know, couple and here we are. And so I see the photos, she pulls out my birth certificate, she had that wrapped up in aluminum foil and it's, you know, all in Korean, so I couldn't read it at all, but it was just really interesting to hold. And then she pulls out this tape of little cassette tape. And she said, when she, when she made the decision and knew that she was going to give me up, she had she recorded me and, and me in, in different exchanges with this woman or friend of hers, a woman who was a, apparently some sort of semi-famous singer in South Korea. And she just recorded me.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([01:04:43](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=qQJttVVOz9tYh_aUJiVugMGArhC93hHzpxJzxxYFpDB3sr19nouJYtFHjJtPCCQDEtB70JILkRlXHQRTk8JzayTN7lc&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3883.79)):

So we played the tape and I heard my three year old self talking away and talking with my mom and her friend. And then, and talking with my mom and then it's my friend or her friend and I singing a song together and it's not, you know, a CRA you know, real, crazy long tape, but I hear myself and I'm speaking Korean and it's just, it's like, you know, listening to and hearing about somebody else, you know, it's, it was it. Although I'm sitting with my mother and listening to myself, it, it was like, that was somebody else. Right. And I knew it was me. And I knew that this, and, and I hadn't yet made that connection in my heart that this is me, this is my life. And felt it at the, the depths that I have since felt it in that moment, it was just utter amazement that couldn't believe I was in this moment.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([01:05:53](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=vM343tCESOZ47zYJzeqzA7MXkNe0LYB4dLEeshQGKpDzMWI8lmTgdE0E7aAGdk4G7XAAslikmwKZyutb7GIVJHqRB4E&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3953.77)):

So we end up sleeping over her place <laugh> and she gave us her bed and she slept out in the living room. And we went to breakfast with her the next morning and talked more and, and spent more time together. And but it was kind of overwhelming, you know, it was overwhelming of a, an experience. And we already had this rest of this trip planned in New York. So we went back down and, and went to, and we stayed at our friends in Brooklyn and just processed, processed that whole thing. But the, the CRA you know, the crazy thing about is that we drove up right from meeting my sister and flushing two and a half hours to her in Connecticut. And then we lived two and a half hours north in New Hampshire. And she literally lived like smack dab between the two of us.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([01:06:45](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=AXCML1rKOICJshsamFBpAIhGW_3OAnxYqd_b9Am3Wj-BQQgD1d7HQcwe_xjcD6_fr6wWVemQqqF5f22XSdedsz-fW2s&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=4005.42)):

So for the, for three more years from that moment because I was pregnant, I was in my first trimester. She she was the first one, you know, to the hospital when I had my son. And she came up and stayed with us for a week at and, and took care of me. When we, when I got home from the hospital and spent, you know, we were lived in that area for three years. So we got to spend a, a ton of time with her in that first three years. And then we moved to LA. So since then from that moment that we've moved to LA, we haven't seen her nearly as much. And, you know, we don't really talk on the phone. It's hard to have a conversation with her on the phone. It's, it's much harder to understand her English over the phone than it is when we're in person.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([01:07:36](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=6L91M6hgcFmulYlTorRh0IqcTUMgAQBkPHaJZ7ciEmqXZHldjDsNQy5on5GtUeJkFONKJsX-_YWlyeCLucm77NZd_DU&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=4056.87)):

And so yeah, it's, it's been, it was this highly concentrated reunion time, which was the most special thing I could have asked for, you know, to, to just even one, to know about her, to know she was a real person and existed was, you know, like the first gift. And then it was knowing her name and this information and hearing all these details is like, that was a gift. And then knowing that, wow, she's, she is you know even more real by talking to my aunt and talking to her ex-husband it's just like she be, she it's like, she materialized in front of me during this period of time into a real flesh and blood person who I got to hug and, and who got to feed me, <laugh>, you know, she would feed me, you know things, little bites of food when, and she always cooked for us every time we visited amazing cook.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([01:08:41](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=jvOGXrj3ehwvBNmzKfRsgDFfWbn3Sj2eSo_R71I2g6IYgraqBoUpw-LGBFhjHpa76Z09BrQ6f4VMpDWJk4qHWrwNX4s&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=4121.65)):

