

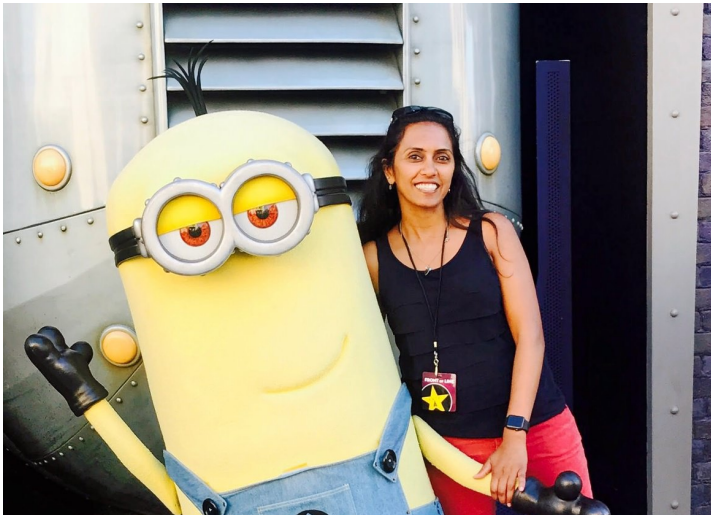




AS LONG AS I CAN REMEMBER, I HAVE ALWAYS HELPED IN TAKING CARE OF MY COUSINS, NIECES AND NEPHEWS. OVER THE LAST DECADE, I HAVE CHERISHED THE SAME MOMENTS WITH ALL MY FRIENDS' KIDS. AND THE CONNECTION IS BOTH WAYS, SO TAKING THIS NEXT STEP IS A DREAM COME TRUE. PROVIDING A HOME FOR A CHILD IS A FULFILLING EXPERIENCE AND ONE I HAVE ENVISIONED FOR A LONG TIME. I WOULD LIKE TO EXPERIENCE THE JOYS OF PARENTHOOD WHILE PROVIDING A NURTURING ENVIRONMENT FOR THE CHILD.

