



Sekantung Kebahagiaan

A Pocket Full of Sunshine



Credits

Director

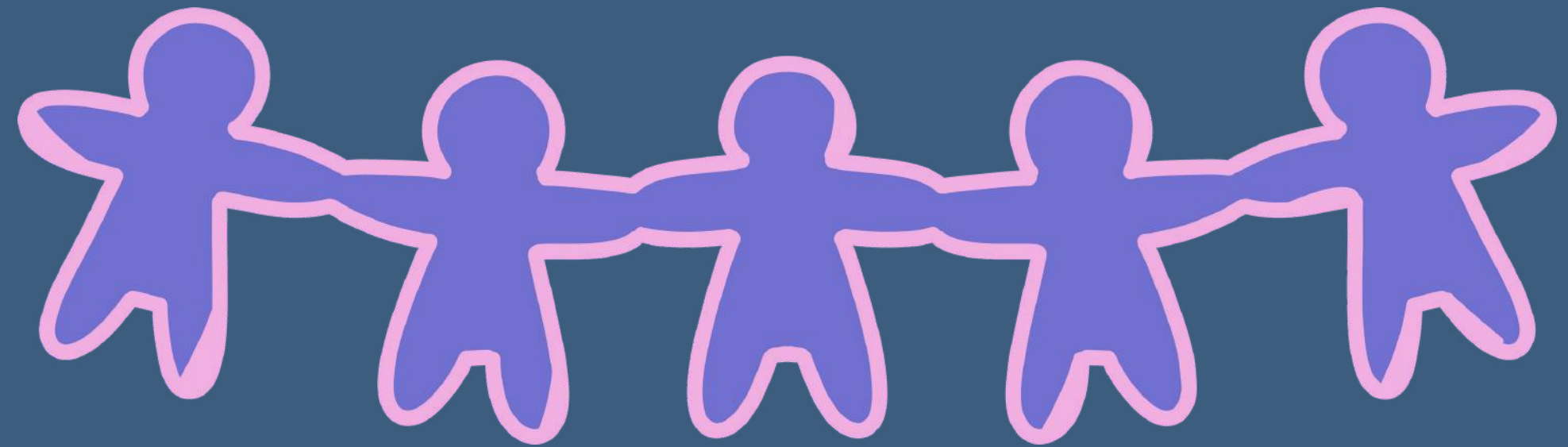
Beryl D. Restubumi

Producer

Syahidan Nur

Writer

Beryl D. Restubumi, Latifah Arlita Wirawan.



Project Information



ORIGINAL TITLE

Sekantung Kebahagiaan

ENGLISH TITLE

A Pocket Full of Sunshine

STATUS PROJECT

Draft Project

FILM TYPE

Fiction

LANGUAGE

Indonesia, English

ESTIMATED RUNNING TIME

15–25 minutes

PRODUCTION COUNTRY

Indonesia

GENRE

Drama / Psychological / Social
Realism

Project Details

LOGLINE

Salem (25), a non-binary former “gifted child” once celebrated as the pride of their low-income family, strives to secure stable work to pay off their family’s mounting debts. But worsening mental health, shaped by years of economic pressure and limited access to proper healthcare, stands in the way that pushing Salem toward a breaking point where survival and self-identity collide.

Project Details

SYNOPSIS

Salem (25, non-binary) grew up being told they were “the hope of the family” or “the trophy child” who studied hard, behaved well, made everyone smile, and carried the dreams their parents never had the chance to chase. But a mid-twenties crisis hits differently. The shine doesn’t protect them from burnout, and the applause they once received has long faded. Instead, they drift from one unstable job to another (job-hopping), living paycheck to paycheck, trying to stay afloat in waves of responsibility that never stop crashing. Their mental health worsens under the pressure, while the healthcare system keeps shutting them out. Piles of medical forms, rejection emails, and endless waitlists slowly drain the life out of them.

They try to get help (they really do). They fill out forms, wait in lines, sit in stiff chairs, and explain their symptoms to people who barely lift their eyes from their screens.

Yet every door closes in a way that feels painfully personal:

“Your name’s not on the list.”, “You need a referral.”, “Try again next month.”

With each rejection, **Salem** feels themselves shrinking, drifting further from the version of themselves everyone used to celebrate.

Then there's **Biru**, 22, chaotic, magnetic, unfiltered. A ride-or-die friend who jokes too loudly, steals lighters for fun, messy TikTok remixes at 3 a.m., and talks about the "27 club" like it's both a myth and a dare. He sees **Salem** slipping, the fatigue in their shoulders, the quiet in their voice, the panic in their silence.