So she would make us food. And on that first night, actually, that we met her, she had she had some time to prepare cause we drove up, you know, two and a half hours from and we had gone to dinner with my sister. So she had all this time. So when we arrived, she had made, you know, dinner for us. And she, even though we had just come from dinner, but she made all of what she remembered were my favorite foods from when I was little. So it wasn't a full blown dinner. It was more like snacks and things, but she made those things. And so we're, we had a really incredible three years. And then since then less time together. And, and now she's, you know, she's getting older. She was an older mom, all of the, the, all of the preconceptions or assumptions that I had about her were wrong.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([01:09:35](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=RmJlbsbQYBVtWDA19NEJfr86-sm3pGM6gQ-xRxsTqcV_MR-wQ_D9QewP8k9zAqNeNF0MhnTDTN4qSQBpO3bmeSc1sAY&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=4175.78)):

You know, single young destitute on the streets, all of these things like, no, she was 34 years old when she had me, she was a career woman. She owned a salon and soul, but because of the conditions there of, you know, being an UNW mother, it just wasn't tenable for her to keep me and she didn't have enough. You know, even though she's got a business, it's still, it's not like business ownership here where people, you think, oh, someone owns a business. Well, they they're gonna be successful or they are successful. It was just, you know, that was her job. And I think she just barely got by with that. And in doing that, and, you know, with the conditions in Korea at the time, no social services, nothing to support her and also such a stigmatized position to be in, to be an UNW mother.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([01:10:31](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=7dDO9Vq1s0pnkyJnoFVPgS1oDkJedpjUel7MbGvY26gdVU6HvbhSdQ5hjYhUWpRdrWoCndMesKRdcHmNtWNS5W4AwK0&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=4231.55)):

You know, that, that's what all led to the relinquishment. So it's you know, it's, it's really interesting to, to look at the situation through not just the lens of my story, but the lens of the, the story of, of what adoption is or was, and is in Korea at that time. And then just, you know, what's, what's changing and then that within that landscape now but it, it is really, you know, the, the tragedy being, you know, what she felt forced to do, you know, and felt like it was her only option to, to do. And so yeah, so now she's, you know, she's in her eighties now and I'm not sure what, you know, I have all these, these moments of what, what happens in these later years, like what happens with her life now? You know, what happens with our relationship from here going forward? I don't have any answers for that for right now. And I don't feel settled in, in knowing what that is at this point. Our relationship still feels like it's a moment to moment thing when I, you know, each time I see her each time I talk to her, what it amounts to at that moment is what our relationship is. So, you know, we'll see, we'll see what the future holds for us.

Adapted Podcast ([01:12:10](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=nlRFOVyjyD3a9dX6Y9xPpNzXWxxZOGQoc-KERDFxjCmm2sbdtLNM8Q3-tVDr8oWYpNFvOjtIEL_mmUEW3EjsQ-hzE1U&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=4330.51)):

So, Chris, I just some mental questions I had as you were speaking. So your mother was divorced from her previous husband in Korea and her, you have a half sister and a half brother who grew up with their father and your mother's in soul as a single, you know, as a divorced woman gets pregnant with you, but she's not married and made the decision that was sort of her reasoning that she felt like she had to give you up.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([01:12:42](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=xsKyiGWbVrf-dFISJdBz4KzGT92TiLTNFhvImKZf1aWAqp6qcKydoeIUGVt7-k8ptS5YPS6qy9ZOH8ovC-nflfmAjfw&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=4362.55)):

Yes. Yeah. So the, what, you know, what she explained and what also I've read and heard and learned about from, from many other stories is that, you know, the conditions were when you divorced in Korea, your children went to the father's family to the, to the patriarchy and were raised by the that side of the family. So she essentially lost that connection. I mean, the, they would come and see her. I think it was my sister more than my brother would come and see her in the summers. But you know, that's, she, she lost her children in that divorce essentially. Then she meets my birth father who, you know, who knows what happened in between, but then she meets my birth father. He's married. He has a family. I have nine half sisters in Japan. Apparently <laugh>, this is from what I have heard. So she meets him in Korea when he's there for business

Adapted Podcast ([01:13:45](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=uxUDbPgoY3FkjDD5haXF6_W67hUjGq06TY44_yGDh3yDP58XAvd3ie-08GGpPCd69cFyJRkubbiQFpjbwZsMi1axWsQ&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=4425.81)):