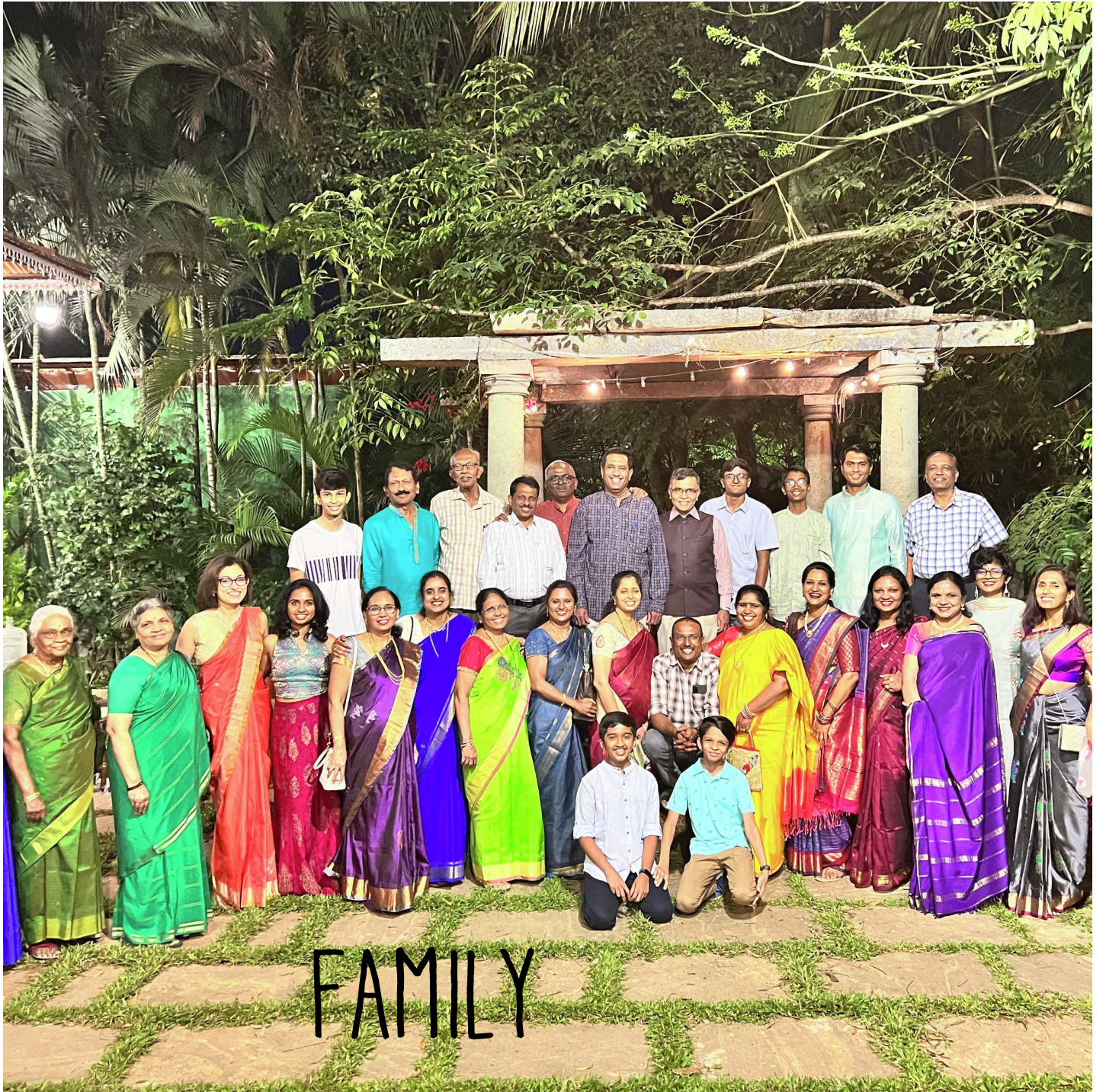
ABOUT ME

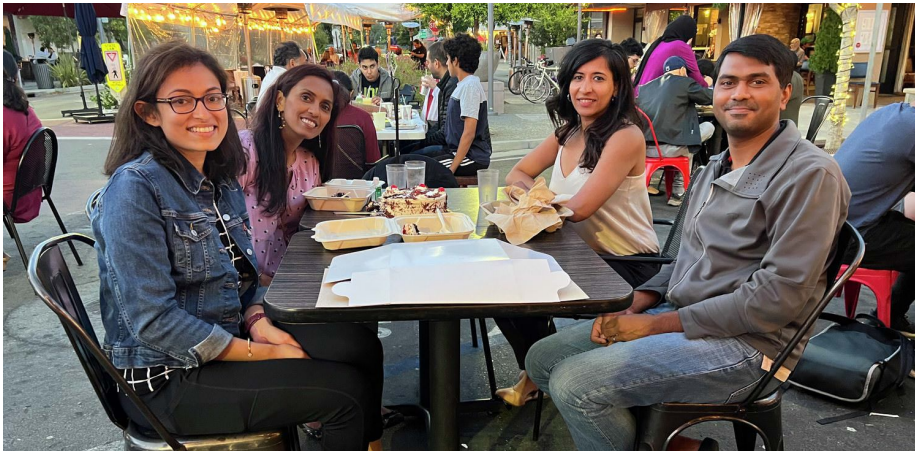




I WAS BORN AND RAISED IN BANGALORE, A SOUTHERN INDIAN CITY. I MOVED TO THE USA IN 2006 TO PURSUE MY MASTER'S IN NEW YORK. AFTER GRADUATING, I MOVED TO CALIFORNIA AND HAVE BEEN HERE EVER SINCE. I CURRENTLY WORK AT APPLE INC AS A SOFTWARE ENGINEER. GROWING UP I WATCHED A LOT OF CRICKET AND I NOW ENJOY WATCHING BASKETBALL. I AM A BIG FAN OF THE GOLDEN STATE WARRIORS. I AM PASSIONATE ABOUT PROTECTING OUR PLANET AND DO AS MUCH AS I CAN TOWARDS IT. FUN FACT, I CLOSE MY EYES IN ALMOST EVERY PICTURE HENCE THE LOVE FOR SHADES.







