Character Animation and its Many Quirks

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What Does Character Animation Involve?

Skillset:

-color theory/color design

-character design

-understanding movement/dynamics of fluid, explosions, smears, etc.

-understanding human anatomy/proportions

-understanding the 12 principles of animation

Brainstorm

Idea: Animate character introductions to a song

*Choose a song: Take me Back by More Plastic (on NCS -NoCopyrightSounds)

*Choose characters to Animate: Original Characters

*Decide Minimal Plot/Story Idea: Paradox Universe

Minimal Plot Idea

PARADOX

Research/Inspiration

TOP 3 | Alien Stage

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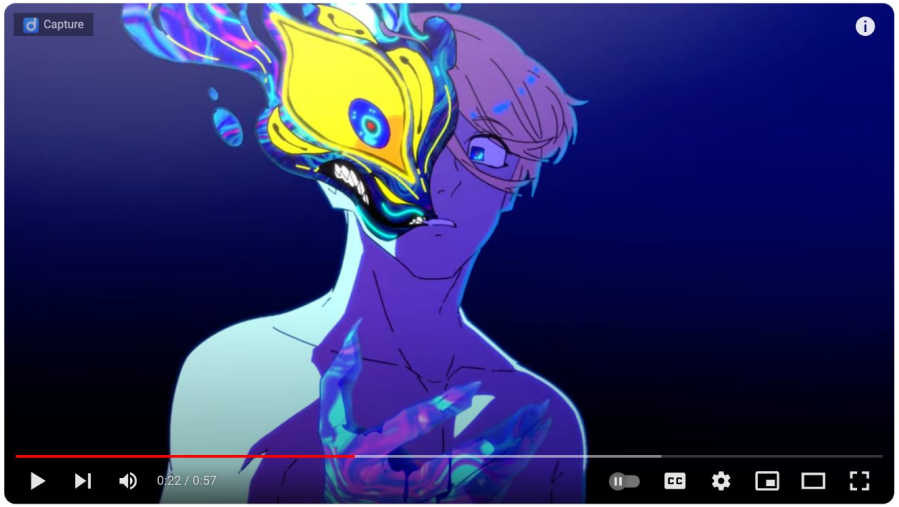

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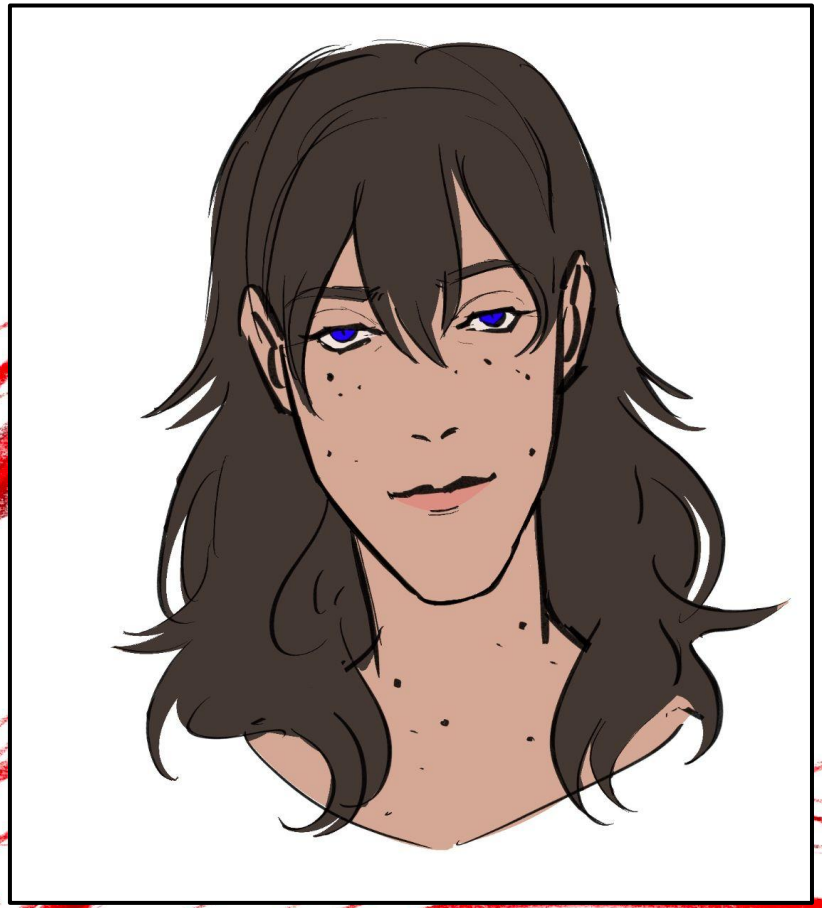
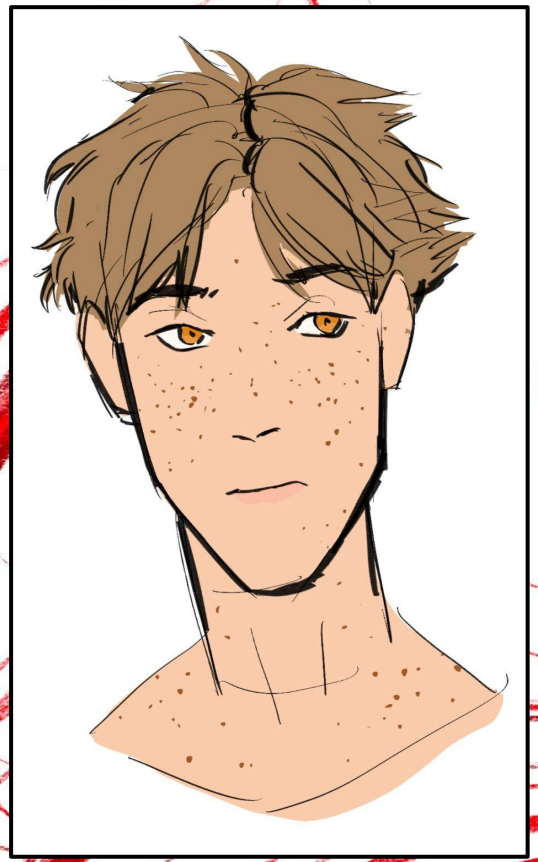
Character and Color Design

