Where do we go from here? In a world of eye-to-phone interaction, how do we re-inspire eye contact?

Introduction

Kinship is building Talis. Camera-first, on-device AI, biometric unlock. Capture photos, video, and audio throughout your day. Query your memories via voice. Sync to photos without pulling out your phone.

Deal

Raising $5M seed to de-risk V1: hardware engineering, team buildout (8 people), EVT units, and go-to-market for premium creative audience.

Competitive Advantage

Incumbents are constrained by their foundational platforms. Application stores, cloud accounts, and model-centric ecosystems are built on legacy primitives optimized for distribution, engagement, and lock-in rather than personal context.

The major AI players are likewise bound to their foundational models and provider incentives. Users already experience meaningful differences between OpenAI, Claude, Gemini, and others, but those models have no native way to accumulate, own, or carry personal context over time.

Kinship is not tied to a single model, provider, or app ecosystem. By owning the device and operating system, we can treat intelligence as modular and context as primary. Talis becomes the

glue; a natural operating system that extends human faculties like memory, perception, and understanding, while remaining model-agnostic and future-proof.

Core Team

Hana Azab — Founder & CEO. Master's in HCI and emerging technology. First six at Spatial Labs (shipped NFC hardware to market). Research on AI and identity for Apple.

Maria Benavente — Founding AI/ML Engineer. Former Siri and VisionPro team.

Daniel Reetz — Optics & Display Engineering. Former Apple SPG, Disney Research; patents in tunable fluidic lenses.

Noah Aptekar — Manufacturing & Operations. Former SpaceX; built Starlink's domestic manufacturing program.

Maxime le Grelle — Industrial Design. Founding designer at Impossible, Inc. with prior industrial design roles at Unison and Cove, and project work at Multi.

Memory as Moat

The longer you use Talis, the more valuable it becomes. Your semantic memory compounds, every capture adds context, every query improves understanding. This isn't an app you can switch. It's your life, structured and owned by you.

Product Roadmap

Version	What It Is	Timeline
Alpha	Software and cosmetic prototypes deployed to evangelists	Q1 2026
Beta	EVT units in hands of select creators. Real-world capture testing, memory pipeline validation, hardware iteration.	Q4 2026
V1	Capture device that builds your semantic memory. Biometric unlock. Everything on-device. You own your context.	Q3 2027
V2	Context becomes portable. Zero-knowledge proofs let you verify who you are, what you've seen, what you know— without exposing raw data. Your memory becomes a credential.	Q4 2027
V3	Agents act on your behalf, using your context, with cryptographic guarantees. The device represents you.	Q1 2028

*V1 ships with OTA firmware updates; capabilities expand post-launch without hardware revisio

Product

- $400 price point
- 12hr standby, 4hr active use
- 4K30 video, 12MP sensor, liquid lens autofocus
- 1TB on-device storage
- WiFi + BLE (V1), LTE (V2)
- Biometric unlock
- Voice query of your captured memories
- Sync to phone via iCloud / Airdrop-style transfer

What It Doesn't Do (Yet)

- Cellular (V2)
- Standalone messaging
- Agentic interactions (e.g. calling services, sending messages)

Business Model

Revenue begins with device sales; long-term value compounds through on-device memory and accumulated context. U.S.-based assembly for early production—quality control, IP protection, and alignment with non-dilutive manufacturing programs. Flexibility to scale globally.

Kinship selectively insources high-leverage components (optics, calibration, early prototyping) to protect IP, accelerate iteration, and structurally reduce long-term COGS, while outsourcing commodity manufacturing.

For as long as humans have been around, we have had an irrational preference for tools we can hold in our hands. It instills a sense of agency in us.

The forbidden fruit was never the apple, it way always connection, creativity, and intimacy.