MY PARENTS AND EXTENDED FAMILY
LIVE IN BANGALORE, INDIA. MY BROTHER
AND SISTER-IN-LAW AND SOME COUSINS
LIVE NEAR ME. OUR FAMILY GATHERINGS
REVOLVE AROUND FOOD AND LAUGHTER.
MY MOTHER LOVES TO FEED EVERYONE
WHO COMES HOME AND I CONTINUE
THAT TRADITION AS WELL. WE ALSO
ENJOY PLAYING CARD GAMES AT
GATHERINGS.



HOME & COMMUNITY



I LIVE IN DOWNTOWN SAN JOSE. MY COMMUNITY OFFERS PARKS, WALKING TRAILS AND CHILDREN'S MUSEUMS AMONGST OTHER CONVENIENCES. IT ALSO OFFERS EASY ACCESS TO EVERYTHING IN THE BAY AREA LIKE A ZOO, A BEACH, AND AN AQUARIUM – ALL AT A DRIVING DISTANCE. THERE IS A PUBLIC LIBRARY AND SWIMMING POOL CLOSE BY. OTHER CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES INCLUDE TRAMPOLINE JUMPING AND A THEME PARK.





FRIENDS



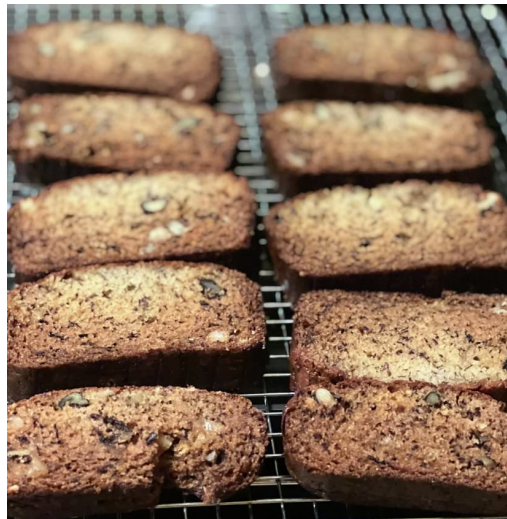
THEY SAY FRIENDS ARE THE FAMILY WE CHOOSE AND I AM DEFINITELY ONE OF THOSE LUCKY ONES WHOSE FRIENDS ARE LIKE AN EXTENSION TO MY FAMILY. MY BEST FRIEND OF MORE THAN 30 YEARS ALSO LIVES IN SAN JOSE. SINCE MOVING TO CALIFORNIA, I HAVE MET MANY MORE WONDERFUL FRIENDS AND NOW THEY ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF MY LIFE. WE GATHER FREQUENTLY TO CELEBRATE HOLIDAYS AND OTHER SPECIAL OCCASIONS, WHICH NOW INCLUDES THEIR KIDS' BIRTHDAY PARTIES AND GRADUATIONS AMONGST OTHER LIFE EVENTS.

A woman with long dark hair, wearing a white sleeveless top, is smiling and holding a small glass jar, sprinkling its contents onto a plate of food. In the background, there is a wooden cabinet and a silver toaster oven. On the counter, there is a lime half in a green cup and another plate with food.