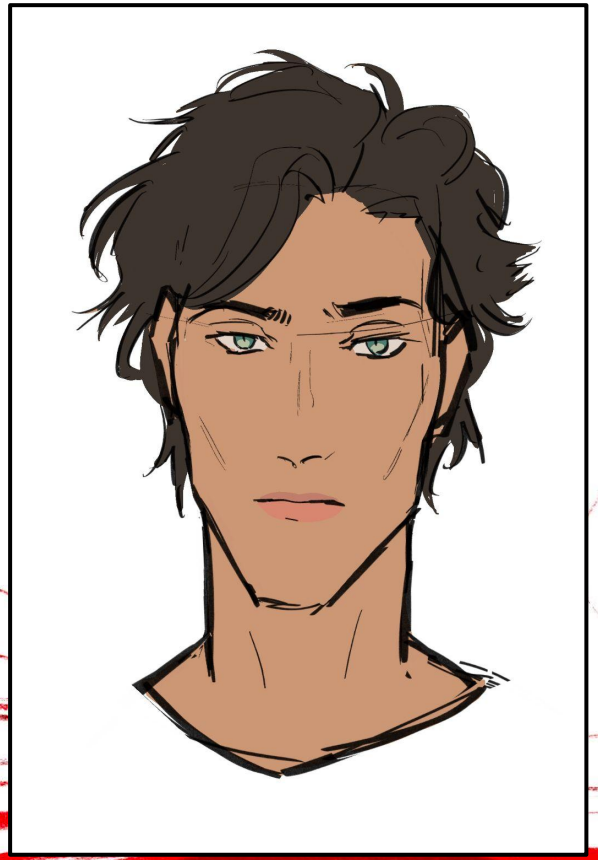


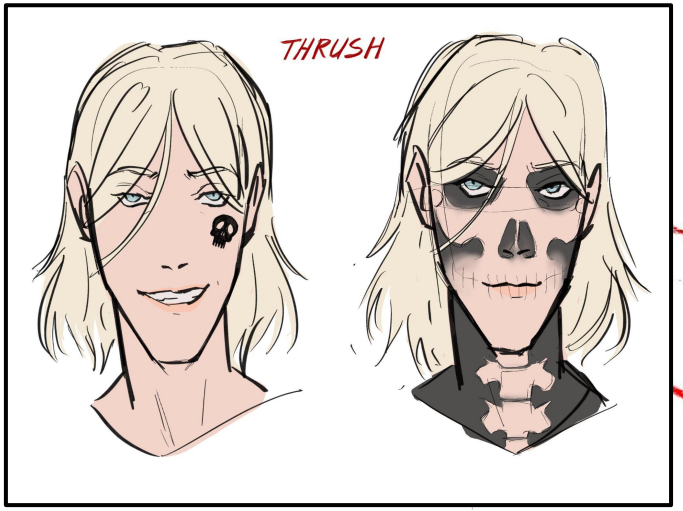
Types of Designs:

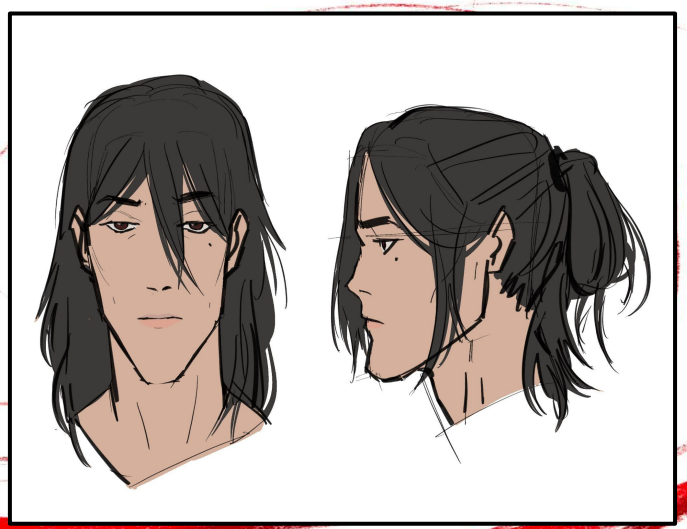
1. **Headshots**
2. **Chess piece + Name**
3. **Rough clothing/Outfit Designs**

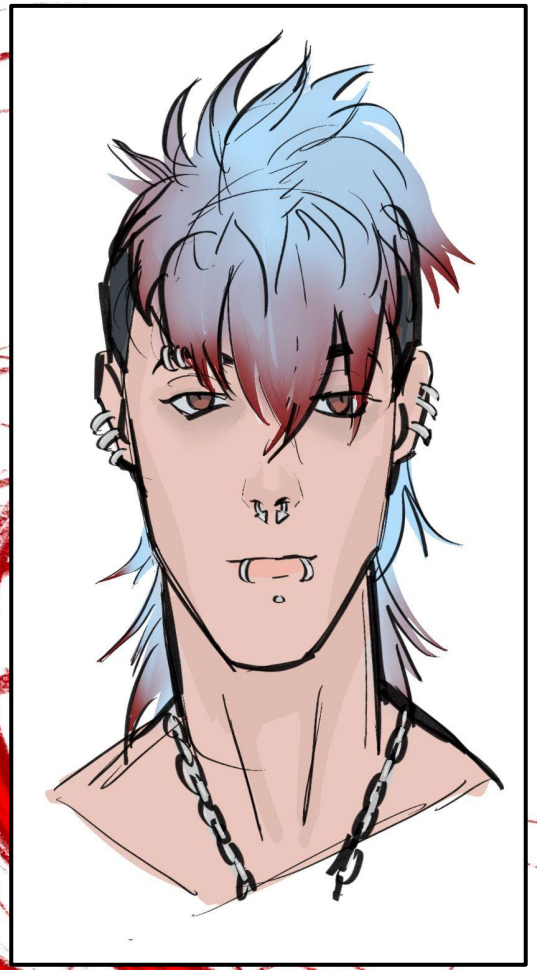
Headshots - helped give me an idea of character's personalities and color palettes



