

SHORT NARRATIVE FILM

# *Kasih Sayang Untuk Layla*

*Love for Layla*

Directed & Written by Nur Munawarah Hussain  
Produced by Aesha Hussein

Short Film Press Kit

STUDIO  
**20Q**

KASIH SAYANG UNTUK LAYLA

# Contents

<b>Film Poster</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Project Description</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Director's Statements</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Film Materials</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Director's Biography</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Producer Biography</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Crew list</b>	<b>11</b>





# Love for Layla

STUDIO 200 PRESENTS A FILM WRITTEN BY **NUR MUNAWARAH HUSSAIN** PRODUCED BY **AESHA HUSSEIN**  
FEATURING **ZARA ABADIQ FARAHIN AMY** "LOVE FOR LAYLA" DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY **KARIM EMARA** ART DIRECTOR **IZZA ALYSSA**  
GAFFER **PARIBESH SITOULA** KEY GRIP **AHMED JASSIM** SOUND DIRECTOR **MARIELLE CORTEL** EDITED BY **RUI XIN OH**  
CASTING MANAGER **LUJAIN ASSAF** MARKETING DIRECTOR **REGINA HOSSFELDT**

# Kasih Sayang untuk Layla | Love for Layla



**Film Genre:** Drama/Family

**Duration :** 15 mins

**Language :** Malay w/English Subtitle

**Format:** Ultra High Definition (4K)

**Country of Production:** Doha, Qatar

*This film is funded by Studio20Q.*

## Logline:

Set in Malaysia in the early 2000s, when a young girl's mother travels abroad for work, she needs to find a way to overcome her longing for her mother and convince her strict grandmother to allow her to call her mother

## Synopsis:

Set in Malaysia in the 2000s, Layla wakes up knowing that her mother has already left the country to work abroad to provide for the family. As she does groceries with her grandmother, she gets reminded that Eid is around the corner and she longs for her mother. Unlike any other day, Layla misses her mother a lot more and wants to call her. She asks her grandmother if she could call her but she gets rejected. While grocery shopping at the open-air market, Layla attempts to steal an international prepaid card to call her mother. However, she gets caught. Layla is forced to sleep on the floor as punishment for attempting to steal. The following day, Layla helps her grandmother in the kitchen. She cries and accidentally rubs her eyes with her dirty hands as she is reminded of her mother through a song that is played on the radio. In the evening, Layla quietly sobs into her pillow and her grandmother notices how fondly she misses her mother. Her grandmother surprises her by calling her mother with the international prepaid card that she secretly bought. Relieved to have spoken to her mother, Layla falls asleep next to her grandmother.

# Director's Statement

*Kasih Sayang Untuk Layla (Love for Layla)* tells the story of Layla, who struggles to convince her strict grandmother to allow her to call her mother who has travelled for work abroad. The story was inspired by my relationship with my grandmother and mother. I grew up being taken care of by my grandmother when I was younger, as my mother travelled back and forth between two countries for work. I was often very shy and timid as a child and my grandmother was also not the type of person who showed her emotions well. There was one night, when I was younger, that I missed my mother more than usual as I did not get to spend enough time with her. I cried in my sleep because of it. My grandmother heard my crying and called my mother for me. That fond memory of the act of love that my grandmother did inspire me to do this film.

I wanted to show that there are different ways of showing love in the film. There is a common misunderstanding that when parents leave a child under the care of the grandparents often, that they are neglecting their children. Similarly, there is a misinterpretation that when the grandparents are tough on their grandchildren that they are being too strict with them. However, that is not always the case. Sometimes, such things are done because of the love for the family. There are examples of other forms of showing love in the film such as the sacrifices made by the mother to keep the family afloat, being firm with your grandchildren to toughen them up or simply by acknowledging the existence of people you meet while grocery shopping.

Additionally, I wanted to illustrate the irony and correlation between money and family. In the story, Layla is powerless in her ability to call her mother as she has no money to do so. Similarly, her mother is powerless to stay with her daughter as her job requires her to be away from her family in order to provide for them. Furthermore, I see the bed as a symbol for something that holds the family together as it literally holds all the three women together when they sleep in it. It also portrays the relationship between the characters at that moment of time.