COOKING & BAKING



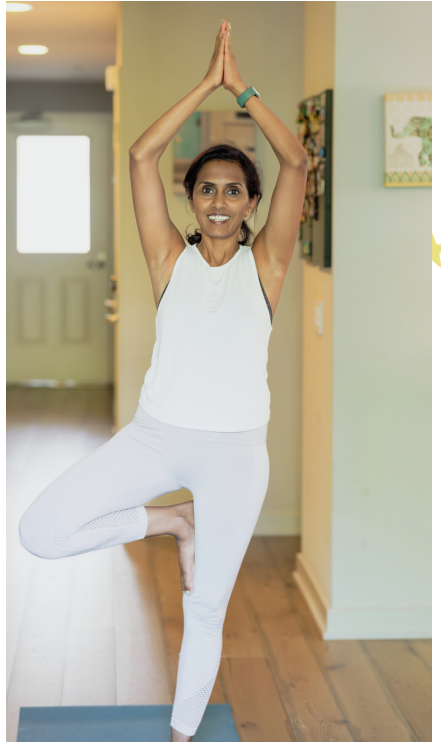
WHEN I FIRST CAME TO DO MY MASTER'S IN NEW YORK, I BARELY KNEW HOW TO COOK. HOWEVER, I INSTANTLY TOOK A LIKING TOWARDS IT. AFTER GRAD SCHOOL, I DEVELOPED MORE OF AN INTEREST IN EXPANDING MY CULINARY KNOWLEDGE. BEING A VEGETARIAN, I ENJOY PUTTING MY OWN SPIN ON DISHES; BE IT TACOS, QUESADILLAS, PASTA OR BURGERS. MY GO-TO OPTION IS PASTA, PARTICULARLY WITH PESTO. OVER THE LAST FEW YEARS, I HAVE ALSO TAKEN TO A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE AND ENJOY EATING SALADS AND FRUITS ON A DAILY BASIS. I ALSO BAKE CAKES, MACARONS AND TIRAMISU – MY ABSOLUTE FAVORITE DESSERT.



A person with long dark hair is snorkeling underwater. They are wearing a white long-sleeved shirt with a green and black pattern, a red and black snorkel mask, and a red snorkel. Their hands are spread out in front of them. The water is clear blue with some bubbles and light reflecting off the surface.

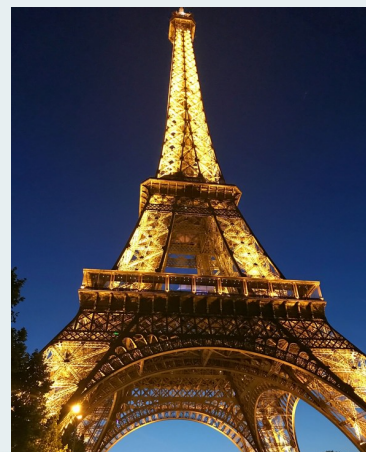
ACTION

I WAS NOT AN EXTREMELY ATHLETIC KID GROWING UP, BUT OVER THE PAST DECADE I HAVE TAKEN ON A MORE ACTIVE LIFESTYLE. I ENJOY RUNNING, HIKING, STRENGTH TRAINING, YOGA AND DANCING. I HAVE COMPLETED 6 HALF MARATHONS SO FAR AND FEW OTHER SMALLER RUNS. I HAVE ALSO TAKEN CONTEMPORARY DANCE LESSONS FOR SEVERAL YEARS. I ENJOY OTHER WATER SPORTS LIKE RAFTING, KAYAKING AND PADDLE BOARDS. I LEARNED HOW TO SKI A FEW YEARS BACK. ALTHOUGH I STILL HAVE A LONG WAY TO BE COMFORTABLE ON THE SLOPES, I DEFINITELY ENJOYED IT. I ALSO ENJOY OTHER AERIAL ACTIVITIES LIKE SKYDIVING AND PARAGLIDING. I CAN'T WAIT TO INTRODUCE ALL OF THIS TO A CHILD!



