

TM


# Landis

Just watch me.

This story of strength, heart, and hope brings home the reality of one child's courage and fierce determination amid terrible odds and the stunning effect his spirit has on everyone in his life.

A Documentary Film from Taikuli Productions





*Landis was born with a birth defect known as Congenital Limb Deficiency*

# Landis

**Just watch me** chronicles an epic tale of bravery. Landis Sims is ten years old, an all-American kid in rural Indiana. Landis has passion. He has drive. And early on he showed not only interest in but aptitude for baseball. Like most kids who fall in love with America's national pastime, Landis dreams of playing competitively. But Landis isn't like most kids. His limbs end in stumps.

Landis has Congenital Limb Deficiency. He has no hands or feet. This rare genetic disorder imposes huge physical challenges, as well as a cruel toll on appearance. But Landis Sims has never seen himself as different, or even disabled. In his resolve, he shows that the will to press on comes in the tiniest of frames.





*His skills have improved year after year.*

Landis was four when his mother, Amanda, modified a glove so her boy could catch and throw a baseball. Tottering on tiny prosthetic legs, barely able to run, Landis charged into his first sandlot game. Swinging from either side of the plate, he went three for four.

Landis means not only to keep up with teammates, but to excel. He's the first to look you in the eye and tell you, "I will be the first major league baseball player with prosthetics." Yet his parents worry. Can their son's dream survive? The world is hard enough on talented players who have all their body parts. Can Landis's immense heart take failure? Can they?

As the Indiana snows melt and Little League season nears, Landis struggles with his rudimentary artificial prosthetics. In excruciating pain, he practices daily for hours, simply to keep up.

*“I will be  
the first  
major league  
baseball  
player with  
prosthetics”.*



This season will be harder than any Landis has seen and he feels his body turning on him. Other kids are running faster and hitting farther. In the batter's box, Landis cannot extend his arms to swing. He has to edge dangerously close to the strike zone. Even young pitchers throw hard and he's all but daring them to bean him, even if unintentionally. All his life he's exuded confidence but now, doubt and fear are crowding him at the plate.

### ***HOPE AND SCIENCE***

David Rotter's office is a basement beneath the University of Illinois Medical Center. A top designer of artificial limbs, David combines engineering and biology to create prosthetics for athletes in almost every sport. He's met Landis, who's determination has David thinking big. He wants to build limbs that will keep Landis on the path to playing baseball as competitively as anyone.

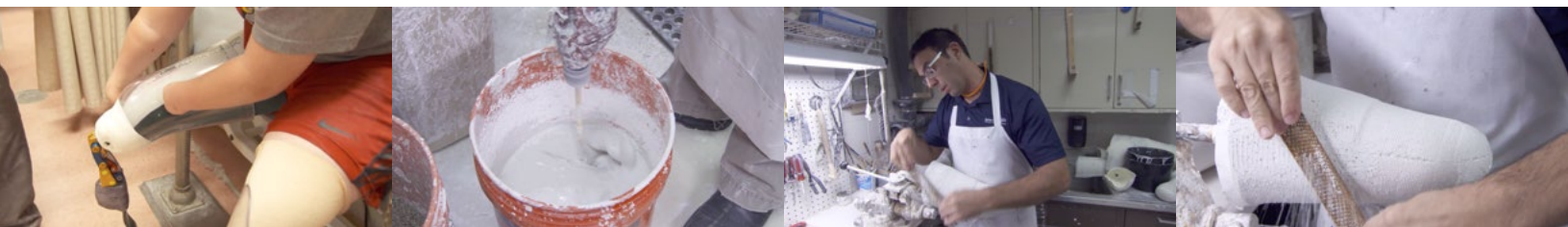


Innovation has heavy costs, not only in cash, but in turmoil and tears. Insurance doesn't cover specialty prosthetics. The bills are piling up. Jeremy and Amanda are struggling. Alone and together, they ask themselves crushing questions. How do you measure a dream in dollars? How far can dedication carry them? What price will Landis pay if his folks stop going all out?



Since 1997, Challenged Athletes Foundation has been lending a hand. CAF grants keep limb deficient athletes from all over the world in the game and living lives they once thought they could only imagine. In partnership with this amazing foundation, Landis and his family will find a glimmer of hope to keep Landis competitive.

Filmed over a three - year span, *Landis, Just Watch Me* takes viewers inside the extraordinary life of an extraordinary child, a little boy with big dreams and parents who are doing all they can to keep those dreams alive.







**Landis** *Just watch me* is a story of strength, heart, determination, and of hope. Where dreams are only as big as your imagination and physical limitations can be conquered. Landis is an inspiration. An inspiration and reminder to never give up on your dreams – no matter what life may throw in the way.

## DISTRIBUTION

Taikuli Productions is currently searching for a distribution partner with the ultimate goal being a combination of limited theatrical release, film festivals, video on demand and digital streaming.



Eric Cochran  
Taikuli Productions  
(805) 570-4237  
taikuli.com