



Animation Degree Project (Stage I)

A Short Animation Movie on
Emotion Of Flowers

Project II (Project Report)

M. Des. Semester III 2008

Kavita Dicholkar 07634802

Guide: Prof. Raja Mohanty

Industrial Design Center



Contents

1. Introduction	2
2. Initial Exploration	3
3. The Process	4
-Idea Development	6
- Script	8
4. Execution	
-Character exploration	10
-Character Development	11
-Story board	16
- concept art	25
-Final layouts	26
5. Final Approach	28
6. Techniques & Tools	29
-References	30





I would like to thank my project guide **Prof. Raja Mohanty** for his valuable guidance and support throughout the project. More than his guidance, he gave me all the freedom to explore my ideation, technique and the process. I also thank **Prof. Sumant Rao** and **Prof. Shilpa Ranade** for their valuable inputs and suggestions at the time my presentation. I am really thankful to my friends and **all my batch mates** for their help and support. Most of all my **parents** who have been very supporting throughout this project.



God has created so many wonderful things in this world and flowers are one among them. I feel depressed **to see them being cut with scissors, those beauties being wrapped in plastic suffocated in a bouquet.**

I hate to see people plucking flowers off trees and, they **look so good on plants** and everyone has the **right and should have the opportunity to enjoy the beauty and fragrance of the beautiful fragile flowers,** instead of few who take them home.

As far as my opinion is concerned God has created this beautiful world for us so we should enjoy and **preserve its beauty and not destroy it.**

I want to make people realize flowers life is short and we make it shorter. **In that moment of life** they live for others and try and make them happy.

In the meanwhile I would like to ask everyone a simple question, **does anyone feel the pain when you kill the flower by plucking it?** In this case, 99% of the audience will say no. Even though people know that flower is a living thing, but no one has seriously considered it. Here, I would like to say that, even though they never express their feelings but it really hurts when you pluck or cut it. It feels scared when you try pulling it. On the other hand it also feels happy when you take care of it.



Human emotions and **flowers** are interrelated to each other. Celebrating happiness or expressing sorrow flowers have always played an important role in our life. Flowers have always helped your message touch the heart of the recipient. Even different colors of a single flower can help you express different emotions.

Flower has the power to win the hearts that often carefully selected words can't. Flowers can really express all your sentiments to your loved ones. Make your day and others day as special as they are.

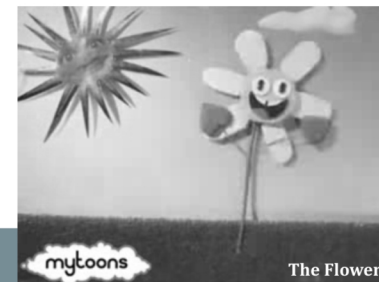
We can send these lovely, exotic and sensuous flowers to everyone you love, on birthday, anniversary, new job, new home, on graduations. Wedding be it or any other occasion these flowers are the best way to send comforts and cheer. You can wish all the luck, congratulations and make any ones day to brighten up by these beautiful and lovely flowers. You can also you can express your sympathy and wish the person to get well soon. You can even send flowers at death and many other occasions. In short we can say that in everyone's life flowers have played a vital role in sharing with their happiness or sorrow.

Plucking a flower means giving pain to the flower plant. Why do we always have to destroy that delicate beauty to show our love and affection for someone? Why always has the poor flower has to suffer?

The Process

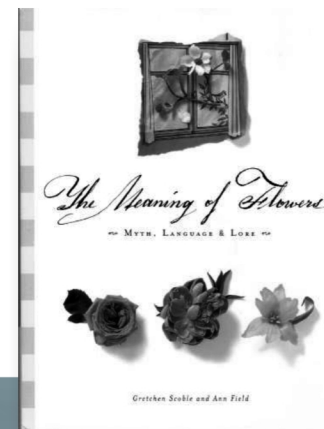
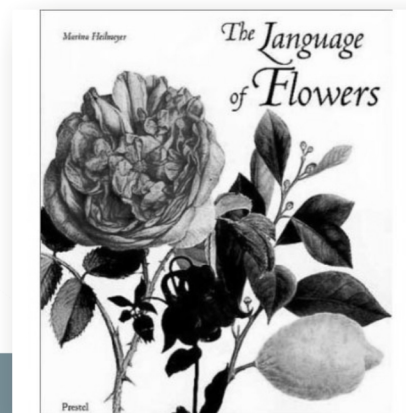
Watching movies

The initial idea has always been difficult. Reading short stories or watching short films in relation to my subject were always helpful. More specifically watching different styles and variety of movies helped me in the characterizing and stylizing my character. These movies really helped me to think the minutest of details.

