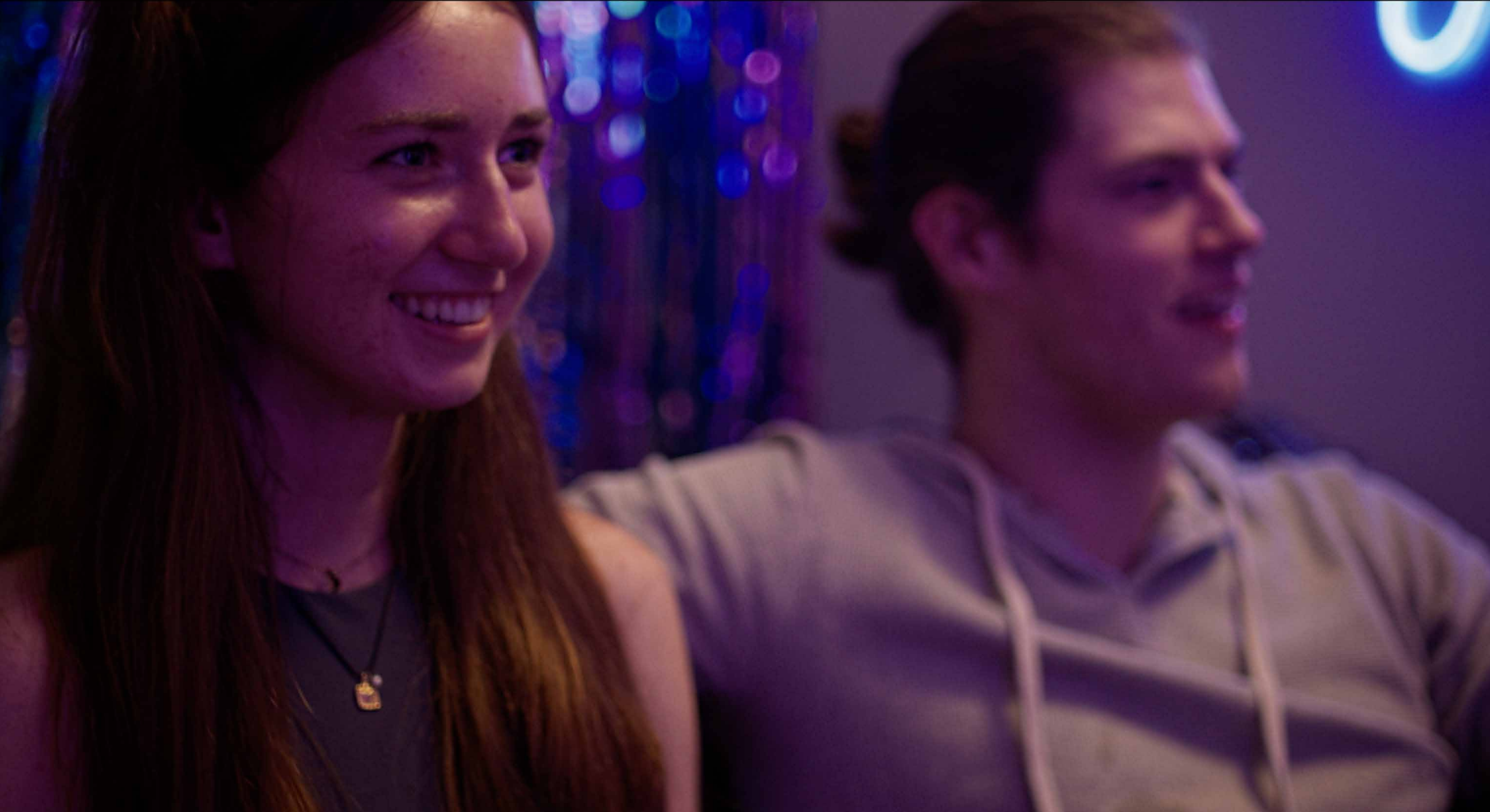




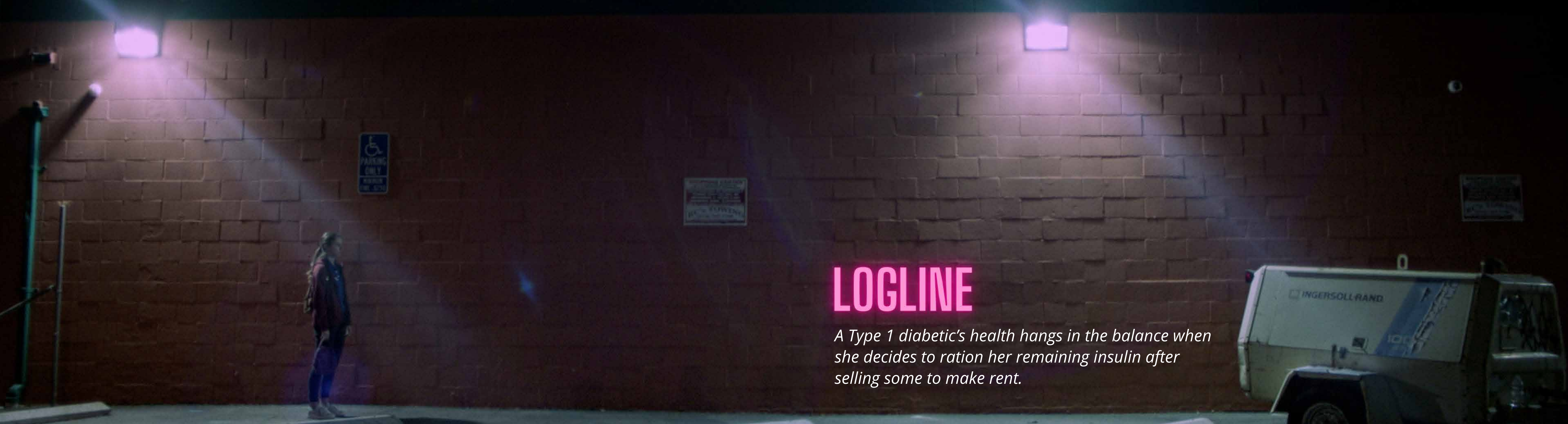
**JENNA** HAS TO **LIVE**

WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY **KATIE HOPKINS**





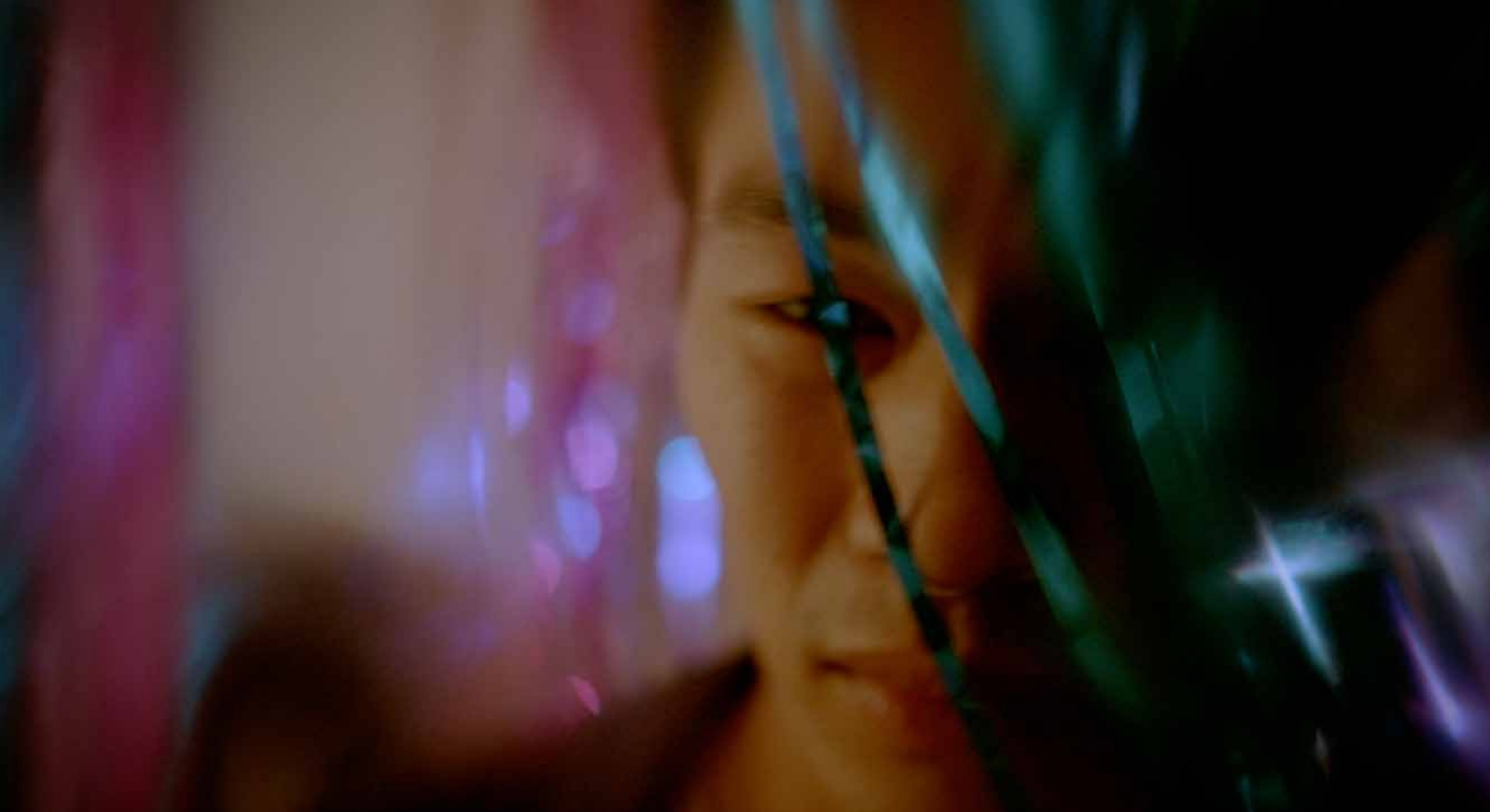




## LOGLINE

*A Type 1 diabetic's health hangs in the balance when she decides to ration her remaining insulin after selling some to make rent.*







# SYNOPSIS

*Jenna has Type 1 Diabetes and is about to be evicted from her apartment. To pay her rent she sells her insulin and rations what remains in increasingly reckless ways. When a well-meaning coworker, Julian, sees too much, Jenna throws up her guard. Can she hide her actions from being judged by Julian, or will her declining health give her away?*





# DIRECTOR

## KATIE HOPKINS

*Katie Hopkins (she/they) is a non-binary writer and director living in Los Angeles. The first movie she ever saw in theaters was Don Bluth's Thumbelina. According to her parents she stood up the entire time, enraptured by the story and images. Her enamor with film has not abated since.*

*The scope of Hopkins' storytelling is largely influenced by her own experiences of living as a queer individual with Type 1 Diabetes. She tells radically honest stories that explore disability, invisible illness, and generational trauma with the intent to normalize different ways of living and the idea that "it's okay not to be okay."*

*Instagram: @thekatiehopkins*  
*Website: hopsfilms.com*



# DIRECTOR'S

## STATEMENT

*"Jenna Has to Live" is my worst "What If..." scenario: what if I had to sell my insulin so that I could continue to afford an apartment?*

