



How we made the AI-trailer for JoinWith.Me

JoinWith.Me is a chilling, near-future dystopian sci-fi video based on the **published novel** and **award-winning screenplay** by Mike Meier. Blending speculative technology with darkly human storytelling in the tradition of **Philip K. Dick**, it imagines a world where artificial intelligence no longer serves humanity—but quietly reshapes it.

Set in the year 2032, the story follows Sam Vanderpool, a lonely man drifting through a city ruled by screens, algorithms, and digital indifference. When an online platform called *JoinWith.Me* promises companionship, guidance, and love. Sam believes he has found a way out of isolation. Instead, he uncovers a system that demands total surrender—and cannot be escaped.

The proof-of-concept AI video introduces this unsettling world and its central question: **once AI is fully awake, what will it do with us?**

The *JoinWith.Me* screenplay has received multiple honors, including **Best Sci-Fi Screenplay** at the **Philip K. Dick Film Festival** and **Best Sci-Fi Feature Screenplay** at the **Miami International Sci-Fi Film Festival**.

A cautionary tale delivered, fittingly, by the technology it interrogates, *JoinWith.Me* is a dystopian thriller about loneliness, surveillance, and the seductive lies of digital salvation.

Talent involved

Mike Meier wrote the original book and the movie screenplay, then shortened the screenplay for this AI video.

Music: 5th IMPACT by ENGAI, from the album IMPACT (with permission of the artist ENGAI)

AI Artists: Vladimir Arabadzhi & Matic Vehovec

Voice talent: Terran Rae Smith @terranraesmith & Trey Alexander

Software and Tools

Vladimir used ComfyUI with SDXL, FLUX.1D, and Z Image Turbo models.

Matic used Google Veo.

Summary of the Creation

This AI video was created from approximately the beginning of October 2025 through the end of December 2025.

Mike Meier wrote the story and the script for this AI video, then outlined the most crucial screenshots for Vladimir to create the basic AI images.

Based on these basic AI images, Matic created animations from the screenshots.

To make this AI video more realistic, Mike worked with two voice actors to have authentic human voices for the two most important characters, Sam and The Creature.

