DRAMA · FEATURE FILM

The Climate Kids

Five freshmen. One impossible problem.

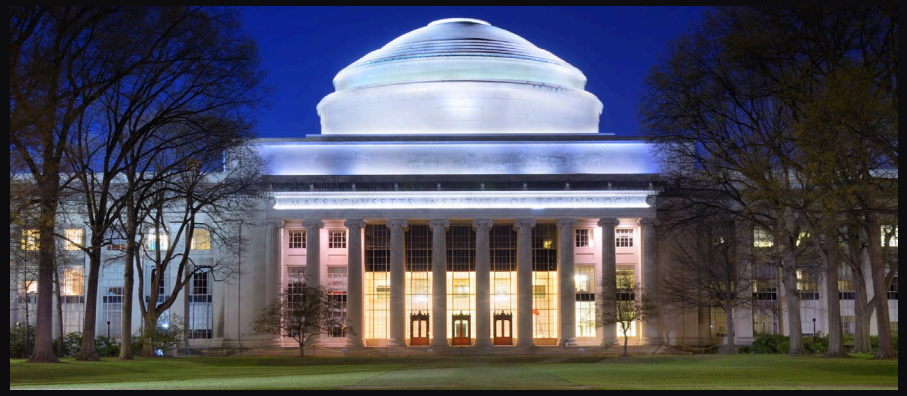
Written by Glenn Weinreb



LOGLINE

A feature film about five MIT freshmen who decide the adults do not have a plan for solving climate.

So they decide to build one themselves.



BILLIONS TO SAVE TRILLIONS

The climate kids develop an entirely new approach to climate, one that might be referred to as "an engineered approach". This entails identifying the speed and scale required to bend the global warming curve, and the R&D needed to make green energy cost less than fossil fuel so that it moves forward naturally. They meet with Professor Stone, former U.S. Secretary of Energy.

Q: Is it possible for a few freshmen to solve the climate problem, and if so, how?
A: You have more power than you know.
Q: Tell us about our secret power?
A: Billions of additional dollars for R&D can be justified if they save trillions of dollars in future climate-related costs. "Billions to save trillions."
Q: What might be developed that is not already being worked on?
A: Ask professors. Record answers. Design a "Climate R&D Moonshot." Give the documentation away for free.

SOLVING CLIMATE

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Q: How many large nuclear reactors would need to be built to bend the global warming curve?

A: Roughly 9,000.

Q: How many are currently being built each year worldwide?

A: Roughly 10.

Q: What would it take to increase construction significantly?

A: Develop custom machines that automate nuclear site construction. The point is not “build one reactor.” The point is to design a system that facilitates building thousands, driven forward by a desire to save money.

Q: Are there other options?

A: We can reflect a small amount of sunlight back into outer space, to offset global warming. However, this would require a massive surge in R&D to figure how to do this at a reasonable cost and without harm.

EVERYTHING FALLS APART . . . THEN THE BREAKTHROUGH

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The kids put their Climate R&D Moonshot proposals on the internet. Almost nobody notices.

Classes are slipping. Homework is piling up. They are exhausted, broke, and have no authority. They begin wondering whether five freshmen have any business trying to change the world.

Then a popular climate YouTuber discovers their work and publishes a video that eventually reaches Bill Gates's family.

Bill Gates's 18-year-old granddaughter becomes captivated by the idea and asks Grandpa for $25 million to get this started. He responds, "Of course, sweetie."

Soon, black SUVs arrive at the MIT dorm. The Climate Kids are flown to Seattle, WA.

The generational theme comes full circle: five 18-year-olds build the plan,
and another 18-year-old puts money behind it.

Who is more likely to succeed — several clear-eyed kids aided by AI— or millions of confused adults?

CHARACTERS

They are not superheroes. They are freshmen.

Nancy

THE LEADER

Brilliant, energetic, and increasingly
Unwilling to accept vague answers.

Maya

THE BUSINESS BRAIN

Costs, incentives, management, and
What people will actually do.

Ethan

THE ENGINEER

Machines, systems, construction,
And quantitative tradeoffs.

Sam

THE NERVOUS ONE

Smart enough to understand
everything that could go wrong.

Leo

THE COMIC

Skateboarder, wise guy, and good at
recognizing systems that make no sense.