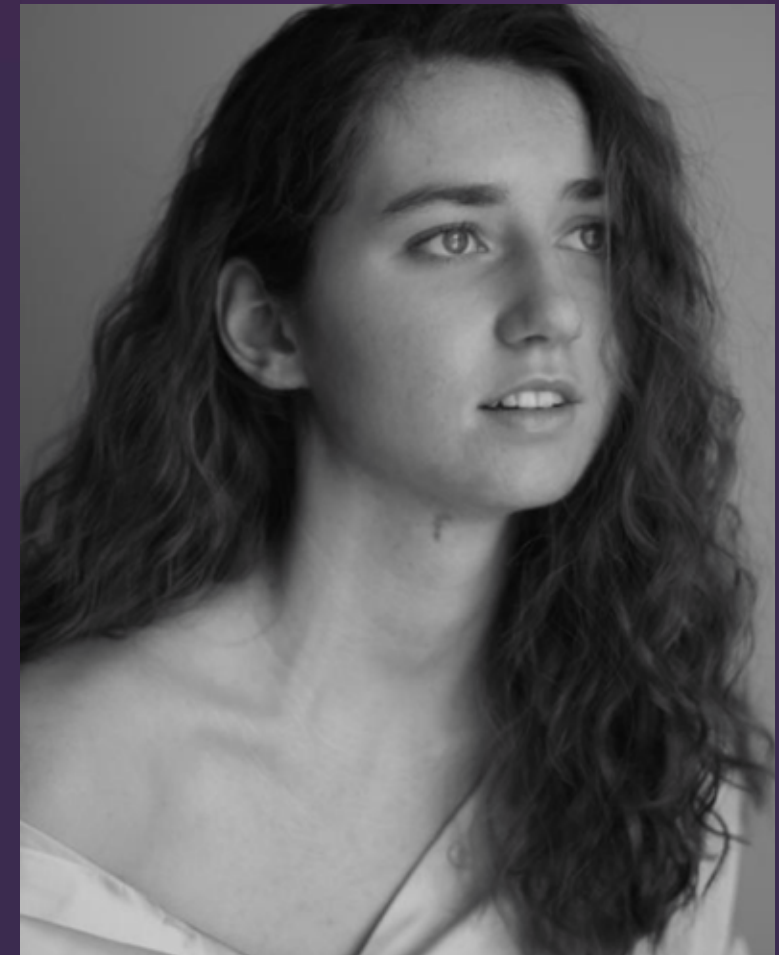
*While Jenna's insulin rationing journey may be fictional, it's all too often the reality of many diabetics in the US. I've never had to sell my insulin, but I have delayed picking it up from the pharmacy until my next paycheck comes in, or eaten less so that I used less. I think the idea of choosing between necessities speaks to many people in America, especially those with chronic illnesses and high healthcare costs. It's a mindset that sets us apart from those who have never had to worry about affording medications that are the difference between life and death.*

*At its core, "Jenna Has to Live" is about risking judgement by choosing to be vulnerable. Type 1 Diabetes is a disability that people still hold misconceptions about. Instead of knowing that it's an autoimmune disease that isn't contracted from a "poor lifestyle," people still think you get it from eating too much sugar, or being overweight. At parties, some get offended that I don't drink to excess because I don't want to risk a low blood sugar. I have to explain to friends that yes, I can eat that cupcake, and it doesn't mean I'm not taking my health seriously. After a while, it's easier to not explain so you don't risk wrongfully being seen as a poor caretaker of your own body. This is what Jenna fears Julian will judge her for if he finds out how must make ends meet.*

*As a director with Type 1 Diabetes, I hope that "Jenna Has to Live" challenges common misconceptions about the disability and spreads awareness about the high prices of insulin. I set out to bring a new tone to how Type 1 is portrayed on the big screen since it's easy (and lazy) for writers and directors without the disability to use it as a public joke. Though specific to Type 1 Diabetes, I believe that speaking up for one disability will help push forward more accommodations and changes for the entire disability community. So enjoy the film and take it to heart because everyone, including Jenna, has to live.*



# MEET THE CHARACTERS



## JENNA

Played by **Allison Walsh**, Jenna is a Type 1 Diabetic and independent to a fault. Used to judgment from others about her disability, she keeps everyone at a distance, but ultimately needs someone to help her truly live instead of just surviving.