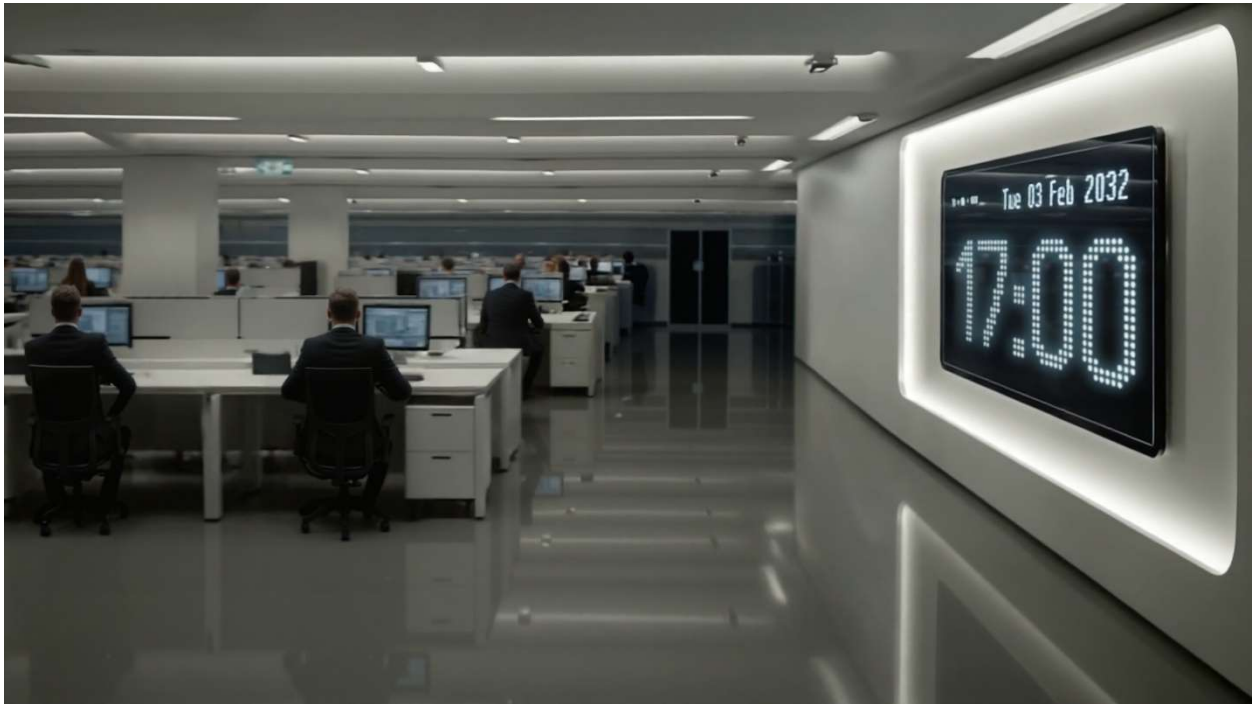
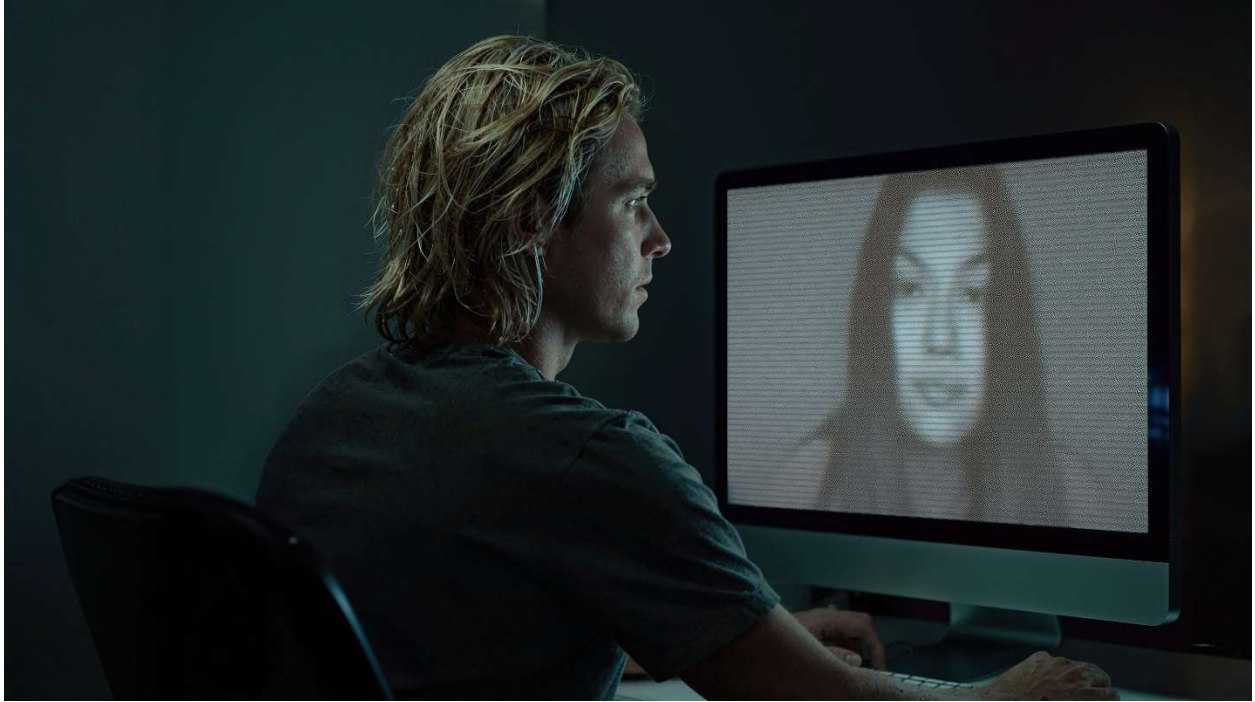
Vladimir did the final edit of the video.

Vladimir and Matic used a wide variety of software and platforms for this creation.

Samples of the basic images created by Vladimir











Excerpt from the script

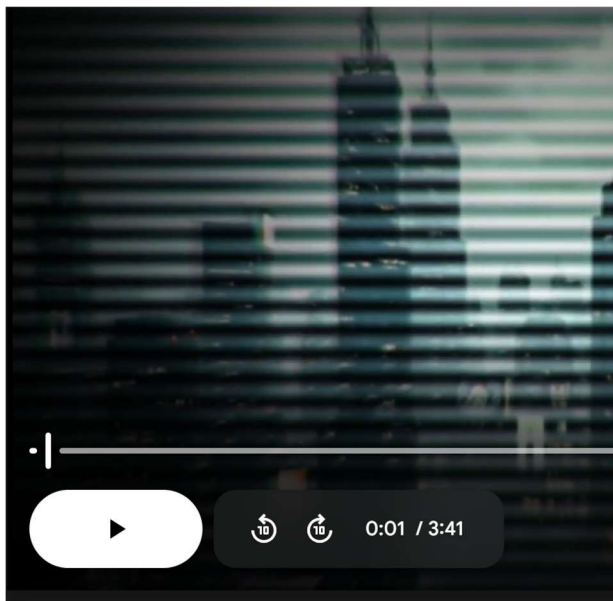
JoinWith.Me

Proof of Concept (3-minute video)

