

Happy Christmas, dearest Lulu: Gara Baldwin

This time last year I was ready to fly all the way to England to visit you for Christmas. What a lovely time we had, walking through the town, colourful lights and decorations everywhere, Santa in the stores, and carol singers coming to the door in the evenings. We ate lots of mince pies and cake!

Your Christmas tree was very tall and was covered in fairy lights, with a silver star right on the top. I had to pick you up to reach the highest branches so you could hang decorations there.

Do you remember how you crept into my bedroom early on Christmas morning to show me the new doll that Santa had left for you? You were so excited, and then I gave you my present, a little pram for you to push dolly around in. You pushed it up and down the hallway for ages. Candy the cat would run and hide when she saw you coming.

Now, you are nearly five, and I am so disappointed that I won't be flying to England to see you. Mummy and daddy will have explained to you that it is very difficult for people to travel anywhere at the moment. We will be able to see each other on the computer, and you can tell me all about your Christmas Day then.

I'll be staying at home in Sydney, where it is usually hot and sunny on Christmas Day, which is very nice. I can go for a swim, but it won't be the same, not being with all of you. I'll be saving up and hoping I can come to see you next year.

Maybe, in a few years' time you can come to visit me, and we can go to the beach for a swim on Christmas morning and have a picnic.

I'll be thinking of you all and looking forward to a computer chat on Christmas Day.

Lots of love and a big hug,
Granny

(337 words)