He's he's Japanese.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([01:13:47](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=CnBraKKUgSEf3NBw9N72LtJ0240iqtyL3P2lwOlAGHIfTLhNhSzvJGwM35SJgjI5mE8deOtsOv_f5FdHjpbuTt2lXhM&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=4427.56)):

Well, you know, come to find out he's not, but he had moved to Japan and given up his Korean identity. So when we found out about him from the orphanage, they said, gave me his name and said, he's he's Japanese because he had a Japanese name. So I thought for two years that I was half Japanese, but come to find out he's actually Korean he's from Jesu do. And he had moved to Japan because of the times again, and the conflict and, you know, everything, the relationship between Japan and Korea, if you moved to Japan as a Korean person, you gave, typically would give up your Korean identity. So that you could just move through Japan with more ease. Even though I think a lot of people knew you were Korean, just, you would, you know, give, become Japanese. So he became Japanese, married a Japanese woman, I think maybe he also even had some other well mistreses wives, co others in there, but he ended up having nine daughters.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([01:14:53](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=qIeOyDcpdCh8GqE8vq8UlyJDDO8jr-rnH_95lHh6OYVROZcnvR1NGGB3OJQXP0_ZddQaisPL2Hqdo13kQ2toZ6mCuTI&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=4493.479)):

And so when he met my mother and then I was born and I was a daughter too. I think that was his maybe final straw of trying to get a son and that didn't happen. And so he did help her for the first two years of my life with money and support. And then he told her at some point, you know, I, I can't do this anymore and I've, I've, I've gotta, you know, cut you off. So he cut her off from any help. And she did, interestingly, went to Japan and went to his house and stayed with them, stayed with his wife and the kids and him and pleaded with him to, to help continue helping. I, she didn't bring me, I apparently stayed in Seoul with friends, but she went and did this sort of last ditch effort to try to see if he would help her.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([01:15:53](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=NYi_p9L8J1Mj7d0NFsLGqngVP5rAtS9QhnYzYZkW96jenoQr_wy6W00VWVIaRmIyuQa6TSlg6VBP_-yG7eB8fqPICXA&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=4553.17)):

And, you know, the answer was no. And she came back and then, then at that point, she had been approached by this woman who had befriended her, who told her, you know, there's all these families, and there's all these people who want children from here and she'll have a better life if you send her away. And, and she was befriended by this woman who essentially convinced her that it would be a better situation. And I don't know if that's, you know, I don't know if that's true or not true. I mean, I think with the state of the way it was in Korea where she wouldn't have been helped in any way, she, would've not been able to get a job necessarily being an UN mother. I wouldn't have had an identity because apparently from what I've learned is that you, I wouldn't have had a last name because I didn't, my father was unknown.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([01:16:45](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=b63-xcsMlnXqZKxY5VJWjCe474YGtNOa3NwMaUMsS0-QrBT3_IsP9vpfWGNjOkgU4DrhkUQ_E6iuHwBftvN16P-bEHg&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=4605.02)):

And so we would've been, especially me really at the bottom of the social rank and status. And so in the, and if you look at it through that lens, yes, I probably would've had a better life elsewhere. But then of course you look through it from just the, the pure connection of, of mother, child and the breaking of that bond and all the trauma that both of us experienced through that. And, and question, of course, was it better that, you know, is, is money or economic circumstance, the only thing here. And so I don't have the answer to that for myself. I do know that having grown up in the, the way that I did that there are losses, and then there are gains on both sides of it on both, you know, both from having left and from having entered my birth fam you know, my adoptive family, all of it, right.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([01:17:47](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=GI272gHbaXK0ib21iCAzWVnC7H6m8RDrfekP5HQiZAiO_Vs5EnSwf-jV-1yiqeyOkMJlbe2Dqq0PzOHo0AECZJGe2pw&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=4667.9)):

It's all just a mix of so many pros and cons, pluses, minuses, light, dark, all of it. So I don't know anything else about my birth father besides what she's told me. And what was in that, the original adoption record. I the only photo she had of him was the two of them standing together. And she, when she brought it out, this was also in her little crochet purse with photos. She had the picture and it was folded <laugh>, she, she had creased it in between him and, and her, you know, in a state of, you know anger about him. And but I, I saw that photo and, and saw him and, and, and I have a picture. I can see him in my mind right now. He was a lot older than her though. I think he was 30 years older than her. So he would yeah, he would be, oh, man, I don't know how he would be old now how old he would be now, but