ADVENTURE

I READ A QUOTE ONCE THAT DESCRIBES MY INTEREST IN TRAVEL PERFECTLY – “THE JOURNEY OF A THOUSAND MILES BEGINS WITH A SINGLE STEP”. I ENJOY BOTH NATURE AND CITY VIBES WHEN I TRAVEL. MY LONGEST ADVENTURE HAS BEEN TO EUROPE, WHERE I VISITED OVER 6 COUNTRIES IN 6 WEEKS. FROM THE HIGH-SPEED TRAINS, PICTURESQUE LAKES, HISTORIC MONUMENTS AND THE STUNNING EIFFEL TOWER, THE EUROPEAN ADVENTURE WAS ONE FOR THE BOOKS. I WENT TO VIETNAM WITH MY FAMILY WHERE WE EXPERIENCED CAVES, WATERFALLS, BEACHES AND A WHOLE LOT OF HISTORY. I HAVE TRAVELLED EXTENSIVELY IN THE USA WITH NEW YORK CITY AND MAUI BEING MY FAVORITES. SOME OF THE OTHER PLACES I HAVE VISITED ARE CANADA, MEXICO, AUSTRALIA, SOUTH KOREA, MALAYSIA AND SINGAPORE.





FROM MY FAMILY:

FROM BROTHER SUMAN AND SISTER-IN-LAW MONICA: SUSHMA IS ONE OF THE MOST CARING AND LOVING PERSON WE KNOW. SHE HAS BEEN VERY SUPPORTIVE THROUGH OUR HIGHS AND LOWS – NEVER JUDGING, BUT SIMPLY BEING THERE. SHE IS A STRONG PERSON WITH A NEVER GIVE-UP ATTITUDE. SHE ISN'T AFRAID OF TRYING NEW THINGS AND IS ALWAYS READY TO HELP OTHERS IN NEED. WE REALLY ENJOY BEING A PART OF THE INCREDIBLE EVENTS SUSHMA ORGANIZES TO KEEP FAMILY AND FRIENDS CONNECTED. ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS THAT SHE HAS TAUGHT US IS A GREAT WORK LIFE BALANCE. SHE KNOWS HOW TO LIVE HER LIFE TO THE FULLEST – SHE IS A TRAVELER, A SPORTS ENTHUSIAST, AND A GREAT BAKER! WE ARE REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO SUPPORTING HER INTO, HOPEFULLY, ONE OF THE HAPPIEST PHASES OF HER LIFE.



FROM COUSIN SINDHU: ALTHOUGH SUSHMA IS MY COUSIN, I THINK OF HER AS AN OLDER SISTER. SHE IS ONE OF THE MOST THOUGHTFUL AND CARING PEOPLE I HAVE EVER MET. SHE HAS GONE OUT OF HER WAY TO TAKE CARE OF ME WHEN I HAVE BEEN IN DISTRESS. SHE ALSO HAS A VERY OPEN MIND AND HEART AND I CONSIDER HER A TRUSTED CONFIDANTE. SUSHMA IS A VERY NURTURING PERSON AND IS GREAT WITH CHILDREN. I KNOW SHE WILL MAKE AN AMAZING PARENT!



I PROMISE:

- TO NURTURE YOU TO BE THE BEST VERSION OF YOU.
- TO READ YOU A STORY EVERY NIGHT.
- TO BE SILLY AND FUNNY WITH YOU - IN THE PARK, ON THE BEACH OR AT HOME.
- TO CONTINUALLY WORK ON BEING A BETTER MOTHER AND A ROLE MODEL FOR YOU.
- TO LISTEN TO YOUR OPINION AND RESPECT IT UNCONDITIONALLY.
- TO HAVE MANY PLAYDATES WITH ALL YOUR FRIENDS.
- TO BE YOUR BIGGEST CHAMPION.
- TO SHOW UP FOR ALL THE EVENTS IN YOUR LIFE, BIG OR SMALL.
- TO TEACH YOU TO RIDE A BIKE.
- TO TAKE YOU CAMPING.
- TO TAKE YOU TO MOVIES.
- TO BE A FRIEND, WHEN YOU NEED ONE.
- TO PROTECT AND COMFORT YOU ANY HOUR OF THE DAY OR NIGHT.

