It started off with my brother-in-law getting a call from one of his friends. They requested him to be the principle of a school in Melbourne. This request came suddenly, so my sister’s family thought about it for several days and finally came to the decision it was time to move out.

Of course, this saddened me deeply as my two nieces were my two best friends. A month later and the family had already settled in. Soon later, I started receiving letters from them saying how much they missed me and would like me to come over. ‘I’d love to’ I would tell them since I didn’t have anyone to play with.

My mother was also feeling unhappy that the family was so apart. Then a phone call came from my sister saying the school they were running, was fairly good.

5 months later, we packed our stuff and were on our way. We drove the car and the trip was hectic... I was prone to getting car sick continuously throughout the 9 hour drive. The places we were at were peaceful. We stopped by places such as Holbrook, Albury and Tarcutta. Holbrook had a huge submarine sitting in the middle of a park, my sister and I decided to walk on it and take photos. We also stopped by a park in Albury where there were tall, beautiful, maple trees towering all over. Their leaves were bright yellow and orange which glistened as the sun’s rays hit them.

Once we reached Melbourne, we halted at Sydney Rd and began asking for directions. Probably an hour later, we arrived at our sister’s house and were welcomed with open arms. I was just glad to see my sister and nieces again. We slept at their house until we moved into ours.

After we settled into our new home, I commenced going to the school with my nieces in year 4. I started shaking thinking about my new class mates. I wondered if I could make any friends as I wasn’t much of a social person. When I entered the classroom, I was aroused by all the faces of curiosity I was given and they began whispering amongst themselves. In some way, I felt good. It was as though I was at the top of the social ladder, at the top of the class. But that went downhill when they knew my personality, the shy, anti-social, geek.

Time passed and I got hit with sudden reality. I wasn’t in prep anymore, life looked harder than it seemed and I had to fight to be recognized. And you needed a friend.

To my surprise, not everyone was as hard-cored and trouble-free as I thought. People had issues, they had different personalities and opinions. To have a friend, you need to choose the right one, like finding a needle in a hay stack.

I was just lucky finding the needle wasn’t that hard! My friend and I had a lot in common and our personalities matched perfectly.

So I had made a friend, but the next part was to settle into my lifestyle.

And that is a very long story...