

# Even When I Fall

2017, 93 minutes

## SYNOPSIS

Sheetal and Saraswoti met as teenagers in a Kathmandu refuge, survivors of child trafficking to corrupt Indian circuses and brought back across the border to a Nepal they could barely remember.

EVEN WHEN I FALL traces their journey over 6 years as they confront the families that sold them, seek acceptance within their own country and begin to build a future. They struggle against the odds and without education, but inadvertently these girls were left with a secret weapon by their captors - their breath-taking skills as circus artists. With 11 other young trafficking survivors, Sheetal and Saraswoti form Circus Kathmandu – Nepal's first and only circus. As they take the bold step of bringing an unrecognised art form to the stages of Nepal, they simultaneously challenge the deep-seated stigma against trafficked women.

They discover the courage to perform in front of growing crowds, but unexpectedly they also find the strength and will to address their past. We travel with them as they piece together broken memories in the rich beauty of the Kathmandu Valley, through the dusty poverty-stricken border towns of the Terai plains and finally to the bright lights of the famous Big Top at Glastonbury Festival. Through this personal journey they discover a sense of responsibility that comes with the stage – to use the crowd's rapt attention to spread a message – to educate against modern slavery.

When the devastating earthquakes hit Nepal they are drawn back to face its challenges with a new resolve.

An intimate, beautiful film that harnesses the visual power of circus to give a unique perspective into the complex world of human trafficking.

## NOMINATIONS

Nominated for the Discovery Award, British Independent Film Awards 2017  
Nominated for the Tim Hetherington Award, Sheffield Doc/Fest 2017  
Nominated for the Feature Documentary Award, One World Media Awards 2018

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lfBcNUoouCM&feature=youtu.be>

Website: <https://evenwhenifall.com/>



Even When I Fall (2017)

# Even When I Fall

2017, 93 minutes

## RESOURCES

[Even When I Fall Review - Remarkable Trafficking Documentary by The Guardian](#)

[Even When I Fall Review - The Most Feelgood Film of the Week by the Financial Times](#)

[Even When I Fall - Sheffield Review via ScreenDaily](#)

[Even When I Fall Review: A Big Enough Tent for All via Flick Filosopher](#)

[Sight & Sound Magazine](#)

## CONVERSATION QUESTIONS

1. Whose different voices do we hear throughout the film? What different insights do we gain from each of these? Which voices gave you perspectives you hadn't thought about before?
2. Directors Sky Neal and Kate McLarnon reflect on the documentary process: "The film we've made is not black and white but it gives us a glimpse into the changing lives of some amazing young men and women, whose skill and resilience we found incredible to witness. Instead of great declarations we have awkward silences, undercurrents of memory and distress, the slow building of trust and resolve." How do you see "human resilience" as portrayed in the protagonists of this film, and does it change or build over time?
3. How can the film itself work as an advocacy tool?
4. How do the filmmakers challenge the media's common tendency to victimise survivors of human trafficking and deny them any form of agency?

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lfBcNUoouCM&feature=youtu.be>

Website: <https://evenwhenifall.com/>



Even When I Fall (2017)