One night, under the streetlights alley and a box of cheap cigarette smoke, he suggests something that feels like a solution and a warning at the same time:

"People out there need help. You have access to something they can't get. And you need money. Maybe this is how everyone gets to survive."

It sounds simple in the moment, until reality settles in. **Salem** hesitates, torn between fear, survival, and the ache of constantly being overlooked. But the emotional exhaustion, the pressure of supporting a fragile family structure, and the constant feeling of being invisible slowly pull them into a morally complicated space.

Their world begins to distort, some memories layered over present moments, identity splitting between who they were and who they're becoming. Some nights, **Salem** feels like they're offering compassion to people who have nowhere else to turn. Others, they feel like they're unraveling in slow motion. Guilt clings to them, but so does the relief of not suffocating under financial panic.

As this emotional weight builds, **Salem** starts to distance themselves from everything familiar, their family, expectations, the identity they once guarded like a fragile heirloom. In the silence that follows, they begin to imagine a different kind of life, one built gently, on their own terms. A life where they are allowed to be imperfect, confused, healing, and still worthy of love.

Their journey isn't a heroic rise nor a catastrophic fall. It's quieter than that, an unraveling, a confrontation, a slow rebuilding. A story about what it takes to remain human in a world that keeps asking you to disappear.

And somewhere in that fragile, tender in-between space, **Salem** finally asks the question no one ever taught them how to answer:

“If the world refuses to care for me... how do I learn to care for myself?”

Project Details

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

A **Pocket Full of Sunshine** is a story about the invisible burdens that often carried by younger generation that are rarely seen but felt deep to the bone. In this movie, I want to tell the journey of someone who, since childhood, was praised, celebrated, and made the family's "little sunshine," yet upon growing up, discovers a world far harsher and colder than they ever imagined.

Salem's path represents the emotional challenges many younger generation are facing today, especially those dealing with economic stress, unstable employment, and the difficult distance between needing help and receiving it. The film doesn't aim for a poverty glorification. But it will highlight the darker side where people endure when help is simply unavailable.

Salem itself is neither hero nor anti-hero. **Salem** is just an ordinary human being that trying to survive, even when everything is at its breaking point.

Project Details

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY & FILMOGRAPHY

Beryl D. Restubumi, an emerging Indonesian filmmaker whose work grows from lived experiences one of the mental illness survivor, economic pressure, that required to survive both of it. Before filmmaking, she worked as a graphic designer (where creative labor is too often overlooked or underpaid). Growing up with limited resources, invisible struggles, and no connections.

Despite all of these barriers, she stepped into the film industry with determination, starting as an art department crew member while dreaming of directing her own movie. Without formal film school background, she built her craft from the ground up, through sets, collaboration, observation, and grit.

A Pocket Full of Sunshine is her latest project for short film, a continuation of her commitment to telling intimate, emotionally honest stories about youth, identity, and the invisible battles that people carry alone.

SELECTED WORK'S

2025 - Puisi Cinta (Love Poem's)

2025 - Wali (Her Guardian)

2024 - Menabur Angin Menuai Badai (Sowing the Wind, Reaping the Storm)



Distribution Plan

1. Indonesian Premiere & National Circuit

The film will launch at a major Indonesian festival such as JAFF, Europe on Screen, Minikino Film Week, or 100% Manusia Film Festival, followed by screenings at Madani IFF, FFI Shorts, community cinemas (Kineforum, Indonesia Raja, Minikino), and regional film collectives.

2. Southeast Asian Festival Network

After its domestic run, the film will target SEA festivals including SGIFF, SeaShorts, Bangkok ASEAN Film Festival, and regional programs in Vietnam, Malaysia, and Cambodia.

3. Global & Award-Qualifying Festivals

The next phase targets international platforms including, Clermont-Ferrand, Rotterdam (IFFR), Berlinale Shorts, Locarno, Tampere, Uppsala, PÖFF Shorts, and Australian festivals such as MIFF, SFF, Flickerfest, and St Kilda will also be approached for broader industry exposure.

4. Thematic & Issue-Based Festivals

The film will circulate within mental health, identity, youth, and human-rights festivals, including: Scottish Mental Health Arts Festival, Reel Minds, Outfest, Frameline, Iris Prize, Queer Lisboa, and global youth-focused programs.

5. Educational & Community Distribution

After the primary festival run, the film will be screened through universities (psychology, gender studies, film), NGOs, mental health networks, and community spaces across Indonesia and ASEAN

6. Online Release (Final Stage)

The film will conclude its distribution with curated online platforms such as NOWNESS, Short of the Week, Vimeo Staff Picks, VidDsee, and eventually a free public release via YouTube Premiere or Vimeo, accompanied by mental-health resources and outreach content.

Let's connect

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