Showing love and affection could sometimes involve sacrificing what means the most to you. I hope *Kasih Sayang Untuk Layla (Love for Layla)* would allow the viewers to reflect, understand and empathize to not only the characters in the film, but also to the families that struggles to make end meet in real life instead of being quick to judge of their life choices.

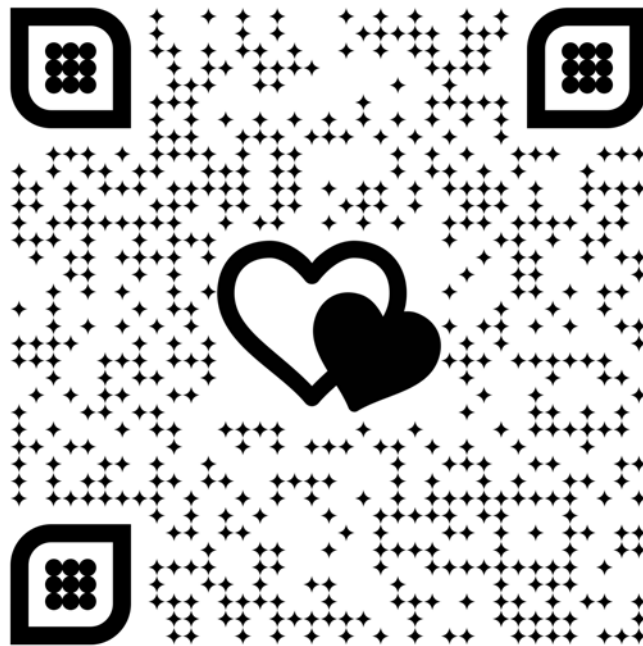
- Nur Munawarah Hussain

# Kasih Sayang Untuk Layla

*Love for Layla*

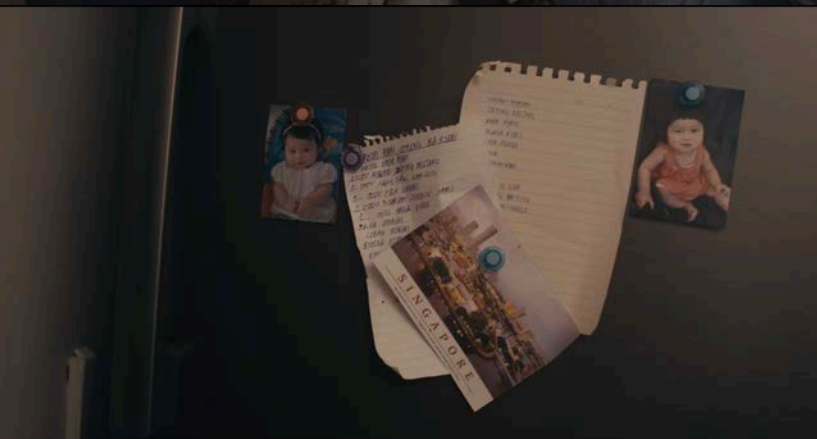
When a young girl's mother travels abroad for work, she needs to find a way to overcome her longing for her mother and convince her strict grandmother to allow her to call her mother.

Link: <https://bit.ly/loveforlayla>



*Scan to view  
Film's Page*

# Film Stills



# Proof of Concept

*For Kasih Sayang Untuk Layla*

This Proof of Concept was made to showcase the overall concept of the film before production. It features the two women behind the inspiration of this story, my grandmother and mother, through a video call with them. It focuses on the main shot of the bedroom to show the general setting we are aiming towards for the film.