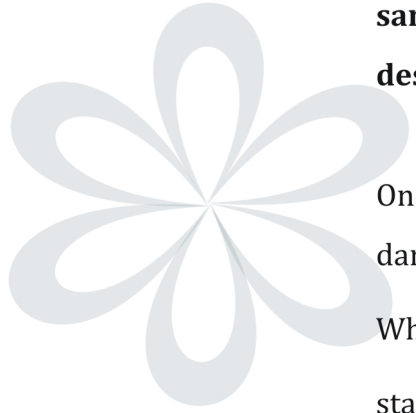


Reading Books

Reading books helped me to extend my knowledge of stories, narrative styles and techniques. It helped me to know what kind of stories I like and what the viewer prefers too. Other than that from my story line point of view I also read few narrative descriptions about the flower from which I came to know about the technical and scientific aspect about the nature's fragile beauty. Scientifically it's proved that other than right amount of water and fertilizers, if the plant is taken care with love and affection then the flower will blossom well and will stay fresh for much longer time than normal.

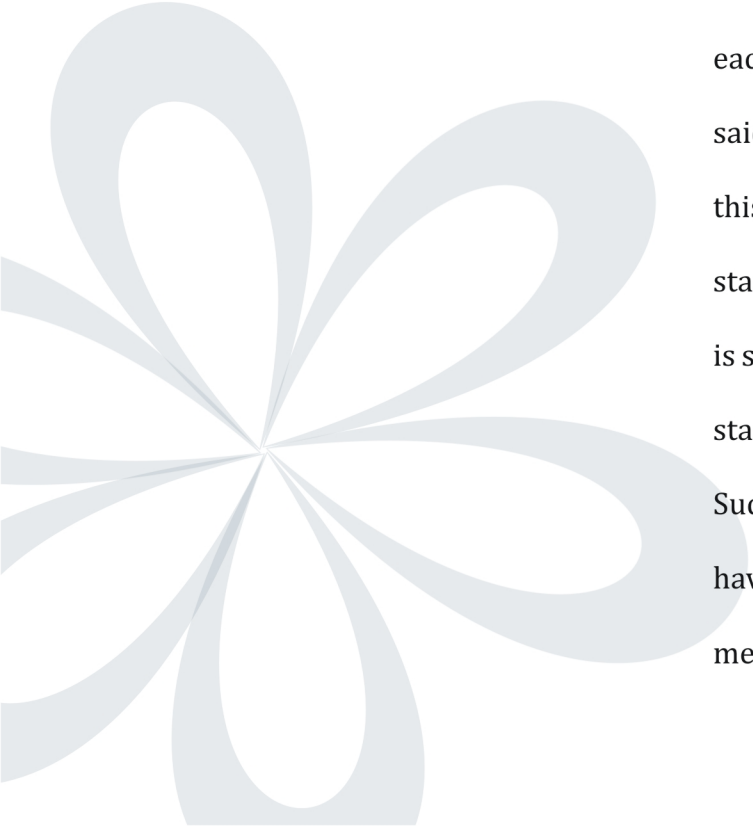


To come to this outcome it took a long time. Even though the basic idea somewhat remains the same but all other things has kept on modifying till I got to this output. I shall give you a brief description about how the story was looking in the initial stages.



Once there was a beautiful flower in a garden. A bee came there and it fell in love by looking at flower. It danced and did things to impress the flower. The flower was impressed, it smiled and looked shyly at bee.