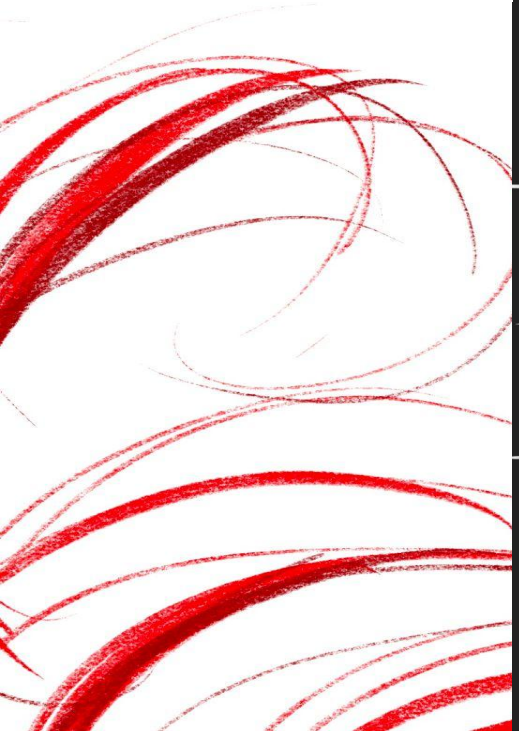


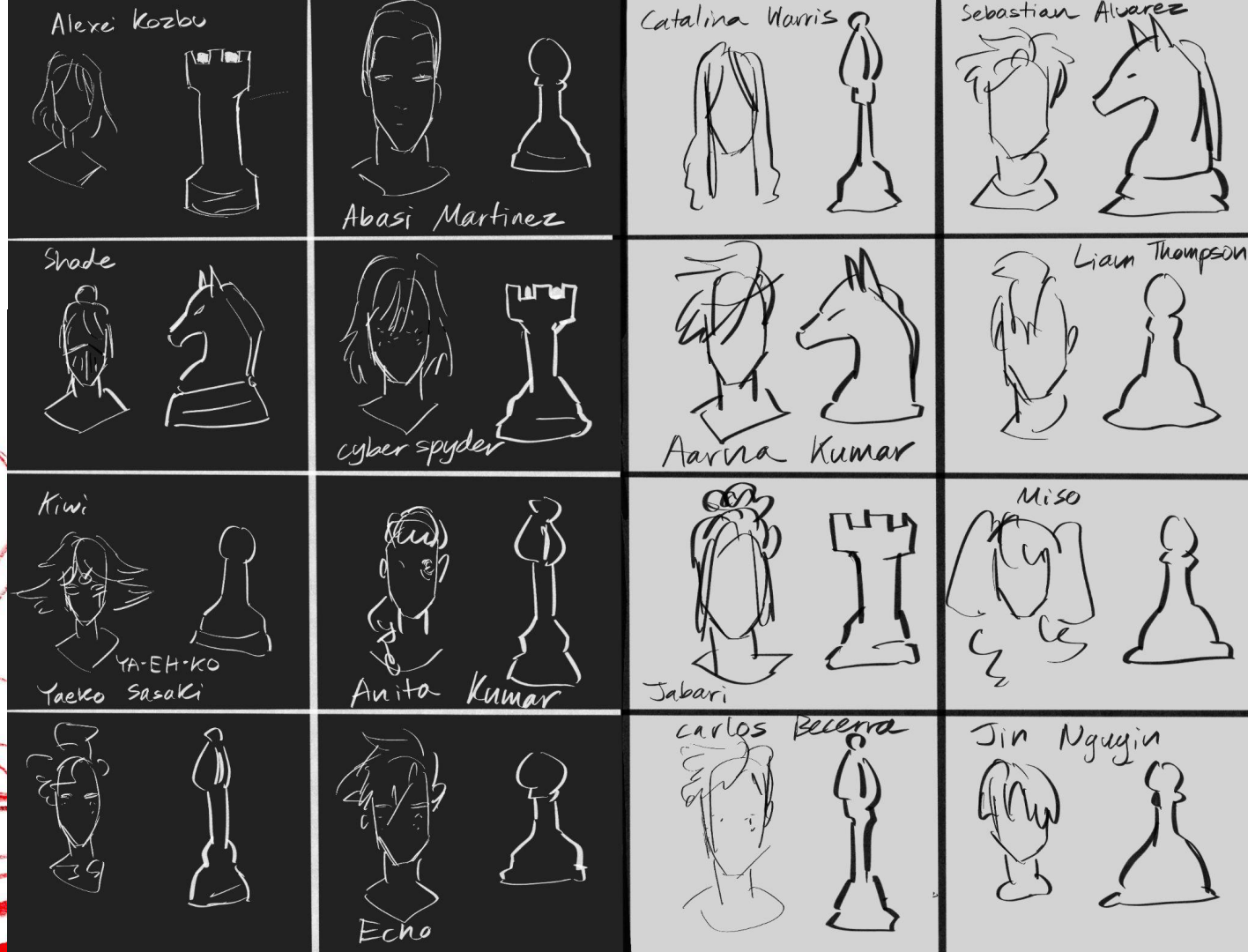






Chess piece + Name
- Helped me organize character information like names and role in story





