

GIRLS

Friendship: A Vital Lifeline | 2023 | Sci-Fi Short Film

A Film by Aman Kaleem | MIT Media Lab | 4K

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Two eight-year-old girls in 2050 — one on Earth enslaved by machines, one on a space station orbiting Mars — fight to sustain their friendship across a fractured world. Every frame synthetic. Every environment machine-generated.

THE WORLD

Earth — Boston, 2050. Once-beautiful architecture replaced by towering metal structures. Machines have enslaved human bodies into cyborg-like beings. Streets flooded and filled with rubble — a world representing the consequences of unchecked technological advancement.

Space Station — Edges of Mars. A marvel of futuristic technology: sleek metallic surfaces, advanced life support, a thriving garden inside. A beacon of hope contrasting sharply with Earth's decay.

The Girls. Mia — human-like, in the space station cockpit. Sara — covered in metal and machinery on Earth. Their only connection: a communicator. Their conversation: ordinary. Pets, laughter, friendship. Humanity persisting.

RECOGNITION

11 Award Wins

- Madrid International Movie Awards — *Best Director*
- Seattle Independent Film Festival — *Best Experimental*
- Swedish International Film Festival
- Beyond the Curve International Film Festival, Paris
- 4th Dimension Independent Film Festival, Indonesia
- Medusa Film Festival, Las Vegas
- Lily Indie Film Fest, Ukraine
- Onyko Films Awards, Ukraine
- Kalakari Film Fest, India
- Cooper Awards
- Bestlov Film Festival

Finalist: NYC Independent Film Festival

Selected: Monthly Indie Shorts (NY), Winter Leopard (Ukraine), VIZ Film Fest, Belgrade International Film Festival, Red Movie Awards (Paris), Beyond the Flow (Paris)

PRODUCTION PIPELINES

Pipeline 1 — Dialogue Shots

Midjourney → Stable Diffusion → Photoshop → D-ID → Blender → Premiere Pro

Pipeline 2 — 3D Space Environments

Text Prompt → Blockade Labs → Photoshop → Unreal Engine → Characters + Animation → Premiere Pro

Audio Pipeline

Zoom → Adobe Podcast → Effects Layering → Premiere Pro → After Effects

PROMPT METHODOLOGY

38+ structured prompts across two character archetypes and five environment types. Each prompt versioned with explicit parameters:

- **Style:** Cyberpunk, Salvador Dali, Steampunk, Realistic CGI
- **Params:** --ar 16:9, --v 5.1, --s 1000, Octane render, depth of field, cinematic soft light
- **Iteration:** Systematic variable isolation — ethnicity, framing, implant style, room detail — with side-by-side comparison and change log
- **QA:** 100+ outputs evaluated; selects refined in Stable Diffusion and Photoshop before entering animation pipeline

TECHNOLOGY STACK

Image gen	Midjourney, Stable Diffusion
Face anim	D-ID
3D environ	Blockade Labs, Unreal Engine
3D animation	Blender
Post	Premiere Pro, After Effects, Photoshop
Audio	Zoom, Adobe Podcast
Output	4K, 16:9

Watch: vimeo.com/831411545 | **Portfolio:** kaleemaman.com | **Contact:** kaleemaman.88@gmail.com | **LinkedIn:** linkedin.com/in/aman-kaleem