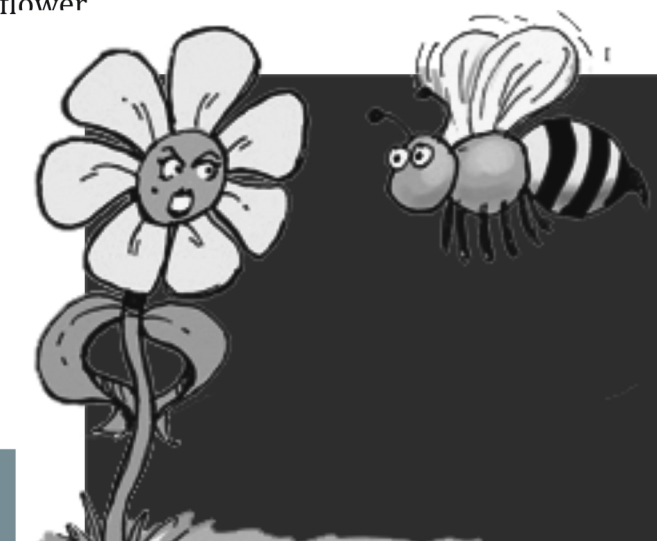
When the bee went near to the flower it closed its eyes. They fell in love and started romancing. Bee started coming to garden every day and they started sharing their feeling, becoming more attached to each other. Then one day when bee came to garden, flower was romancing a grasshopper. It got angry but said nothing to the flower and he went that place. Next day again he sees the same thing, he thinks that this flower has proud of her own beauty. This time he decided he will also find another flower. So he also started coming close to another flower. This continued for two to three days. But the bee realized that he is still loved first flower. After some days bee came to that garden & he saw that flower was no more. Bee started asking to other flowers in garden about that first flower.

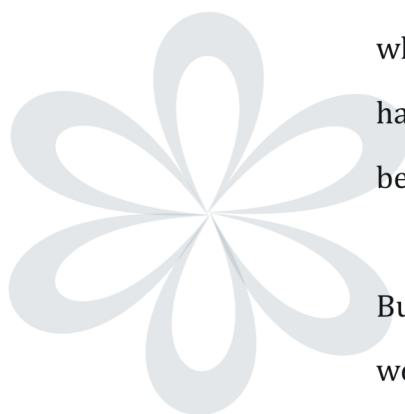


Suddenly grasshopper comes there & he said that to bee “flower was suffering from a disease. If she would have continued romancing, you would also have disease, flower loved you till last breath. It never loved me, it was only asked me to do acting”. Bee was shocked it broke into tears.

So here we can see that this was my initial idea and it slowly and steadily modified into my current movie.

Starting into this project I just thought of making a normal movie and submitting it but later on lot of thoughts came into my mind. I thought to make my movie more meaningful and needed to convey a message through it and slowly the emotion and pain of flower came into play. It was from there where my movie got transformed to this meaningful emotion of flower



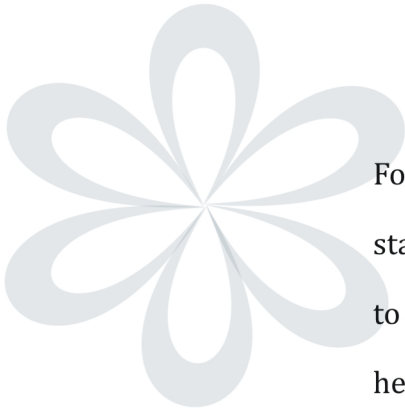


In a pleasant morning, where you can hear the chirping of the birds, the sound of gently flowing water the whisper of the cool breeze a butterfly was happily flying around between the flowers and leaves. She was happily hopping from one flower to another enjoying the fresh air and the fragrance spread by the beautiful flowers. She sees a lot of couples sharing some moments sitting in the garden.

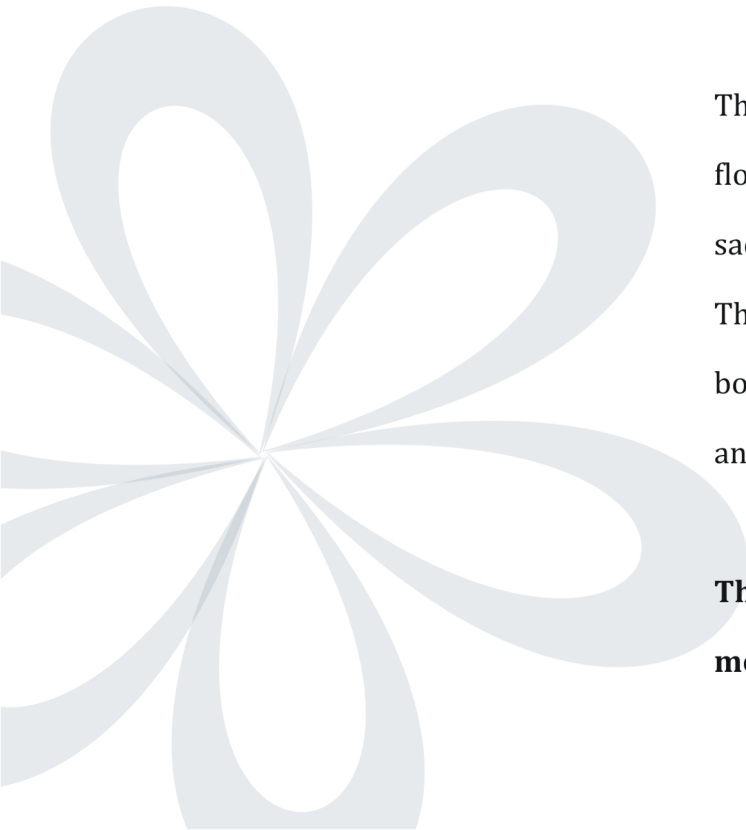
Butterfly is Flying around, two beautiful looking flowers were sharing their feelings with each other, they were happily living in their own world.

