<u>Felix The Albino</u> <u>By: Frida Zethner</u>

One day, a baby was born. But almost no one was allowed to see him. He got taken away immediately. Everyone wanted to know, what was going on. Especially, the mother. She tried to get the attention of the other nurses, but they were too busy checking if the baby was alright. At last, the father managed to get the attention of a nurse. He asked what was going on. She told him, that their son was born with a disease called albinism. She explained that a person who is an albino is a person with white skin and hair. He had almost NO pigment. The only thing he had that had SOME color were his purple eyes. They all thought he would die. With a bit of hope, he managed to survive the first night. And then the next. And then the next! His mother and father thought he might survive. And he did! His parents decided to call him Felix.

When he was 2 years old, he got a baby sister. He was so glad he would be able to play with someone. So, day by day, they grew up together. Now, he is 12 years old and his sister is 10 years old. Felix grew up to be overall a smart and kind boy. But everyone (excluding his parents and sister) thought he was weird and mentally ill. But he tried to ignore them, thinking that he was like everybody else. In school, he had NO friends. Kids called him names like freak or snowman, which of course he didn't like. The only person that actually played with him was his younger sister named Emily. He did enjoy the times with them playing together, but sometimes he wanted to play with people his age. But that never happened.

Until one Saturday, when he was watching some videos on YouTube, he thought HE could make his own channel, so he can tell the world about what its like being an albino! At first, he thought it was a bit crazy, but when he told his parents about his marvelous idea, they totally agreed with him. So, Felix and his dad figured out how to make a channel, and they did.

Felix was so excited when he got it, he immediately made his first video. It was all about how people make fun of him and how it is like being an albino. He thought that maybe people will respect him after a few videos.

His first video was not getting a lot of views. So, he continued making more and more videos, hoping that at least a few people will like his videos and respect him. Well, after a few months, he was getting a lot of comments. But they weren't nice. Almost all the comments were "Nobody cares" or "You are still super ugly". He just hated all this. Only like 2 people respected him – kind of. They just said "OK" or "You don't look TOO bad". His parents were trying to support him and were telling him that he was beautiful. They said that he was NOT ugly. He wanted to believe them, but he felt like everyone was right. He thought that he was ugly. And to top it off, he fell into deep, deep depression. He kept getting these mean messages.

People teased Felix every day. Not only in school, but also in parks, shopping malls, just everywhere! Sometimes, he wore makeup and contacts lenses so he would look somehow normal. But almost everyone knew he was and albino and STILL made fun of him. They told him stuff like "Hi makeup face!" or "Nice contacts, lame, scared snowman who nobody likes!". People always pointed at him, talked about him behind his back, or called him names. Felix started to hate all of this. And people talked more and more about him, because of his videos. He started to hate the internet and really wanted to get rid of it from all over the world.

Sometimes in school, people were not too mean to him, so Felix asked them if he can go to their house, hoping to get a stronger bond. But they kept saying that they are supposed to play a game with a friend on a computer, Xbox, phone, iPad, ... Or they just made up that they have a friend coming over, just for Felix not to go to their house. He was just thinking and thinking about a way to make people respect him for who he was and not how he looks like. And whenever he came up with an idea, he realized it was bad and forgot about it immediately. Sometimes he had second thoughts about some of his ideas, trying to convince himself they were good. The next day he told his parents he doesn't want to go to school because his depression got worse. His parents tried to make him go to school, telling him that everything will be alright and that he has to go to school. They begged him and told him he can choose what to do for the summer holiday next month. Felix wanted them to be happy, but he couldn't. He told them that he kept a lot of information about what was going on to him for himself. He told them he kept it for himself, just for them to stay happy. He was allowed to stay home from school as long as he wanted, until he would be a happier child.

After 2 days of staying at home, Felix told himself to start thinking about something that could help him in life. He thought that was a great idea and was jumping with glee. Then he immediately stopped and told himself to start thinking of something. The first day he thought of an idea and he said "Hmmm, it is an ok idea, but it is too complicated and would take too long." Then he thought of something else, but it was too simple and wouldn't help him much. After some time of thinking, he thought he would give up. But then the greatest idea popped up into his head. It was the most perfect idea of all ideas. He will simply go **offline!**

Even though it sounds kind of weird, it is actually great. Now he won't get all those rude and mean comments, and it only takes a click of a mouse. He told his parents about it and they said it was a great idea! So, all he did was go offline and-DONE. Now he wouldn't have to worry about the mean comments on the internet! That gave him confidence and he ignored most of the mean comments in school. His life wasn't perfect after that though. He still got some unkind comments, and a few times they offended him a little bit. But he learned to ignore them. After all that drama, he only accepted the nice comments like "You look good today!".

His life was getting better and better! People started to respect him more and more. He even got invited to 10 people's houses so far! That was a great

accomplishment. He started to love himself and he got out of depression! He enjoyed his life like this. Nothing really made him sad because of how he looks! Now he and his family were living a happy life. And most of all, he enjoyed all the fun times with his little group of friends. They would hang out everyday together. In that group, there is Jimmy, Katheryn, Felix, Bob, and Emily. They all love each other for who they are, and they are glad that they are all friends.

THE END ©