

## ***Phylcia V. Marie Chekita Fabian***

My name is Phylcia V. Marie Fabian, and I am sixteen years old. I was born in Austin, Texas and raised by two loving and caring parents. I was in my mother's stomach so I don't remember much. But I'm sure my mother's stomach was a better place. On the outside, life is just a big and hateful world. Some people and places are nice. I met people who have made a difference in my life, while others have just brought me pain. I had a good childhood. I was lucky in so many ways and I knew it. But as I got older, I realized how the world is rude and mean. My life became harder, and my dreams and goals for life were fading. I soon found myself in a hole that I created and I couldn't find a way out. I felt alone for the first time and also pain. I took in all hateful things people threw my way, but I remained strong when others were around. I would rather die than ever show them how much I hurt.

I never knew how to live until I met my friend, Angie. She was the one person who took the time to listen and was always there for me. She helped me see the light when darkness fell over me. She gave me a new meaning to the word called life. I was joyless, and wanted out of life. There were times when I wanted to take the easy way out of life. But what made me stop was the one person who understood and helped me. She was always there when I needed her and she never once turned me away. Even distance couldn't break our friendship. She made me see why I had to live again.