

Settings: Chávez home
Characters: Announcer, Lourdes, Julia-age 9, Mario, Carlos

Intro Music (same for each episode) fades up and under narration

Announcer: You are listening to the latest edition of *Un Nuevo Amanecer Para Ana Y Su Familia*. Join us each week as we travel with the Chávez family through the ups and downs of raising a child with a disability in a sometimes unfriendly world. This week we skip forward several years in the life of the Chávez family. Lourdes' cousin from Mexico, Carlos, has moved in with the family and is causing trouble. Ana, who is now four, will soon be heading to school and her older sister Julia who today, celebrates her ninth birthday. Let's find out what happens.

(Music transitions up and out)

Lourdes
Narrates: *(speaking directly to the radio audience)* Looking back, I don't know how I handled it. My daughter Julia's ninth birthday was a wonderful...and frightening day...all in one. If I've learned anything over these years raising a child with a disability it's...that you always need to look for the silver lining. On that day, the cloud certainly was what happened with cousin Carlos...but ...the silver lining...well, it was what I'd hoped for...

(Music fades up and out again)

Julia: *(projecting her voice louder)* Mom – can you get Ana out of here? Her wheelchair is in my way! She's bothering me again! *(sound effect – glass smashing to floor)* *(shouting)* Ana! Look what you've done! You've broken my favorite mirror! It's ruined! I hate you! *(sobs)* You always ruin everything!

Lourdes: *(rushing in – angry and scolding)* What's going on here? Why are you talking to your sister this way?

Julia: *(sniffing, through tears)* She's always bothering me – breaking my things. Today is my birthday – she won't even leave me alone on my birthday! I hate her!

Lourdes: *(sternly)* Julia, I'm disappointed in you. You know there are many things your sister can't do. She loves you and wants to be with you. *(sighs)* I am going to let you calm down and I'll take Ana to get dressed for the party.

Julia: *(softer weeping/sniffing, almost a whisper as she prays aloud)* Dear Virgin of Guadalupe, please help me to love my sister. She gets all Mama and Papa's love – all their attention. I know she can't walk and talk like me...I know it's a sin to be jealous. Please...please help me not to be jealous...but...can I have...a happy birthday today, too? Oh, and a Dora the Explorer doll? That would be nice, too...Amen.

(Music transitions up and out to change scenes)
(Sound effect –Mexican party music)

Carlos: Hey, Mario, what's up?

Mario: Carlos, where have you been? You didn't come home last night. We were worried.

Carlos: *(sheepish)* Hey, don't worry, I can handle it.

Mario: *(scolding tone)* We've been over this, Carlos. One more fight...you're out of this house...

Julia: *(interrupting the conversation – out of breath from running up to them, very excited)*
Carlos, you came!

Carlos: Wouldn't miss it, sweetheart!

Mario: Julia, your mother's been looking for you. She needs help feeding Ana lunch before more guests arrive...

(Sound effect – stomping footsteps up steps into house)

Lourdes: Julia – I just need a hand here with your sister...

Julia: Why do I always have to get things or do things for Ana? No one ever helps me.

Lourdes: *(sighs)* You do a lot to help me with Ana. I know that it can be a big responsibility...and I like that you help me...I guess I never tell you thank you for helping.

Julia: But...you are always busy with Ana and I never get to be with you.

Lourdes: You're right. Your sister takes a lot of time...and...I haven't been good about taking time with you...*(excited – she's just come up with an idea)* What if I tell your Dad that tomorrow we will go to the park together? Just you and me?

Julia: *(overjoyed)* Really?

Lourdes: Yes, really. Now, before everyone gets here, I have a little surprise for you. How would you like to open your first gift?

(Julia squeals and claps with delight)

(Sound effect – wrapping paper)

Julia: Dora the Explorer! Just what I wanted! *(pause)* Mama?

Lourdes: Yes?

Julia: I said some pretty mean things about Ana before. I don't really hate her, you know.

Lourdes: I know, Julia.

Julia: And ...I know you've been worried about Ana going to school...I'm worried, too. I don't want kids to tease her...They need to know how cool she is...how funny she can be...Mama...I want to be Ana's helper at school. Can I eat lunch with her?...and walk her to class? Can I?

(Sound effect – hear siren from far away)

Lourdes: Do you really want to do that?

Julia: Yes. I really want to!

Mario: *(yelling from outside)* Lourdes, come quick! We need help out here!

Lourdes: *(panicked – running outside – out of breath)* What? What is wrong?

Mario: We need an ice pack here...It's Carlos...He punched someone. The police were just here...Everyone's panicked...they're all going home...They arrested him, Lourdes. They say he'll be sent back...Lourdes, we have to get these people calmed down.

(Music fades in and up – same music in each episode)

Announcer: How will the Latino community react to Carlos' arrest? What will happen to Carlos? Will he be sent back to Mexico? Will Mario and Lourdes stand by family or send him on his way? And can sister Julia protect Ana from everything that might happen at school? What will school be like for Ana? Join us next week – same time – for the next edition of *Un Nuevo Amanecer Para Ana Y Su Familia*.

(Music fades up and out)