

Lela

By Makayla R.

There once was a girl named Lela who had no mom, no dad, and no home. She lived on the street and slept on a bench at a bus stop. It was Christmas time which meant it was very cold outside. But nobody stopped to help her. No one gave her a blanket or money or food. People just looked at her like she was crazy.

One day a woman in a Lamborghini drove by Lela. The woman's name was Yolanda. Yolanda had a child that had died. She wanted to adopt another child from foster care. When she saw Lela all alone, she thought perhaps Lela would make a good daughter. Lela and Yolanda talked. They talked about many things but especially about having a real home. Yolanda knew in her heart that Lela would be a gift to any family who adopted her. She hoped she would that family.

However, there was a problem – the court people. The court people thought they should not let Yolanda adopt Lela, or any child, because of what happened to Yolanda's first daughter, Sarah. It wasn't something Yolanda spoke about freely, but her Sarah had tried to slide down the rail along the stairs and fell. Sarah injured her head and neck and never recovered. So the court people decided that Yolanda's house was not safe and that Yolanda was not a good mother.

Yolanda thought about Christmas and how it is the season of gifts. She could give Lela a real home and Lela could give her another chance at motherhood. That sounded like something worth fighting for. So Yolanda sold the house that she loved so much because it was where she had Sarah. She bought a new house and checked over every part of it multiple times to make sure it was safe. Yolanda wouldn't let the court people rest until they approved Lela's adoption. By the following Christmas, both Lela and Yolanda received what they wanted most – a home and a child.