

# EDITORIAL

There was a time when I used to write poetry, and my first proper poem was titled "Friends". Written in childish handwriting and blue ink on the back page of a notebook, the poem was a happy-go-lucky attempt at showing appreciation towards friendship. How it's the best feeling, how much I love my friends, and all that jazz. That was almost 15 years ago.

Where are the friends I'd written about? They're there.

Are we still friends? Yes, and no.

Have I made newer friends? Again. Yes, and no.

Like most relationships in life, friendships are bound to experience its journey full of interactions, contemplations, evolutions, and more. As an adult, burdened with work and responsibilities, my definition of friendship has probably shrunk or become more compact.

This week on SHOUT, we take a look at how we explore friendship as adults. Personally, I often feel friendships bring us to a fork in the road of life. Many love to give their all to meeting new people and forming new bonds, while others may prefer to keep their circles small and intimate.

Whichever you might be, I hope you treasure every bit of it.

-- Kazi Akib Bin Asad, Editor In-charge, SHOUT



## TITLE OF YOUR MIXTAPE



**A**

Careless Whisper  
George Michael

Heat Waves  
Glass Animals

FRIENDS  
Marshmello & Anne-Marie

not ur friend  
Jeremy Zucker

**B**

Line Without a Hook  
Rick Montgomery

Substitute  
FRND

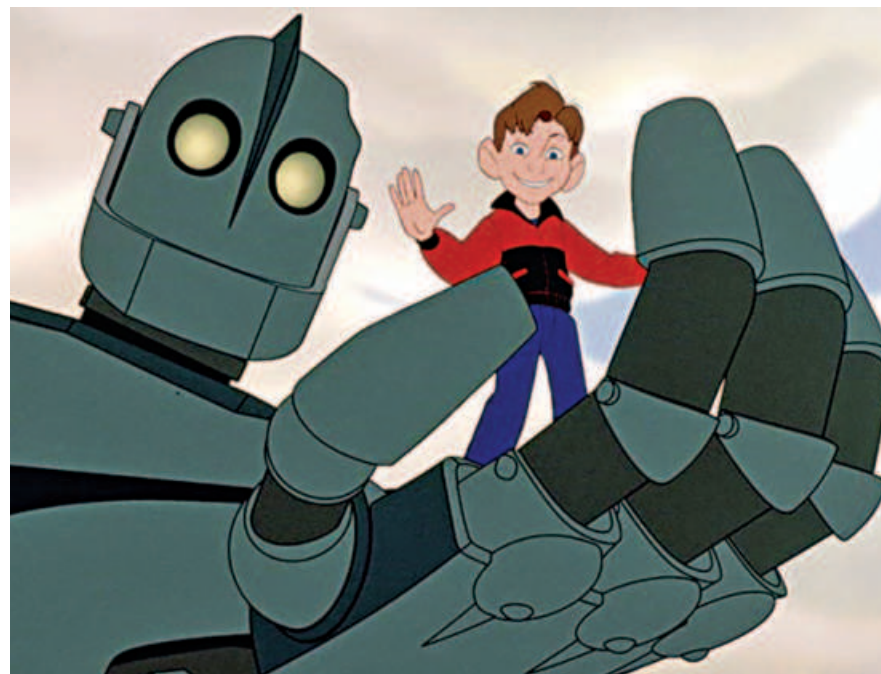
Not In That Way  
Sam Smith

Heather  
Conan Gray

Email us at [shoutds@gmail.com](mailto:shoutds@gmail.com)  
with feedback, comments, and reader  
submissions within 500 words.

## PLAYWATCH

### MOVIE



# 5 Underrated Animated Movies You Cannot Miss

## SARAH WASIFA

Animated films sink or swim faster than most. Thus, it's no wonder that many gems fall through the cracks. However, given the brilliance of these movies, you wouldn't want to miss them.

With that in mind, here are five of the most underrated animated movies that you must watch.

### TREASURE PLANET

This movie has the potential to be called a masterpiece. The characters are adventure movie staples. The animation is smooth, blending 19th century pirate-core with stunning scores and cosmic visuals, for a plot with an empowering message and the usual dash of Disney's sing-alongs.

The premise is more or less similar to Robert Louis Stevenson's novel *Treasure Island*. However, the setting is what makes it different. Solid characters, redemption arcs, and an intergalactic adventure later, it is still a wonderful movie.

### ATLANTIS: THE LOST EMPIRE

*Atlantis* is one of the best movies I have ever watched. It is fast-paced, quirky, has a stunning blend of 2D and 3D animation, and just enough mythology to get kids intrigued.

On subsequent rewatches, it may seem like the film crammed way too much into its 95-minute runtime. Also, the finale, despite the build-up, is rather lacklustre. Despite this, the film deserves appreciation solely for its worldbuilding, heavy atmosphere, and depth. *Atlantis: The Lost Empire* is flawed but still enjoyable.

### THE IRON GIANT

*The Iron Giant* is a movie that made me

tear up. It has a rich, layered story steeped in realism. Although set in a timeline filled with fears, the movie never shies from breathing life into a junk food-loving robot, imbuing him with human-like emotions, and leading him to rebel against the very reason he was built.

The storyline explores the fear of the "what if" and the unknown, and the damage unfounded nationalist mentalities can do. It is a visual parable, one to look back on fondly.

### TITAN A.E.

*Titan A.E.* is basically space opera meets post-apocalyptic meets Asimov in yet another Don Bluth film in this list. I think it's one of many movies that were just way ahead of its time. It opened really strong, with a distinctive combination of gritty CGI and traditional animation setting the bleak panicky ambience of humanity losing earth to a mysterious alien race with little explanation as to why.

The romantic subplot seemed unnecessary, character development is stilted, and the plot twist was hardly a whiplash. What makes it worth the watch is the spectacular set pieces the characters visit in their quest, like the rusty planet with hydrogen trees, the ice crystal and the ensuing chase. The aesthetic is fresh, enticingly sci-fi, but not exclusionary in its genre. Just enough to hook you in with epic space battles and evil energy beings.

Sarah Wasifa sees life as a math equation: problematic, perhaps with a solution, and maybe sometimes with a sign to tear off a page and start over again. Help her find 'y' at [sarahwf77@gmail.com](mailto:sarahwf77@gmail.com)