Field trip to Hanscom Air Force Base

A SERIOUS STORY IN A FUN WORLD

A feature film about five 18-year-old MIT freshmen who decide the adults don't have a plan for solving climate, so they build one themselves.

The foreground is serious: five students are trying to understand one of civilization's hardest problems.

The background is college: freshmen dance on trains, skateboards fly through hallways, students build ridiculous machines, and pre-meds perform unsolicited medical examinations.

Nobody thinks any of this is particularly unusual.

The movie combines: climate + AI + college comedy + youthful optimism.



Dance on the train.



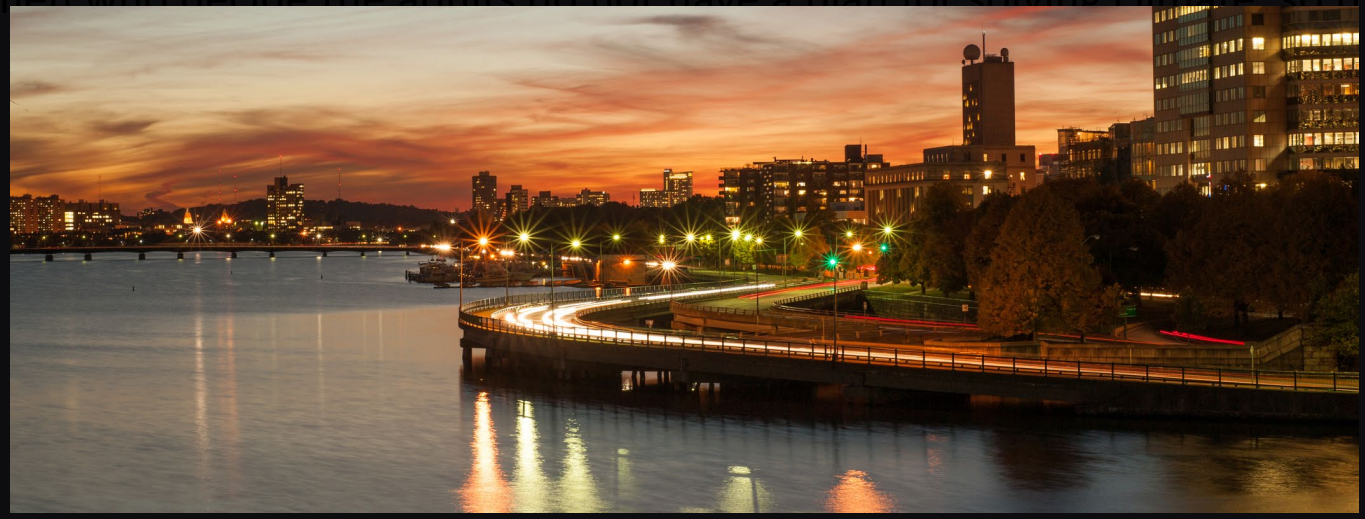
Build ridiculous machines.



Shooting flaming tennis balls at Revere Beach

THIS IS NOT YOUR TYPICAL CLIMATE FILM

A feature film about five 18-year-old MIT freshmen who decide the adults do not have a plan for solving climate, so they build one themselves.



This movie is *not* about oil companies, conservative lawmakers, or climate deniers. Instead, it is about the adults and institutions responsible for solving climate. The freshmen conclude they are confused. More specifically, they do not articulate a realistic plan for solving the problem, they do not quantify the impact of climate initiatives, they do not favor the lowest-cost approach, they rely on consumers paying more for green energy when they don't benefit, and they focus on CO_2 emissions while ignoring the broader global warming problem.

So, the freshmen start with a blank piece of paper, they calculate what it takes to solve climate, and they identify the R&D needed to move it forward.

PROJECT STATUS

A feature film about five 18-year-old MIT freshmen who decide the adults do not have a plan for solving climate, so they build one themselves.

Feature screenplay substantially complete. Approximately 2-hour current story structure. Seeking experienced film partners for further development and production. The screenplay ends not with the students claiming to solve climate, but with them creating a credible process for getting serious people to work on the whole problem.

The underlying Climate R&D Moonshot concepts are based on real-world open-source work:

https://www.aplantosavetheplanet.org/cmp

An engineered approach to climate is summarized here:

https://www.ma2life.org/g/cm/an_engineered_approach_to_climate-1m-ask.pdf

Screenplay:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1UyEyyGock43PQpnMMcEmq_94gy4m3GHI

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