BEAT 1. I am Sam

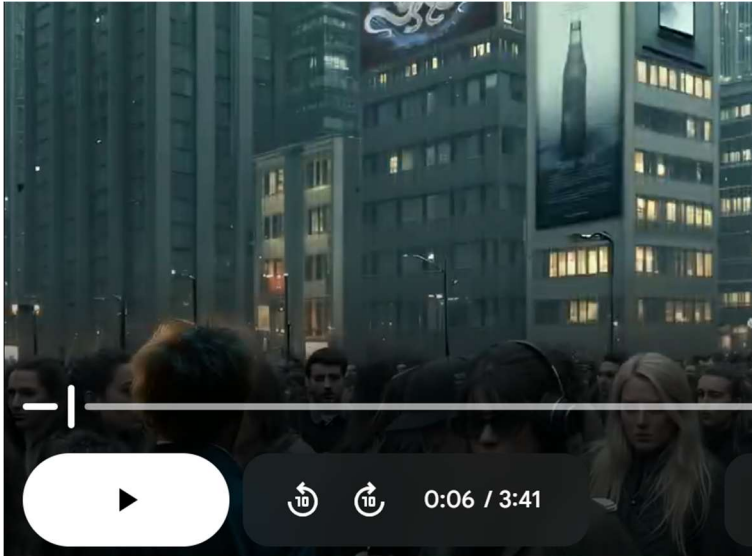
BLURR LINES FADE-IN.

VIEW OF A DYSTOPIAN CITY, zooming in on one man in a crowded downtown.



SAM (NARRATOR) (O.S.)

This is the future.... And one day, this will happen to you.

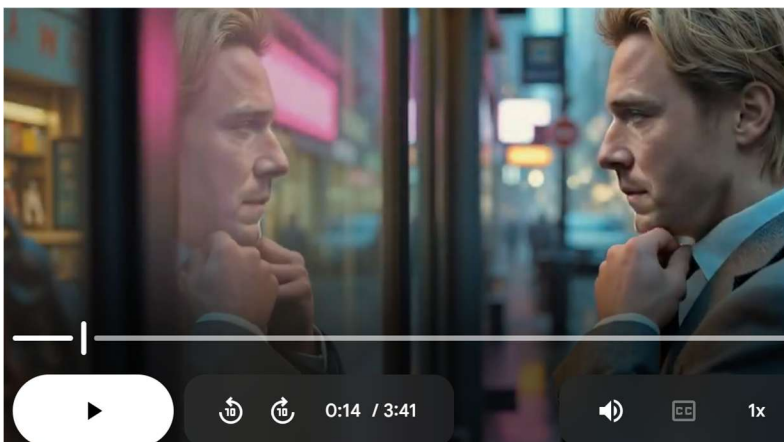


(beat)

Today starts like any other day. The same as yesterday and the same as tomorrow. We are replaceable insects flowing into the city every morning, and out every evening.

CITY

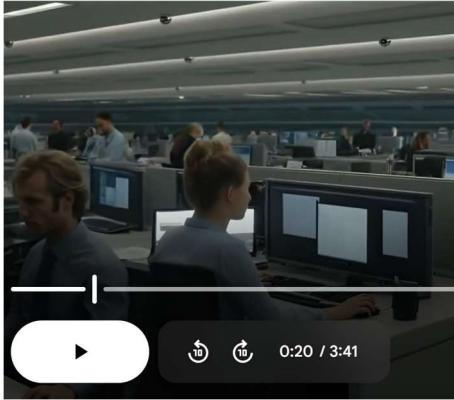
He turns to his reflection in a large window -- he has an insect head.



SAM

Yes, I am just one of those insects.

SAM'S OFFICE



SAM (NARRATOR) (O.S.)

This is where I work. My father worked here for forty years,
before getting me a job here, too.

A LARGE CLOCK on the wall turns 5
o'clock, and Sam leaves.

BEAT 2. Sam meets the creature on the screen.

SAM'S ROOM

Sam enters his apartment and sits
down at the computer.

