$Ac \cdot cept \cdot ance$  - the action or process of being received as adequate or suitable, typically to be admitted into a group.

Living in a world where everyone decides where you are and who you are, makes you always feel alone. You try to find a group where you can be *you*. People put you in a certain type of category because of the way you look. People change who they are and how they look because society tells them who they are. Is there a place where no one will judge you?

For centuries, society talks about staying together, but we're still bringing each other down. How are we supposed to accept ourselves, when you always have that one person hating on you? We're told that they're just jealous, that if you just ignore them you will be okay.

How can I move on with my life if I always have somebody talking about me? Why do I always have to try to have the nicest clothes or shoes to fit into certain types of groups? How come I just can't go about my day without being called *weird* or *different*?

I chose acceptance because I wanted to talk about how I came to accept myself. For a while I had little confidence; I hated my name because it was different, and I felt that I was different from my friends and family. It took me a long time to accept myself because I didn't believe in myself. I didn't believe that I could be something. People didn't accept me and I wanted approval. I wrongly thought that I had to change to fit in.

Jael S