Adapted Podcast ([01:18:59](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=aaV6eQ1lokT5mqEG77_C8kdkXZvl9ejDaXkHeiyRrtgYZ1_yaXbfU0MIRPehLnqCJVG_VDNaD1rxbkSVYZy8-Y3AdsA&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=4739.42)):

He's, he's no longer alive.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([01:19:01](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=Dr8qWYNIKHTM-eJuK0nlI7IIBnQ0nzKDBObrL8XaRmwY7pEl57ZcsfzRy6EZpSUy9QGK8tlEKo5uQaycdeMj9UeTcOw&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=4741.49)):

He's no longer alive. He was she was told by a friend of his, that he had died years ago she was told this. And so she doubted it at the time and I don't know why she doubted it. I think she thought that he was maybe trying to not be found by her. So she doubted it because of that, but I think he would buy a, like, I don't think he would be able to be alive right now if he's there. Yeah, no, he wouldn't. Unless he was pretty, you know, superhuman <laugh>, he's deceased.

Adapted Podcast ([01:19:36](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=3HoWRUUuT9NEcXKgDDNOjXI57fYYiSWT7B4pEHTzjKY-Z6Iv7IDbyIjdCoDIZCQg2mnDB_D9PZjTbGvA-7aBHgq3OFM&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=4776.07)):

How was it where you've met your, your eomma and you have this life inside of you at the same time. Yeah. Did you feel like somehow you were doing it for your child or did you feel like somehow your child was speaking to you through that experience of searching and that there was some kind of circle being connected?

Corissa Saint Laurent ([01:20:01](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=Koz3CdlBebznxVLc1PtxGHKqecLYsXy-P7s93Mzjpg4dYstAqI7NeZ-Kvp6rP4UjtGWBfUE8AnDVmF_j9WwVV9eb-_M&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=4801.83)):

Oh yeah. It, it was a complete full circle moment of sitting there with her, seeing that photo of my adoptive parents being pregnant with my son, just a, you know, I, I, I don't even know if circle is the right word for full, full spherical. <Laugh>, you know, it was bigger than that. It was, it was it was amazing. And what she shared with me that really brought it even more full circle was when I asked her how she named me, or what does my name mean to you? And why did you name me bill name? She said, bill that it means star. But the honorific form of the, the word star. And she named me that because when she was pregnant with me, she woke up in the middle of the night from a dream that was so powerful of this shooting star coming down from, you know, space and crashing to earth and it woke her up and she knew that it was me and she named me M because of that dream.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([01:21:12](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=bJCfVfLdOk-Ly6WxQvsfE_RiJqHko9j0dbTqkD8M2kLdr1mqP-YSTlzT6p-onNApZpapTB4OxIKMbxT_Rl4ch1IilmY&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=4872.15)):

And then she sits there. She's like, I remember had that dream many other time, except for I had it two months ago. I had this dream two months ago. And then mark and I look at each other and we were like, wait a minute. And we were like, when, when did you have that dream? She's like, oh, this and she, you know, takes us back two months. And we tell her, I'm like, that's when we conceived, our son was nine weeks ago. And she, she just sit and matter of factly, looks at us and goes, oh yeah, it was about your son or not our son. She didn't use that term. We didn't know we were having a boy at the time. She's like, it's about your baby. And she was so matter of fact about it, like, oh yeah, that's, that's just, you know, no question that this, this dream that she had again was about our baby. And just added another level of, of wonderment around the whole thing.

Adapted Podcast ([01:22:45](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=JQelFYjn4f-MSK7JutzCbNrEeBpot-2LBp3bz9f6Hclp_zJCfiu6zpJcUu_rZOd15OPs7Dxm7iD-m93lfIB9PGerNsU&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=4965.31)):

Maybe you can talk a little bit about it on the podcast, your plans to write a, a memoir or a book.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([01:22:52](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=HY3bVGNnsyQyXwE_kPGJUNg7cgo7RfzYbmJuwfsa_kygBeh_BGpe4iMA7gw1by0HhFXaGJ7SvOgi3zkgffbarv_Jr3U&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=4972.93)):

