

## The Adventure of Natalie and Jake

### By Maya D.

Hi my name is Natalie and I'm 8 years old, and I have a dog named Jake. When I was 4 years old my mother left my dad and I. My heart broke when I saw her walk out the door. Every day I saw little kids walking around with their mothers, I stared and stared. I really wanted a mom to pick me up when I fall, and to sing me to sleep.

When I turned 6 my dad couldn't take care of me anymore. He left me alone. He told me that he would go to the store to buy some food. I waited and waited until I could not wait any longer. I got impatient, then I opened the front door, took my puppy and left. I ran down the sidewalk with Jake in my arms. I got tired and stopped at a gas station.

At the gas station, I stayed behind a building and soon fell asleep. When I woke up, I knew I had to leave but when I turned to get Jake, he was gone. "Oh no," I said "Jake c'mon boy!" I yelled but Jake was nowhere to be found. I ran across the street and yelled "Jake, Jake where are you?!"

I didn't expect an answer but I called anyways. Then I saw a man holding something, but I couldn't see what it was, so I looked again and it was Jake. I ran to the man, looked him in the eyes then in one swift move I kicked him in the knee he fell to the ground. I took Jake and shouted at him "this is my dog not yours!" and confidently walked away.

"Boom!" did you see that, Jake I saved you. He could have done anything to you, Jakey" I said as I walked. I walked very far and didn't even notice, when I looked up I saw an adoption center. I went inside the center. The lady at the front desk asked me if I had a parent, and I said "no". She took me to a nice place where other kids stayed. She told me to take the puppy out and I said "no thanks" he is my best friend and always will be." I saw she was about to say something but she didn't.

I watched people come inside the adoption center they looked at me and Jake with a disgusting look on their face. I ignored them the best I could, I waited for someone to adopt me and someone did! And also let me keep Jake. My new family was really nice and I love them with all my heart they are the best.