Gradually, the sun dimmed over the crestfallen buildings, leaving silhouettes of the remaining heaps of metal untouched. (a brilliant opening, so atmospheric!) Even though the sun was supposed to be a powerful star, ~~it’s~~ (its) glow was fading away ; just like the rest of the world. A girl crept through the remains of the once flourishing city to look for the rest of her group; (no need for a space before your punctuation, only after 😊) with robots that look and act like humans, you have to be careful about who to trust. (great way to demonstrate a shift in time from the present day) It has been weeks since the rich and important have abandoned earth to go to Mars. (be slightly careful about tense, as you slip into the present tense here, when the rest is in the past) Time was priceless to the unlucky; it slipped away like quicksand and drained their faith just as fast. (such a gorgeous simile!) Stumbling across the bare streets, the hooded girl crept swiftly and silently, wishing to not be seen or heard. Suddenly, a swish of lightning floated past her; a robot possibly? But that would be impossible as robots move slowly.
‘Hello?’ enquired the hooded girl.
‘Hello.’ replied the mysterious movement (more lovely alliteration) shortly.
‘What are you and what is your name?’ stuttered the hooded girl.
‘My name is Carrie. Yours?’ hissed the movement coldly.
‘Why do you need to know that?’ whispered the girl with much anticipation.
‘Because,’ growled Carrie, ‘I believe that I have something that belongs to you.’ (this is all very tense!)
She pulled out a broken frame of a picture and showed it to the hooded girl while smiling viciously. (love the contrast of ‘smile’ and ‘vicious’) The hooded girl gasped and then gaped awkwardly at the frame; where could someone find such a piece of disappointment?
‘Surprised much, Quin?’ grinned Carrie victoriously.
With this said, the hooded girl was at her breaking point; how did Carrie know that her name was Quin?
‘How do you know my name?’ she shouted.
‘Because the frame says so. It specifically says that it belonged to a failed experiment called Quin. You think that you destroyed the document and burned the frame but the truth is still here.’ (I love that the reader is having to piece together this backstory!)
‘But you can’t blackmail me. I have nothing.’ Quin shouted.
‘Ah, so that is. But it’s not stopping me from capturing you (and taking you) to (the) base.’ replied Carrie calmly.
After that being said, Carrie vanished into the dark with Quin, abandoning the cowered city forever. -Sisley

**What Went Well:**

-I love the storyline here, and how you weave it together! I really like that you leave the reader to piece together Quin’s backstory in this dystopian setting. This heightens the tension even more, and you use some incredible techniques on top of that to exacerbate the tension! Even your choice of verbs, such as ‘hissed’ and ‘whispered’ achieve this!

-You use some gorgeous imagery throughout this piece, Sisley! I especially love the extended simile, ‘it slipped away like quicksand and drained their faith just as fast’. You also create a strong atmosphere with techniques such as juxtaposition (contrast): ‘smiling viciously’.

-You use a range of brilliant punctuation, using lots of semi-colons. This is great and shows a real sophistication in grammar. I’d love to see you continue this!

**Even Better If…:**

-Just like your last writing, be careful that you don’t slip into the wrong tense. In this story, you have chosen the past tense, but accidentally use the present tense in line such as, ‘It has been weeks since the rich and important have abandoned earth to go to Mars’. Just make sure to proof-read, and be clear and aware of tense throughout, so you don’t get muddled and confuse your reader.

-You use some great grammar techniques, and I would love to see you expand this! Maybe you can challenge yourself to use dashes and colons, as well as the great volume of semi-colons that you have used. A range of punctuation would be even more sophisticated, as you use really impressive punctuation, but tend to use the same ones.

-Your description of the setting is so vivid at the beginning, and I would love to see you continuing this throughout, as it feels like we lose the setting slightly as you move into dialogue. Maybe you could just have Quin snapping back into the atmosphere quickly towards the end, to emphasise again the dystopian landscape. This would be so effective!