Yeah. I've been working on it since, since we met her and originally it was gonna be really a, a straight up adoption memoir or a adoptee memoir of my experience finding her. But over the last 10, 11 years, it's really transformed. It's taken on a few different forms, but I, more recently I picked it back up. I've, I've put it back down many times and not been writing. And I recently started writing again, and it's now very clear what the story is. And so it's been an intense <laugh> few months. So it's may now I started writing again in December, and it's been a, a massive healing journey for me to write this book again, because I'm now experiencing the things that I sheltered myself from during the actual birth search <laugh>. So going to Korea, going through the, the hunting for her re reuniting with her, everything I've experienced, even since then I'm now feeling the weight of that in a, in a, at a depth that I've never experienced before, which has all come through, the writing has come through, picking it back up. So the book is taking on a new form now than it ever has. And I'm, I'm really grateful for the process,

Speaker 4 ([01:24:34](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=GmAHyfYHZbdnAStkXt77QW2841RHi2ogHBC4hP8o3O3-0DIvlYfJvb_m0cuuSapkTVQJX5iMFNv-BQhE1G2FNPOYJbw&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=5074.5)):

You know I've heard from other adoptees who become parents that having a child yourself is healing. Would you say that's true? That's been true for you?

Corissa Saint Laurent ([01:24:46](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=Ol38VzDk7j_s5XHy-oqApKSsHLkQuvx2ouzpauOR_iP4Yuog-LDsWVsW10Mve9K9fHiorIgxFNiThqn5Ob3F16NujRw&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=5086.81)):

Oh yeah. Very, very true.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([01:24:52](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=iHDusguMyMJCkrILtSNthgxpxDZIyLhnJWZRkg1Hb0nol3F9FDyrGdkbceSE7H-zraFGtEwfrjqbD0RLmwooPkNFTc4&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=5092.79)):

I had a moment when I probably was most true in the moment when when my son was three and he was the age that I was when I was adopted and just looking at him and feeling, feeling my loss of what that was would've been like, and also feeling my mother's loss of what that must have been like for her, because of how deeply bonded I was to my son and how bonded he was to me, how much we shared and how developed he was and how much of a person he was already at that age. And so it was a really healing journey. <Laugh> just in, in that particular experience, it was probably most highlighted in that particular moment of time within his his 10 years on this planet. And then overall, yeah, it's, it's been it's been a I would say more, I I've realized and because healing, of course with healing comes crisis, right?

Corissa Saint Laurent ([01:26:10](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=B3H4gFYyWwYs8TXKVowKzpDcEK8yyWbEaQbxoJa6svvTo6uS0iC1w2yu7jrtPlv1ogb7UThLc7EaLN3H6xXz-u3WdHg&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=5170.51)):

There's healing crises, there's healing, epiphanies, there's you know, healing's not what it sounds like to, some people evolve, like the soothing part, right. Healing is ugly and it is hard and it is painful. And it's all of those things too. And then yes, like the, the, the end result of the healing is the, ah, and the soothing, the calm and the, you know, the relief and the, all those beautiful moments, but the, the painful aspects of the healing when it's most scabby <laugh> right. And most painful are you know, have I've experienced all of that within that this 11 years as well. And so I've, I've got, I've really got to experience that through having a child. And so some of the uglier parts are, are really recognizing how, how in fear I still was in my body. You know, every time my husband and son would leave the house, I would be like running around all panicked as they were leaving.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([01:27:19](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=39LGEshA2f0Bzjt4sQheJ93PCRH_x_mZXIjJ7ot0HBU4OwWeqcDvrpWf_lHILj_z-lBL3zduKdziULzP5nO4p5aSdKM&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=5239.08)):

Like, okay, wait, don't forget this. And like, you, we'll gonna put a hat on and all, wait, he needs another scarf. And like, and I would just be a crazy person when they would leave the house. And my husband is highly capable, a highly conscientious person knew what he was doing and also loves my son more than anything in the world. And so there was no reason in rational world to be acting that way. And I realized through it all, I am fully reacting from this place of I'm so afraid of doing it wrong. I'm so afraid of my son suffering in any way. I'm so afraid of, of not being the best mother I can be to him because of, of my, my childhood. So it's yeah, it's been a wild ride being a parent and it's, it's still through every phase of parenting. There's more to learn there.