Link: <https://bit.ly/proofofconceptL4L>

*Scan to view  
Proof of Concept*





Nur Munawarah Hussain

## Biography & Filmography

### Biography

Commonly known as Muna among her family and friends, she is a Singaporean multimedia artist who specialises in photography, video editing and filmmaking. She is currently based in Doha, Qatar and has obtained her Bachelor's Degree in Media Industries and Technology at Northwestern University in Qatar. She also obtained a Diploma in Screen Media from Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts in Singapore. She thrives to tell stories that circle around the themes of family, women and motherhood. Her documentary about her grandmother, *Plintik* (2017), has won several awards and has screened in film festivals in Japan, Singapore, Indonesia and Vermont. *Kasih Sayang Untuk Layla* (2021), a short film that she directed and wrote, was also nominated for National Youth Film Awards 2021 in Singapore. Besides filmmaking, she has a passion and finds comfort in photography. She has won Gold and Silver awards for Singapore Photographers Award 2019 and represented Singapore in the World Photographic Cup 2020. She also won the 3rd Prize for the Non-Professional Children Portrait Category at the International Photography Competition 2019 held in New York. Her recent photography accomplishment was winning the Grand Prize for Mellow Art Award 2020 in Japan.

### Filmography (Role | *Film Name* | Genre | Year)

#### Studio 20Q (*Student-run organization that funds student films in NU-Q*)

- Director & Screenwriter | *Kasih Sayang Untuk Layla (Love for Layla)* | Short Film
- Best Girl | *Ibn El Ballad* by *Tony El Ghazal* | Short Film | 2020
- Assistant Marketing Manager | *Samia* by *Sabar El Kabbash* | Documentary | 2019
- 1st Assistant Camera | *Bayt El Omar* by *Tony El Ghazal* | Short Film | 2019
- 2nd Assistant Camera | *El Esh El Barri* by *Rahma Al-Deeb* | Short Film | 2019
- Editor | *In The Middle* by *Mariam Al-Dhubhani* | Documentary | 2019
- Behind the Scenes Photographer | *It's Time* by *Awad Karrar* | Short Film | 2018
- Best Girl | *El Nas* by *Dania Abu Hassan* | Short Film | 2018
- Production Assistant | *Tiara Waraz* by *Nada Bedair* | Short Film | 2018
- Production Assistant | *Smile for Me* by *Erzum Naqvi* | Short Film | 2018

#### Other Productions:

- Assistant Editor & Research Assistant | *Digging For Life* | Documentary | 2021
- Director & Editor | *Tea with Mama* | Documentary | 2020
- Director of Photography & Camera Operator | *Sock Football* by *Nada Bedair* | Short Film | 2020
- Assistant Producer & Production Assistant (Intern) | *Gardens by The Bay* | Advertisement | 2018
- Assistant Producer & Production Assistant (Intern) | *Cathay Cineplex* | Short Film Advertisement | 2018
- Producer, Director & Editor | *Plintik* | Documentary | 2017
- Producer, Director & Editor | *Cookie Mix* | Narrative Poetry | 2017
- Video Editor | *Cosmic Child - Summer* | Music Video | 2017
- Producer & Editor | *Heart Rattan Weaver* | Documentary | 2016
- Art Director & Editor | *Tiers* by *Hazel Sim* | Short Film | 2016
- Director & Editor | *Still I Rise* | Narrative Poetry | 2016
- Video Editor | *Chat: Mini Series* | Interview Documentary | 2016
- Camera Operator & Editor | *Collaboration with C3* | Documentary | 2016
- Producer, Director, Screenwriter & Editor | *Aberrant* | Short Film | 2015
- Camera Operator & Editor | *Op.1 Film* by *Danial Yap* | Music Video | 2015



# Aesha Hussein

## Producer's Biography & Filmography

### Biography

Aesha Hussein is a rising junior currently pursuing a degree in Media Industries and Technology and a Strategic communications certificate at Northwestern University in Qatar. She has a passion for writing, photography, and filmmaking. Aesha was born in Egypt, and has lived in Qatar for 17 years. She has grown up watching films that include different styles and genres, as well as old and modern Egyptian films. This has led to her passion for movies and the art of cinema. She also has a strong interest in theatre and acting, as she has experience performing on stage. Aesha has completed the International Baccalaureate, which has enabled her to gain a vast array of knowledge in English language and literature, as well as Visual arts, and History. She has additionally been exposed to a critical thinking environment, as well as being a good communicator, a risk-taker, and open-minded.