Suddenly a girl comes near one of those flowers and tries to pluck it. At that moment flowers were really tensed and didn't want to get apart from each other but all their efforts were in vain. Even the butterfly was helplessly watching and could not help them from going away from each other. Finally the girl manages to pluck the flower and takes it with her to the bus stop where she was waiting for someone since a very long time. Few minutes later she looks at that beautiful flower & she starts plucking the petals of the flower [love me love me not] one by one. After destroying all the petals she totally gets bored.

After sometime, from a long distance a boy comes running and he sees the girl sitting in the bus stop. After waiting at the bus stop for such a long time, the girl was really in a bad mood, she throws the flower on the floor with anger.



For impressing her he plucks the male flower that was standing sad alone. On his way to the girl, he stamps on the female flower that was already helplessly lying on the floor. After a long while he manages to cool down her anger. She forgives him by accepting the flower and immediately keeps the flower inside her book. After a while a bus comes on that bus stop and both of them happily gets into the bus.



The female flower is still lying on the floor with destroyed petals on her. After sometime the female flower looks at the passer by who was carrying a flower bouquet. The flowers in the bouquet also looked sad and helpless. They were also looking at the female flower that was lying on the floor.

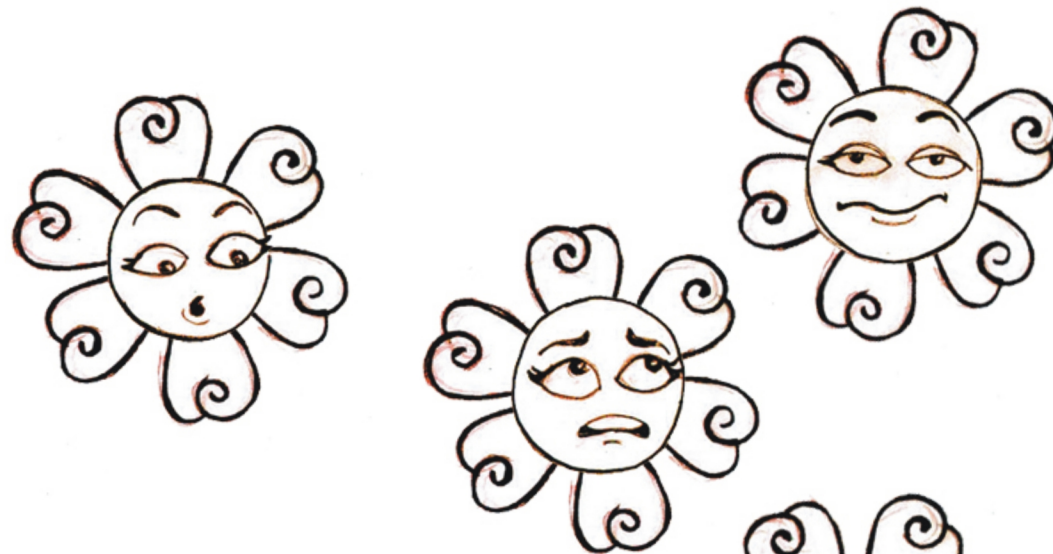
The passerby who had the flower bouquet entered inside the hospital. He enters the room holding the bouquet in his hand. The man kept the bouquet on the side table, where the patient was lying on the bed and the message on the bouquet said GET WELL SOON.

This whole story revolves around flowers and their emotions. Flowers are short lived and in that moment of life they try to spread the layer of fragrance and happiness to everywhere.

