

Lexi & Tazi's Adventures

Rae's Forever Home

A story of
friendship,
faith *and* love



♥ by Veronica Brandon Miller ♥

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Rae's Forever Home is a heartwarming story of friendship, faith, hope, and the power of family.

When Tazi, a playful little Maltese, and Lexi, her wise, gentle Bichon Frise sister, meet a lonely girl named Rae at the neighborhood playground, they discover she lives in foster care and fears she may never find a forever family.

Determined to help, the two lovable dogs encourage Rae to smile, stay hopeful, be kind, and trust God's plan—even when the waiting feels hard.

Filled with lovable characters, gentle humor, and a message of unwavering hope, Rae's Forever Home reminds readers that every child deserves love, every family can be built through compassion, and God's timing is always perfect.

This touching story celebrates adoption, the resilience of children in foster care, and the incredible difference one act of love can make.

Dedication

This book is lovingly dedicated to Graci McGillicuddy, a remarkable woman whose heart has always belonged to God's children—especially those who have experienced the uncertainty and heartbreak of foster care.

Through her steadfast faith, compassion, and vision, Graci founded All Star Children's Foundation, whose mission

is to transform foster care through innovative, trauma-informed care, research, advocacy, and education so that every child has the opportunity to heal, flourish, and discover the bright future God has planned for them.

Graci reminds us that every child is precious, deeply loved by God, and deserving of a safe home where they can grow, laugh, and simply be a child. Her life's work is a beautiful reflection of Christ's love—bringing hope where there has been hurt and light where there has been darkness.

It is my prayer that this story inspires readers to open their hearts to children who are waiting for a forever family and to remember that, with faith, love, and kindness, miracles happen every day.

In honor of Graci's extraordinary dedication, 100% of the proceeds from the sale of this book will be donated directly to All Star Children's Foundation to help provide healing, hope, and brighter futures for children in foster care. www.allstarchildren.org





A warm yellow house stood on a quiet street.

Inside lived two happy dogs.

Lexi was a fluffy white Bichon Frise.

Tazi was a tiny Maltese with a giant heart.

Both dogs had once waited for a forever family.

Now they had the best mom and dad
they could ever imagine.

Lexi was calm and thoughtful.

She liked to watch before she acted.

Tazi was young, playful, and full of excitement.

She believed every problem had a happy ending.

Together, they made the perfect team.



One sunny afternoon, Mom and Dad
took Lexi and Tazi to the playground.

Children laughed.

They climbed.

They raced down the slides.

But one little girl sat all alone on a swing.

She wasn't smiling.

She was crying.

Tazi hurried over.

"Hi!" she barked happily.

"My name is Tazi! What's yours?"

The little girl wiped her tears away.

"I'm Rae."



"Why are you sad?" Tazi asked.

Rae looked down at her shoes.

"My birthday is coming up, and I'll be seven.

And I still don't have a forever family.

Everyone else gets picked.

But no one picks me."

The two dogs looked at each other.

They knew exactly how Rae felt.

Both of them had once waited for someone

to love them forever.

Tazi smiled. "I know how to help!"

"I got adopted last year!"

"I can teach you!"



"Really?" Rae asked.

"Really!" said Tazi.

"First, you wag your tail!
A happy tail makes everyone smile."

Rae giggled. "But...I don't have a tail."

Tazi blinked. "Oh. I forgot."

Lexi smiled kindly.

"That's okay. If people don't have
tails...

They smile."

"A warm smile lets people see
your kind heart." Rae smiled.



"I know another one!" Tazi barked.

"You can spin around like this!"
She twirled in tiny circles.

Lexi laughed. "Humans get dizzy."

"Oh..." Tazi said.
"Maybe don't do that."

The friends made a plan.
Every day before Rae's birthday,
they would meet at the playground. Each
day they practiced something new. ✓

Smile brightly ✓ Say hello
✓ Be kind ✓ Listen carefully
✓ Share ✓ Believe in yourself



The next day Rae practiced her biggest smile.

Tazi barked, "Perfect!"

Lexi quietly noticed something.

When Mom walked past the playground with her, Lexi gently pulled toward Rae.

Mom smiled. "You really like this playground."

Lexi wagged her tail.

Lexi and Tazi brought their Mom over. She said hello and introduced her to her foster mother.

They chatted for a few minutes.

It wasn't much.

But it was a beginning.



That afternoon, Dad brought Tazi and
Lexi to the playground.
They raced straight to Rae.

Dad hurried after them.

Soon he was talking with Rae and her
foster mom, too.

That evening, Mom and Dad couldn't stop
talking about Rae.

"She is such a sweet little girl," Mom said.

Lexi rested her head on Mom's lap.
Almost as if she were saying,
"She's the one."



On Friday, Mom and Dad visited Rae's foster home.

They laughed together.

They played games.

They read stories.

When they left, they couldn't stop smiling.

Lexi and Tazi knew something
wonderful was happening.

That afternoon, Tazi and Lexi were in the backyard when
Rae came to visit.

Rae's foster mom told her that the nice family wants to
meet again tomorrow.

Rae hugged Lexi and Tazi.

"I'm excited... but I'm nervous."

Lexi licked her hand. "Just be yourself."



Sunday was Rae's seventh birthday. She put on her favorite purple dress. She took a deep breath, and then she opened the door.

Two very familiar faces stood there.
Lexi's mom. Tazi's dad.

The two dogs raced over, barking happily.
Mom knelt beside Rae.

"We have been thinking about you all week."
Dad smiled.

"We would love for you to become part of our family. If you would like that."

Happy tears filled Rae's eyes. "Yes," she whispered.
"I've wished for this every birthday."



That afternoon,
Rae celebrated her seventh birthday.

There was a cake with seven candles.

There were balloons.

There were presents.

And there were two fluffy dogs
curled up beside her.

She finally had what she had
wished for so long...

A forever family.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Veronica Brandon Miller is an author, storyteller, and lifelong advocate for children and animals. For more than 35 years, she has used storytelling to inspire hope, encourage compassion, and remind others that love can change lives.

A passionate supporter of adoption and foster care, Veronica has dedicated her time, talents, and heart to helping children and rescue animals find the safe, loving forever homes they deserve.

At the center of Veronica's life and writing is her faith. She believes every child, every animal, and every person is uniquely created by God, deeply loved by Him, and worthy of kindness, dignity, and unconditional love. She believes God often shows His love through the people—and sometimes the animals—He places in our lives at just the right moment.

Through her books, Veronica hopes to share God's love one story at a time, helping children understand that they are never forgotten, never without hope, and always precious in His eyes.

Her stories encourage young readers and their families to choose kindness, embrace faith, care for those who need them, and believe that even the smallest act of compassion can become a life-changing miracle.

When she isn't writing or advocating for children and animals, Veronica enjoys spending time with her beloved rescue dogs, Lexi and Tazi, whose unconditional love, playful personalities, and joyful spirits inspired many of her stories.



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For more information, visit:
Lexi & Tazi's Adventures
www.lexiandtazi.com lexiandtazi@gmail.com



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