Rough Clothing/Outfit Designs - reference for animation concerning stature

Storyboarding/Planning

Planning what goes to what part of the song

- Introduction
- Research
- Character/Plot Ideas
- Storyboards/Color + Character D...
- Slide Show
- Final Submission Need to Knows

Song: Take Me Back by More Plastic (Non-copyrighted!)
1-10 sec - slower/random sounds
10-30 sec - gets faster/builds
30-13 sec - one segment of repeat
13-15 sec - setup for next
1:17 - end of 4 repeated segments
1:17-1:53 - randoms repeated
1:53 - 2:10 - smaller slow build
2:10 - 3:04 - 4 repeat segments again

Edits:
-Will need to duplicate 4 segments twice so that there are 16 in total
-Will need to get rid of randoms in the middle.

Storyboarding

parkour + face close up
blur in back
come to front & freeze
shadow
dark!
water whip
slam + shockwave
speed blur / teleport
sniper
hands light face
spear throw
bow staff trick + zoom
jump + float
breathing / panting
from cut
to knife
zoom out in snipe pos
BOOM
face emerges after hand
Catalina alias power height
Alexei Kozlov power desc alias
name: unknown power desc: alias
name: power alias
portal
points
pop
head up + smile
inhale
exhale
blade tricks
comes through
portal forms
hand covers screen
mic
doctor coat

portal
points
pop
head up + smile
comes through
portal forms
hand covers screen
wic