@allisonstellawalsh

## JULIAN

Played by **Malik Guinn**, Julian is easy going and dependable, but naive about Jenna's struggles. He sees her as too serious for their age and wants to make her smile, but needs to truly step into her world to understand her.

@malikguinn



## SARAH

Elaine Young  
@elaine.j.young



## SAM

Connor Carlson  
@theconnorcarlson



## VIK

Tyler Yath  
@tyleryath



## MARY

Megan McGirr  
@megslee19



## JONATHAN

Kyd Kalin  
@kydkalin



## RON

Jason Songer Sr.  
@mrjaysong



# CREW

<b>Casting Director</b> Andrew Van Heusden	<b>Gaffer</b> Chris Pickering	<b>BTS Photographer</b> Eric Barragan	<b>Additional Voices</b> Augustus Bell (Landlord) Brian Reyes Aidan Smith-Fagan	<b>Donors</b> Dillard Brown Don & Mary Ellingsen Lynn Tracy The Hujets Ivan Salinas Carol Bruess Ryan Ovadia Maggie Hopkins Avery Montavon Carolyn Paplham Sarah Meiners Erin Guthrey Nicki Shockz Betsy McGuire	<b>Donors</b> John & Mary Lou Hopkins Mary Paplham The Romeros Shan Bryan-Hanson The Hagstroms Marilyn Wiseman April Beiswenger Samuel Hellman Sarah Meiners John Tracy Ryan Ovadia Stephanie Elmir Justin Whittingham Noura Alavi	<b>Donors</b> Tom & Merrilyn Fischer Matt & Dawn Fischer Joseph Schinkten Brian Pirman Chris Ayers Katie Ries Mike & Liz Fischer Kelsey Norton Aya Bispham James Neilson Sophia Costanzo Ahmed Fahim Abigail Hausman Donald Nam
<b>Executive Producer</b> Sasja Smith	<b>Script Supervisors</b> Kennedi Lurry Chris Isles	<b>Key Grip</b> Kendra Lee	<b>Set Teacher</b> Hannah Choi	<b>Special Thanks</b> Beth Dewey Michelle Amor Gillie Max Gleiser Vahan Bedelian Brian Kotowski Laura Greenlee Deb McClune Sophia Costanzo Andrew Van Heusden Anna Sitar	<b>Special Thanks</b> Healin Kweon Blake Williams Fiori van Rijswijk Adam Holguin Mary Kuryla Peter Soto Elise Dean Frank Hughes David Parrish Trapper Phillips	
<b>Producers</b> Dillard Brown Ryan Ovadia	<b>Production Assistant</b> Blanche Laurendie	<b>Grips</b> Dan Brown Troy Seals II	<b>Editor &amp; Sound Mixer</b> Katie Hopkins			
<b>Director &amp; Writer</b> Katie Hopkins	<b>Directors of Photography</b> Will Streissguth Owen Tait	<b>Production Designers</b> Melody Ni Alexa Feeney	<b>Sound Editor</b> Aidan Smith-Fagan			
<b>First Assistant Director</b> Sara Lighthart	<b>First ACs</b> Christian Tejeda Owen Markham	<b>Production Sound</b> Justin Whittingham	<b>Colorist</b> Jiyen Erincik	<b>Composer</b> John Lisi		





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written and directed by KATIE HOPKINS starring ALLISON WALSH and MALIK GUINN  
with MEGAN MCGIRR, JASON SONGER SR, ELAINE YOUNG, TYLER YATH, CONNOR CARLSON and KYD KALIN  
produced by SASJA SMITH 1st ad SARA LIGHTHART casting director ANDREW VAN HEUSDEN  
directors of photography WILL STREISSGUTH and OWEN TAIT edited by KATIE HOPKINS  
color by JIYAN ERINCIK sound designer AIDAN SMITH-FAGAN music composer JOHN LISI