

**Ahhhhhhh!**

Written by Susan Hollingshead  
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That is a huge sigh of relief! We have arrived...only 15 days later than we had originally planned to, which is a lifetime to a child and even more so to the child's grandparents. I suppose it was the excitement of getting here that had us both awake at 5:30 this morning, but Rick and I were trekking down the road before 8:00 and within a few miles that changed to 7:00 AM, thanks to entering the Pacific Time Zone in Idaho. We were just a little excited to get going!

We left under low lying clouds, intermittent rain and cool temperatures but within an hour the rain was finished and by the time we hit Spokane, the sun was even trying to shine. Interstate 90 became busier as we entered Washington and as we neared Seattle, for the first time since we drove around Chicago, we were in heavy traffic. That is the only part of getting here that we dislike; getting around Seattle! There just is no way around it that isn't heavily congested, even on a Saturday, so we just turned up the radio and made the best of a slow situation.

We pulled into Mission just after 4:00 and surprised everyone with our early arrival. In fact the whole family was napping when we first rang the bell but before long we were exchanging hugs with every member. Makai was thrilled that we were there and Monet didn't take very long to warm up to us, shyly grinning a big toothy smile whenever we caught her looking at us. We are back in our favourite parking spot; beside the MacLachlan house and are looking forward to spending some valuable time with some very special people.