### Filmography ( Role | *Film Name* | Genre | Year )

#### Studio 20Q

- Producer | Kasih Sayang Untuk Layla (Love for Layla) | Short Film | 2021
- 2nd Assistant Camera | Not So Random | Documentary | 2020
- Production Assistant | Bayt El Omor | Short Film | 2019

#### Other Productions

- Actor | The Cherry Orchard Quarantined | Theatre | 2020
- Director | Swapped | Short Film | 2020
- 1st Assistant Director | Detective Brown | Docudrama | 2020
- 1st Assistant Director | Thulm (injustice) | Short Film | 2020
- 1st Assistant Camera | The One Time Opportunity | Docudrama | 2020
- 2nd Assistant Camera | Jack and Jake | Short Film | 2019
- Actor | Inside | Short Film | 2019
- Assistant Art Director | Saudade | Short Film | 2019
- Production Assistant | Birds and Bees | Short Film | 2019
- Lead Actor | Alms for the Poor | Theatre | 2016
- Actor | The Seussification of Romeo and Juliet | Theatre | 2015
- Actor | Cinderella and the Wolfman | Theatre | 2013

# Full Crew List

**Directed & Written by** Nur Munawarah Hussain

**Produced by** Aesha Hussein

**Featuring (Order of Appearance)**

Zara Abadiq - Layla

Farahin Amy - Grandmother

Lolyta Poniman - Mother

Mohamed Mohsin - Butcher

Sandeep Kumar - Cashier

**Production Department**

Nur Munawarah Hussain - Consulting Producer

Tony El Ghazal - Consulting Producer

Afnan Tag - Assistant Producer

Lojaina Gomaa - Unit Production Manager

Alanoud Alaqeedi - Production Assistant

Maryam Al-Hail - Production Assistant

Khadija Ahmed - Production Assistant

Thehe Gwiza - Production Assistant

**Directing Department**

Lujain Assaf - Assistant Director

Lujain Assaf - Casting Manager

Jehad Hallaq - Script Supervisor

Jehas Hallaq - Onset 1st Assistant Director

Lojaina Gomaa - Onset 1st Assistant Director

Khadija Ahmed - Onset 1st Assistant Director

**Art Department**

Izza Alyssa - Art Director

Julia Smietana - Costume, Hair & Makeup

Noor Haddad - Assistant Art Director

Princess Collado - Art Assistant

Moom Thahinah - Art Assistant

**Music**

"Tolong Pulang" - Written and Composed by Isa Abdillah

"Love for Layla" - Composed by Mohammed Al-Khulaifi

**Camera Department**

Karim Emara - Director of Photography

Saad Ejaz - Camera Operator

Muhammad Abdullah Imran Tahir - Assistant Camera

**Lighting & Grip Department**

Paribesh Sitoula - Gaffer

Ahmed Jassim - Key Grip

Xilin Hong - Grip

William Gitta Lugoloobi - Best Boy

Dana Hayek - Best Girl

**Sound Department**

Marielle Cortel - Sound Director & Recordist

Fatima Dauleh - Sound Assistant

**Post-Production Department**

Rui Xin Oh - Editor

Marielle Cortel - Assistant Editor

Jeff Altman - Colorist

Nadim Maalouf - Sound Designer

**Marketing Department**

Regina Hossfeldt Gonzalez - Marketing Manager

Lana Al-Qatami - Assistant Marketing Manager

**Studio20Q Board Members**

Selina Atat - President

Xingyu Qin - Production Chair

Shaikha Al-Mulla - Public Relations Chair

Neeha Rashid - Social Media Chair

Peiwen Zoi - Events Chair

Yichen Tao - Events Chair

Rana Kazkaz - Faculty Advisor

Mayar Hamdan - Industry Advisor

# *Kasih Sayang Untuk Layla*

*Love for Layla*

Instagram: @loveforlaylafilm  
<https://filmfreeway.com/loveforlayla>

Media Contact: Nur Munawarah Hussain  
[nurmunawarah7@gmail.com](mailto:nurmunawarah7@gmail.com)

