

Chapter 1

WE'RE HERE

The airplane moved down a long runway. It was traveling at a very slow speed. Lindie Lou looked over at Max. He was looking out the window.



Lindie Lou and Max had just landed. They were in a big white bird. Max called it an airplane. They flew together from Saint Louis, where Lindie Lou was born. She met Max in

the baggage area at the airport. They came to the Emerald City to meet their families.

Lindie Lou didn't know what her new family looked like. Her former owner, Sherry, from Saint Louis, said one of Lindie Lou's new owners was her sister, Kate.

Sherry's husband, Joe, had driven Lindie Lou to the airport.

"You're going to have a good life," he said before he left.



Lindie Lou missed Joe and Sherry
but was excited about meeting her new
family and seeing her

NEW HOME.

Max's owner was picking him up at the airport. He flew in earlier, on another airplane.

"We're in the Emerald City," barked Max.

"I can't wait to see the city and meet my new family," said Lindie Lou.

"You'll get to do both very soon," replied Max.

Lindie Lou looked out the window.



"I thought we were in the Emerald City. Emeralds are green. All I see are gray

and white buildings. Even the sky is gray," said Lindie Lou.

"Just wait and see. The Emerald City is green all right," barked Max.

Lindie Lou heard a tractor drive up to the side of the airplane. A man in a blue and green uniform pushed the door open. He walked over to Max and Lindie Lou.

"Time for you to leave the plane," he said.

The man lifted Lindie Lou's and Max's carriers onto a conveyor belt. He ran down the stairs, then he lifted Lindie Lou's carrier onto a cart, pulled by his



tractor. He set Max's carrier next to hers.

"Guess what? You're going for another ride," said the man as he jumped into his tractor.

He drove the tractor past many buildings. When they stopped, they were in front of a large door.

Above the door was a sign.



Lindie Lou looked up at the sign. Then she looked at Max.

"I thought you said we were in the Emerald City?"

"We are," replied Max. "Seattle is the name of the city. The Emerald City is a nickname."

"Seattle," repeated Lindie Lou. "I like the way it sounds."

The large door slid open and they drove inside a building.

"Do you know where we're going?" asked Lindie Lou.

"Yes, we're going to a waiting room where our families will meet us," said Max.

"How long will we have to wait?"

Lindie Lou looked **worried**.

What if her new owners didn't come?

"You won't have to wait very long," said Max. "Don't worry."

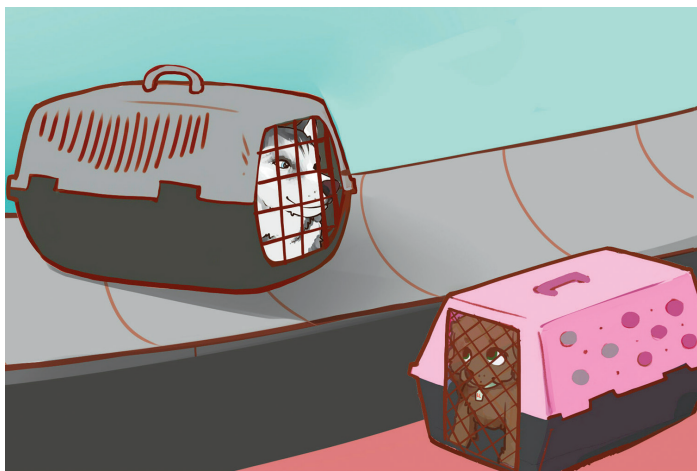
The man in the blue and green uniform, lifted Lindie Lou's carrier off the tractor and set it on the floor.

Lindie Lou looked around. She was in a room with a lot of luggage.

Max's carrier was put on a conveyor belt.

"Good-bye," barked Max. "Enjoy your new home."

"Wait a minute," said Lindie Lou. "Will I ever see you again?" She was sad to see him go.

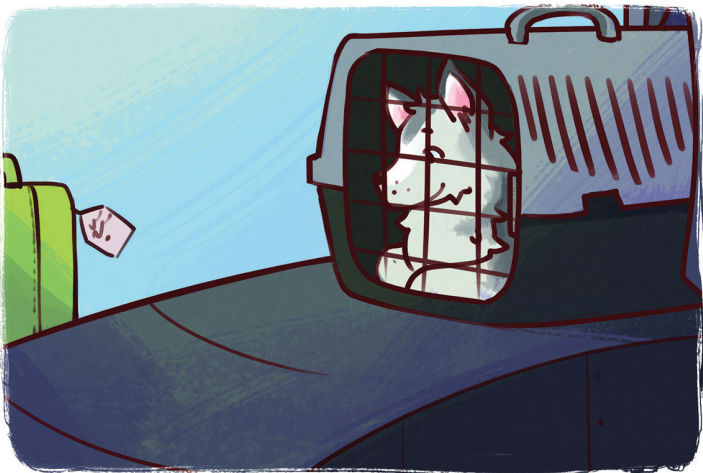


"If you ever go to the Pike Place Market, I'm usually somewhere near Rachel the Pig."

"Rachel the Pig?"

"Yes. Everyone knows who Rachel is."

Max barked one last goodbye before he and his carrier disappeared around the corner.



*Pike Place Market, thought Lindie
Lou, and Rachel the Pig.*

*I must **remember**
these two things if I ever want to see
Max again.*