

## Hiway



### This is Hiway's story, in her own words.

I would like to share the story of my life with you. It didn't start out very well. Somehow I lost my original home and ended up in the median of a highway, which is how I got my current name. I don't remember how I got to the median, but I do recall how terrified I was as the traffic zoomed by me. A very nice lady picked me up and took me home. I was so distraught that I would only walk around the perimeter of the rooms to stay as close to the walls as possible. I was afraid that if I ventured into the center of a room, I would get run over—just like I would have been if I had tried to cross that highway. Well, the lady who picked me up took me to a rescue group. Those volunteers were very nice and promised that they would find me a good home.

One day, a lady fell in love with me and adopted me. She got to take me home to her house in West Texas. Unfortunately, when I got there, I met her dog. He did not like me at all! I really don't understand why. The adopter decided I had to go. She told a friend of hers, who was heading to Austin for a conference, to take me back to the rescue group. He did NOT end up taking me to the rescue group. Instead, when he got to the Austin area, he threatened to dump me in a retaining pond at the hotel. Did I mention that it was about 35 degrees outside?! A chill ran down my spine at the thought of being thrown in the icy water. I was already cold and wet because I was saturated with urine, having made the trip from West Texas without a litter box. Thank heaven a volunteer from LV PAWS took custody of me. To make a long story short, the volunteer contacted the rescue group that had adopted me to that lady with the dog. Since I had been through so much, the LV PAWS volunteers decided to keep me at the shelter and find a new and better home for me. I was lovingly cared for by everyone at the shelter. I became very social and talkative. I got over the trauma of all those bad experiences. Sometimes I would get to help in the office while the volunteers worked on paperwork. Finally, my dream of a new home came true.

I was adopted by the sweetest, gentlest lady you can ever imagine. We were the best of friends. My mom bragged about me all the time to anyone who would listen. Because she was retired, she and I were constant companions. We were together for about a year when the unthinkable happened—my mom passed away. I cried and cried, grieving for my mom. I do not understand why she left me. Once again, my life was full of uncertainty. One of my mom's friends tried to figure out what to do with me. Several other of her friends suggested that she have me euthanized. I'm not sure what that means, but I figure it can't be good. The friend knew how special I was to my mom, so she worked hard to find a shelter or rescue group that would take me. When she learned that I had been adopted from LV PAWS, she made arrangements to bring me back. Although I was thankful to have safe haven at the center, and I appreciated the love that the volunteers gave me, I still had a heavy heart and sorely missed my mom and our home. I know I will never be able to replace the irreplaceable. But, some day I hope to have a new mom with whom I can share my love and life.

With so many people working hard to find sweet Hiway a home after reading her story, we received the following letter which accompanied an application for her adoption: *"Hiway will have a brother (Bonzai) who looks just like her! I have been so moved by Hiway's story that I believe (if she is still available) I am the perfect mom for Hiway—where she will find safety, love and a complete end to all the chaos in her past."* (Note: Hiway's new mom rescued Bonzai as a 4-week old kitten, covered in fleas and scared.) *"Bonzai had been very happy until our older cat got sick and we had to put him to sleep. Bonzai has since been alone and very lonely. He is a 'talky kitty' and I know he wants companionship. We want a special friend just like Bonz. Sorry about rambling. I am excited!"* We are happy to report that Hiway was adopted by this very nice woman. Hiway now has a home, a mom and dad who love her and a brother as well!