Adapted Podcast ([01:28:23](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=dXpH8f5liRSraEbHOyJosoUa5mqy9-7fSEZoIV-1RlbmH9Atqz7A01ptnpA9eRbOkqd4dMrSoX_oF4p8OjfGOyMqok4&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=5303.21)):

I just had a thought you know, when you, that touch point of when you saw your, you know, when your son was three and probably all those emotions of in a way, did you sort of, are you mothering yourself when you're mothering him?

Corissa Saint Laurent ([01:28:39](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=KV9MgluHyhxMJYz_PLMIr9hcrNm3PV1dkqn5XiB_yHGcQog3b7b51JVFAB-B9WGhwLUrMkUOfMYa4uamtyuXdhOXrmk&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=5319.95)):

Absolutely. You know, part of what I've realized in the, the writing over this last six months is, is exactly that, is that what I have needed most through the reunion with my mother, the becoming a parent myself what I've needed most is the becoming the parent to myself that I've always needed, that I, that I missed out on. And and everything that a loving, nurturing, stable, and present parent would be. So yes, I do that for my son, but have realized how much I've neglected doing that for myself and, and how needed it is to do so that yes, that you hit the nail in the head. That is what I've been experiencing the most in the last six months is this deep reparenting or self parenting journey. And doing that while also being a parent, right. Of not stepping away from that responsibility and job and doing that while being a wife and, and not wanting to, you know, to still be able to show up and be present in those places.

Corissa Saint Laurent ([01:30:08](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=sbBf2KsxwPb_efkhFwH2398O98IPph8q-mG4tkpSWNKCa1FqPywOMBdYKIAbH-1u9EvlaDuFTPzr39vjeTYyOubVpIM&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=5408.12)):

So it's also interconnected of, of it's it's for myself, but it's for them too, it's within and, and, and an such an only experience, but it's also an experience that I get to share with them as I go through it. And I thankfully have a very loving and supportive husband who will ride this ride with me and, and go through the process of, of what you know, all the ugly stuff that I don't want to do. He's like, yeah, let's do it. Come on. <Laugh>. And they're like, wants me to step out and into that you know, just step off the ledge, just the, take that step in and go into these really, really hard places. He never pushes me into those hard places, but he welcomes it. And when I go there, he's there. And he, and so that's the, what's been really revealing about him and our relationship over the last six months too, is that I've been so scared to be vulnerable, but it's what he's most wanted from me is to be vulnerable. And also what he most needs from me too, is to be vulnerable so that he can be too,

Adapted Podcast ([01:31:50](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=KD1roRRhTmv6RZ-vfQ2vg0L6cQJZDW12WZL3dSB8YlHW_TSFdgNvoUb0rU7mz8C4ast_KFo9S-zpGVIs6XOJjdHXJzk&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=5510.82)):

If somebody wants to get a hold of you, Cara, how can they, and how can they

Corissa Saint Laurent ([01:31:54](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=6bkan5JSmeokV1UVxq_LZHXX7Wa2PIJf9J93gS8B_IkOnGyqR0cEHslMjm-bV2UrV6MF8koTEJTeMbfNVc0IvLY-0Vw&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=5514.92)):

Do it? Yes, they certainly can. And I would love to, to speak with, and connect to, and, and also support anyone who may need someone to talk to about their journey and where they're at and, and, and any part of it, you know, I've, I've been through, you know, certainly it's been my own unique experience, but I think there's so much that we can all relate to and, and support each other in. So I would love any of that. And you can go to my website, it's my full name.com. So Carissa Saint lawrence.com and connect with me through there.

Adapted Podcast ([01:32:39](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=aioMZIInrnPRIBDNMn6MSyXBVdkCj1NEo9gsiA6WbvyUZ1nbd-9-MZWF6JPuT2deg8q56cP7-JyFrCPodwj-WMa23Hc&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=5559.75)):

Thank you so much, Clarissa for the courageousness to walk us through your life and all of its complexities and challenges being vulnerable is a gift to others. And you've shown us how through your generous sharing, bringing these stories takes a considerable amount of time and effort. You can help out by supporting us through our patreon. All our patreon subscribers receive early access to episodes. Give what you can go to patreon.com/adaptedpodcast until next time be well I'm Kaomi Lee.