

"It's Okay to Be Me,
It's Okay to Be You"

By

Ani Lyne

Introduction

Acceptance and empowerment are why I wrote this book. Knowing that if young children started at a young age hearing it read to them, by the time they entered school they would be accepting of those who are different from them. And they would be empowered to be who they really are and not affected by peer pressure.

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By

Ani Lyne

Dedicated

To my 6 grandchildren who have all taught me so much and who inspired this book.



It's okay to be me; it's okay to be you. Because who we are today is not all that we will be, there's so much more for you and me.



I may talk with a lisp and be hard to understand, but that doesn't mean we can't be friends. I may be bow legged, I may be pigeon toed. But it's okay to be me, and it's okay to be you, we can find things we both like to do.



I may not know how to hit a ball or run the bases, I may have trouble tying my shoe laces. I may be short. I may be tall. I might not know how to dribble a ball. But it's okay to be me and its okay to be you; we can find things we both like to do.



I may not come from a loving home. I may sit and eat my lunch alone. You may be skinny, I maybe fat. I may be good in spelling; you may be good in math. But it's okay to be me and its okay to be you. We can find things we both like to do.



I may have short, long or no hair, but there is no need for you to point and stare. I may have curly, straight, or fizzy hair that's a sight. My skin maybe brown, black or white, that doesn't mean we have to fight. It's okay to be me, it's okay to be you; we can find things we both like to do.



I may have clothes that cost a lot; I may have clothes my mommy sewed. They may be dirty. They may be used. But it's okay to be me and its okay to be you; we can find things we both like to do.



I may live in a shiny new home; I may live in a shack. That's no reason to talk behind my back. It's okay to be me, it's okay to be you; we can find things we both like to do.



I may stutter when I speak, I may be too shy to say what I think. But that's no reason to make fun of me. It's okay to be me; it's okay to be you. We can find things we both like to do.



I may get into trouble when I am at school, trying to adjust to all those rules. It's my way of dealing with life and saying things might not be right. It's no reason for us to fight. It's okay to be me; it's okay to be you. We can find things we both like to do.



I may not be what you think is cute; I may enjoy playing the flute. I am much more than my looks and I can read many books. It's okay to be me; and it's okay to be you; we can find things we both like to do.



I may have braces on my legs. I may have braces on my teeth. I may have a special diet to eat. None of this has to affect you and me. It's okay to be me; and it's okay to be you. We can find things we both like to do.



I may not look like you and everyone else. I may only live in a one parent house. I may have a tare in the blouse that I wear, but that doesn't mean you have to stare. It's okay to be me; it's okay to be you. We can find thing we both like to do.



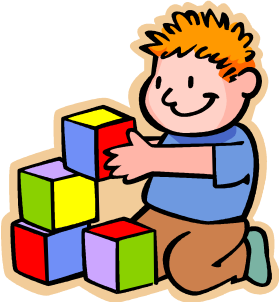
I may have ears that stick out away from my head; I may at times, still wet my bed. But it's okay to be me; it's okay to be you. We can find things we both like to do.



I may be different from you; in things I say and do. I may be adopted and that's okay too. I may live in a two mommy or daddy house. But it's okay to be me; it's okay to be you. We can find things we both like to do.



Because of an accident or maybe from birth
I am now in a wheel chair while on this earth. There's no
reason for you to point and smirk. It's okay to be me; it's okay
to be you. We can find things we both like to do.



We may be built different you and I, because of my heritage I may be a bigger size. That's no reason to call names and make me cry. It's okay to be me; it's okay to be you. We can find things we both like to do.



I may wear glasses at a very young age, because I squint as I try to read a page. My school work could suffer if I can't see. It's no reason for you to make fun of me. It's okay to be me; it's okay to be you. We can find something we both like to do.



Who I am is up to me. To let others beliefs define who I'll be is just plain silly. For it's me who will decide the adult I'll be. We are meant to be who we are today and that's why we are different in so many ways. It's okay to be me; it's okay to be you. We can find things we both like to do.