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Lisa's family in Bangkok made us feel at home. Even though we were across the world the hospitality and concern for our well being was more than what we expected. Everyone always made sure we had enough to eat and cautioned us when crossing the busy streets of Bangkok. I watched as Lisa proudly spent time in the company of her family and saw her soak in the sights, smells, and sounds of Thailand. She was finally feeling the pride that has defined the Thai people the pride that she was longing for. We were treated to homemade meals and the all the treasures Bangkok has to offer. All of which we were told that tourists do not get to experience unless they know a Thai native.

Lisa also discovered her actual birth name to be Salee. It is a district in Bangkok where she was born. Because her mother left her in the hospital, there was no one to name her. So the only name they could think of was the district she was born in. Later, she was brought to her aunts and uncle's house. They nicked named her Sumlee. It means cotton. This name was given to her because she was so small when she was born that it was thought she could "blow away like cotton" as her cousin stated. When she was adopted her adopted family was given a birth certificate with the name Malai. She was given a false birth certificate with another person's identity. After her adoption her name changed to Lisa. She also found out that she was 6 months younger than her birth date that was given to her.

Lisa's adoption affected her most while searching for her family. She was misled and let down time after time but continued to press on. During the search she was learning so much about the dynamics of her adoption that it became a quest to find the truth. Lisa has found the truth and it has been a long road she has traveled. Now she can continue that road with her family in Thailand. We plan to visit as much as possible bringing our three children to meet their new found relatives. Also, Lisa's adoptive parents have been most supportive through it all and are the best thing that has happen to her.

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Personally, I've always admired the Italian approach to life, especially their "dolce far niente", the art of doing very little as elegantly as possible.

Lost or Stolen Phones

Lost your phone but still need your number?

(A) Make a police report about the stolen or lost phone.

(B) We faxed Bangkok with the details of the numbers and put a temporary hold on the SIM cards.

Take the police report to the office of whoever your carrier is AIS (Phuket City office only - 23-27 Chana Charoen Rd),

Tell them what happened and they will replace the SIM card with a new one. For pre-paid cards, take a copy of your passport also.

It will, however, set you back 300 Baht (AIS), but if you have a bunch of business cards made up or advertising using the number, it is a small price to pay.

Public Holidays 2004

23 October	Chulalongkorn Day	**06 December**	in lieu (Re above)
25 October	in lieu (Re above)	**10 December**	Constitution Day
05 December	King's Birthday	**31 December**	New Year's Eve