

Node

A SARA KIRBY FILM



Sara Kirby
Writer/Director
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Cole Ashlynn Wells
Producer
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Title: Node
Genre: Drama
Country: USA
Production Year: 2025
Language: English
Duration: 21:04
Aspect Ratio: 1.85:1
Sound Mix: Stereo

COLE ASHLYNN WELLS PRESENTS A SARA KIRBY FILM "NODE"
FEATURING ELLISON PIPE ESTELLE SKINNER DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY DOMINIK CZACZYK EDITED BY CLARE LARSEN PRODUCTION DESIGNER KATIE WAGNER
COSTUME DESIGNER LYDIA WELP HAIR AND MAKEUP NATASHA SHALLBETTER PHOTOGRAPHY BY MARIE DOMINIQUE VERDIER WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY SARA KIRBY

A young girl with a shaved head is sitting on a bed in a bedroom. She is wearing large black headphones and looking at a pink laptop on her lap. The room is dimly lit with warm light from bedside lamps. There are various items on the bed, including pillows and blankets. On the nightstand to the right, there is a lamp, a doll, and a bowl. A window with purple curtains is visible in the background.

LOGLINE/SYNOPSIS

A young girl diagnosed with cancer in a small Idaho town explores her feelings on mortality, self-acceptance, and the importance of family. Through her innocent yet profound perspective, NODE uses tender vignettes to open a dialogue on facing hardship and leaning on those around you.



Ellison Pipe (Sara)

Ellison is an up and coming young actress from Seattle. She fell in love with the industry when she filmed a background role in the Hallmark TV movie, *Campfire Romance* in the spring of 2022. Since then, she has filmed multiple commercials, web series and feature films. Ellison first started gaining attention with the popular vertical drama, *Breaking the Ice*, quickly followed by her first lead role in *Awesomest Christmas Ever*. She has multiple projects releasing in 2025 including; *The Disappearance of Violet Willoughby*, *A Song for Gran* (where she got to work alongside her real-life sibling, Camden Pipe), *The Last Rung on the Ladder* and *Node*.

Estelle Skinner (Leah)

In her acting debut, Estelle was discovered through an open call where she submitted for *Node* with an audition scene and a “get to know me” video. Estelle was the perfect embodiment of the character, Leah and has been inspired from this experience to continue pursuing acting on stage and on screen.





August Gladstone (Dad)

August Gladstone is a Performer, Writer, Poet and Troubadour. He's used his theatrical upbringing (on Broadway at age six) to craft absurd comedies, writing and performing across the country under manifold mediums including an appearance in the 2024 Netflix is a Joke Comedy Festival. His independently produced pilot, THE LAW BROTHERS garnered laurels in several comedy competitions and just concluded a festival run. An award-winning poet, he's been published by Pa'Lante!, Winged Moon, Inlandia and more. As a lyricist, he's written for members of Supertramp, Crowded House and Ringo's All-Stars. His debut EP, COMMODORE, released in July 2025. August is a 2025 Woodstock-Byrdcliffe Guild Artist in Residence.





Sara Kirby
Director, Writer, Actress

Sara Kirby is a French-American filmmaker of many talents. Since 2017, Kirby has been working behind the scenes on shorts, features, and music videos functioning as production assistant, director's assistant, and script supervisor. Her dedication and love of film is reflected in all her work. Her experience with cancer as a child and the correlation to the topic in media prompted her to write a script that outlines a different kind of experience. "I think it's important for families going through a similar situation to see a story that brings hope and humor to something that can be terrifying".

Cole Ashlynn Wells
Producer

Cole Wells is a development-focused producer drawn to character-driven, intimate storytelling. She works closely with directors to guide projects from early development through post-production, with a focus on emotional clarity and cohesion. Cole's collaboration with director Sara Kirby on NODE is rooted in a long-standing friendship and shared conversations around cancer, film, and the importance of telling stories with care. Having dealt with cancer's presence in her family, Cole is especially attuned to the small, human moments that bring levity and truth to difficult experiences.



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Childhood Cancer has always been a difficult subject to address. Whether it's a personal experience with a loved one or a portrayal in TV and Film, many people find it uncomfortable to talk about openly. It often evokes strong emotions, given its profound impact on the lives of families and communities. Despite this discomfort, it's crucial to engage in conversations about childhood cancer to raise awareness and promote understanding.

NODE is my personal story of going through cancer at 11 years old. I wrote the script using memories I have from the time. It started as a slow process, writing a memory every so often, till I realized I had twelve pages; which was almost a short! For me, it's important to share this story from a fresh perspective. Most people are affected by cancer in one way or another. I want families going through a similar situation to see a story that's not just heartbreaking, but has humor and hope mixed in. This comes from the film being centered on the children and what they see. As a kid I didn't even know what cancer meant, it didn't have the weight and panic that comes from the word as an adult. I think this helped me not worry so much. There were still very difficult times and it introduced me to the world of sickness and death as a young kid, but that also gave me perspective in my own life on what's important and not to take anything or anyone for granted. I hope NODE shares a slice of life that is relatable and inspiring to those facing challenges.

Our goal is to initiate and encourage open dialogues about childhood cancer, breaking down barriers of discomfort and fostering a more supportive environment. By bringing more awareness to the children who are battling this disease, we hope to inspire action, whether through increased funding for research, improved support systems, or simply a greater understanding of the challenges that I faced as a child, and that countless children still face now.

Sara Kirby, Writer/Director



LINKS

Production Stills

Behind the Scenes Photos