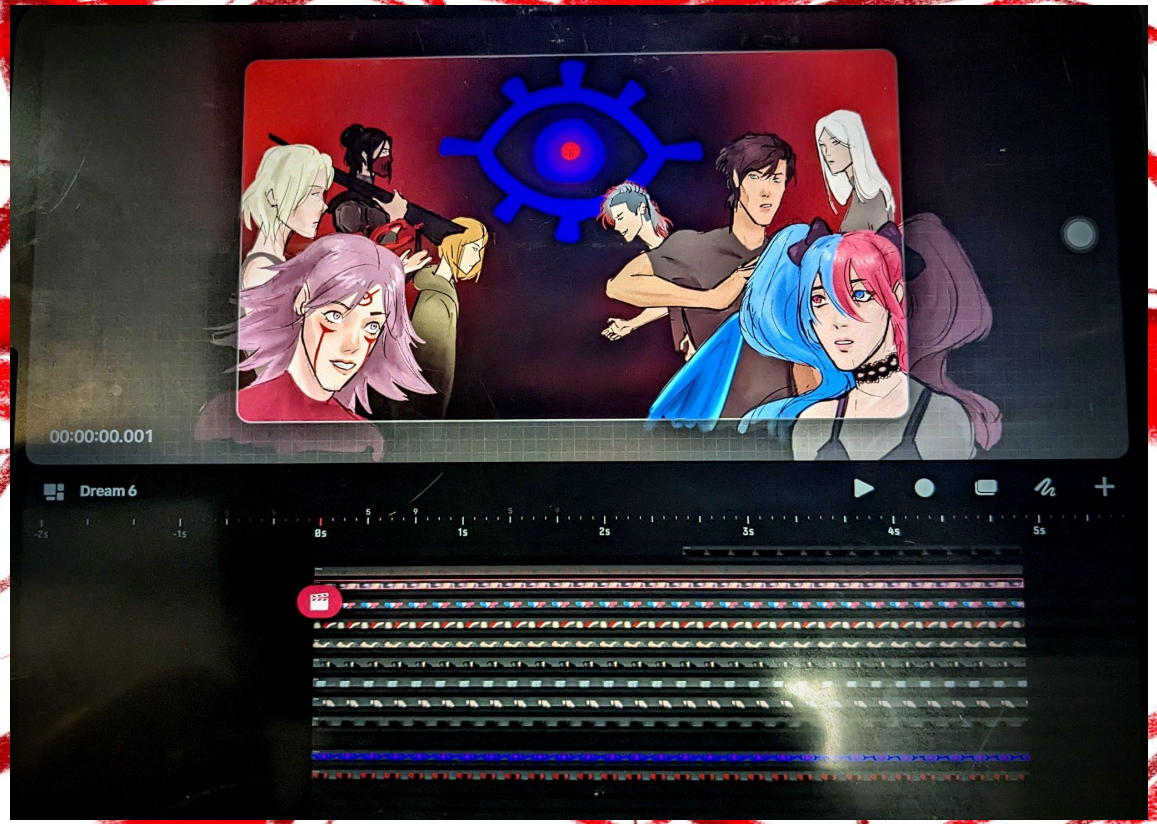
Production & Post-Production

-SO MUCH animating

-used procreate dreams on apple ipad

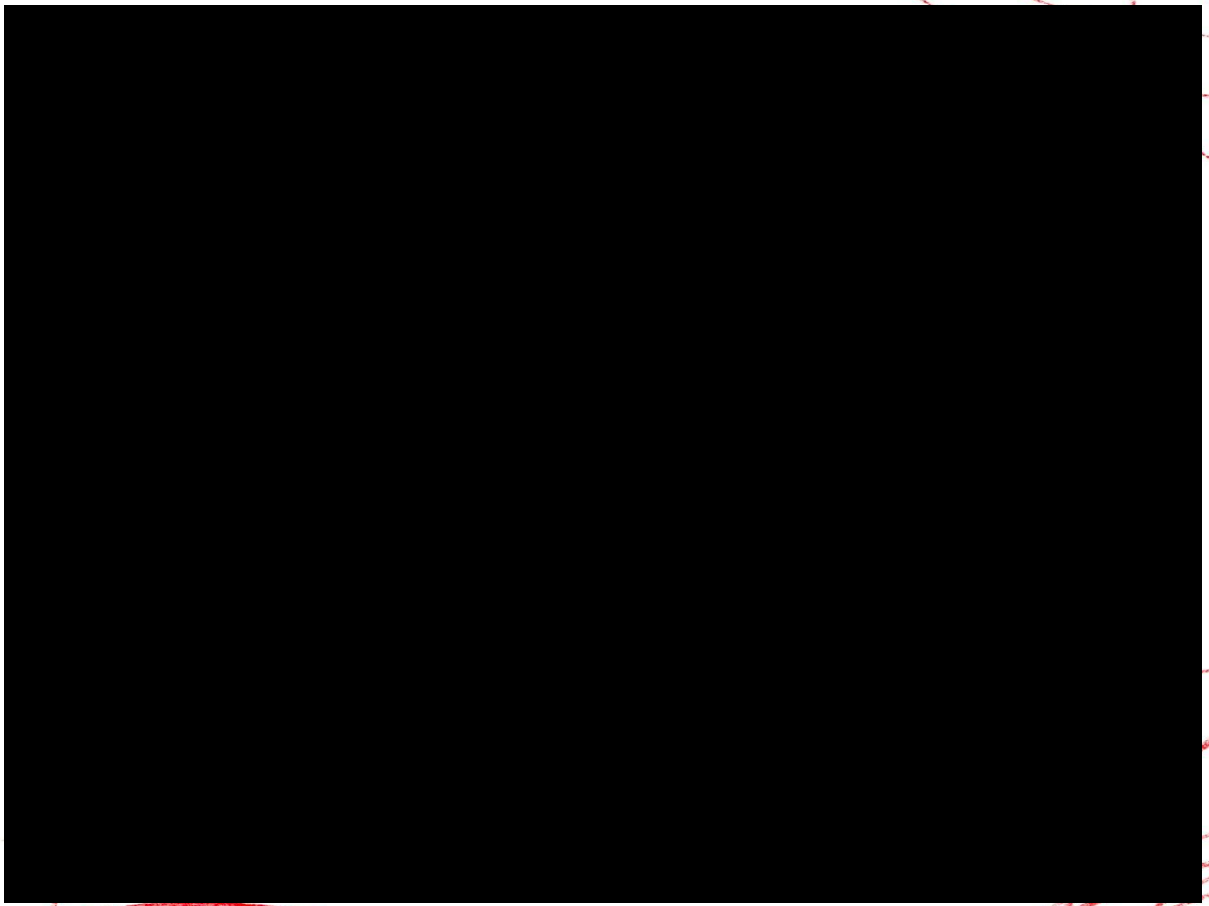
-exported from procreate dreams into google drive

-put together with music & edited in premiere pro



Production

(Final Animation)



Reflections (and Regrets)

MORE TIME would have allowed me to:

- Animate all 16 character intros
- Incorporate more of a story
- Add more information and visual elements for each character

What I learned:

- Don’t spend extra time on steps that don’t need it
- Look at resources/references while animating if needed
- Research how others have animated specific things like liquid, lighting, etc.

Thank you for watching!