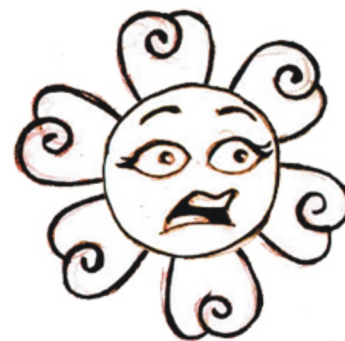
Character exploration

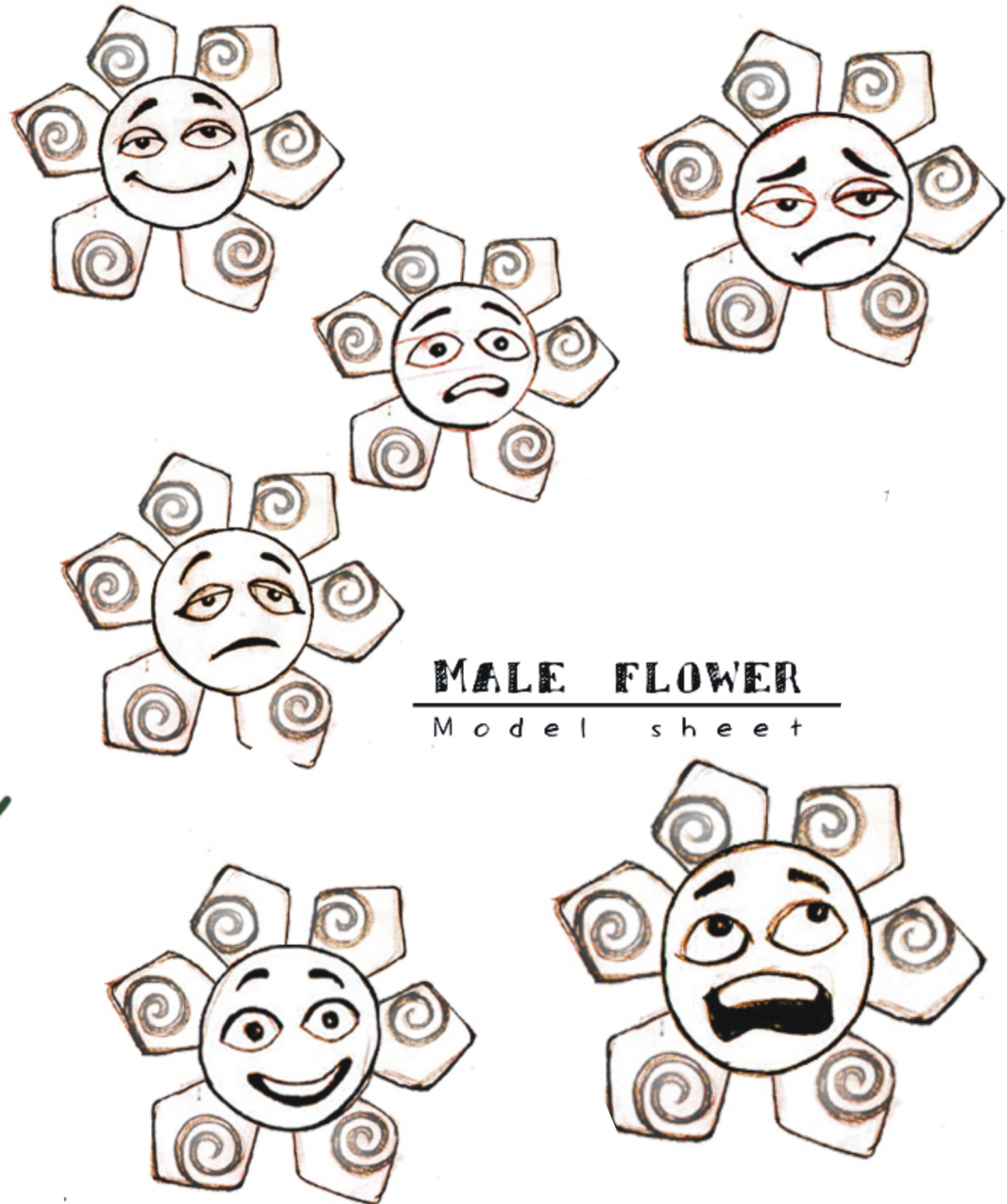
Before finalizing the character I did some in depth exploration and finally came up with few things to make my movie look more effective and impactful.



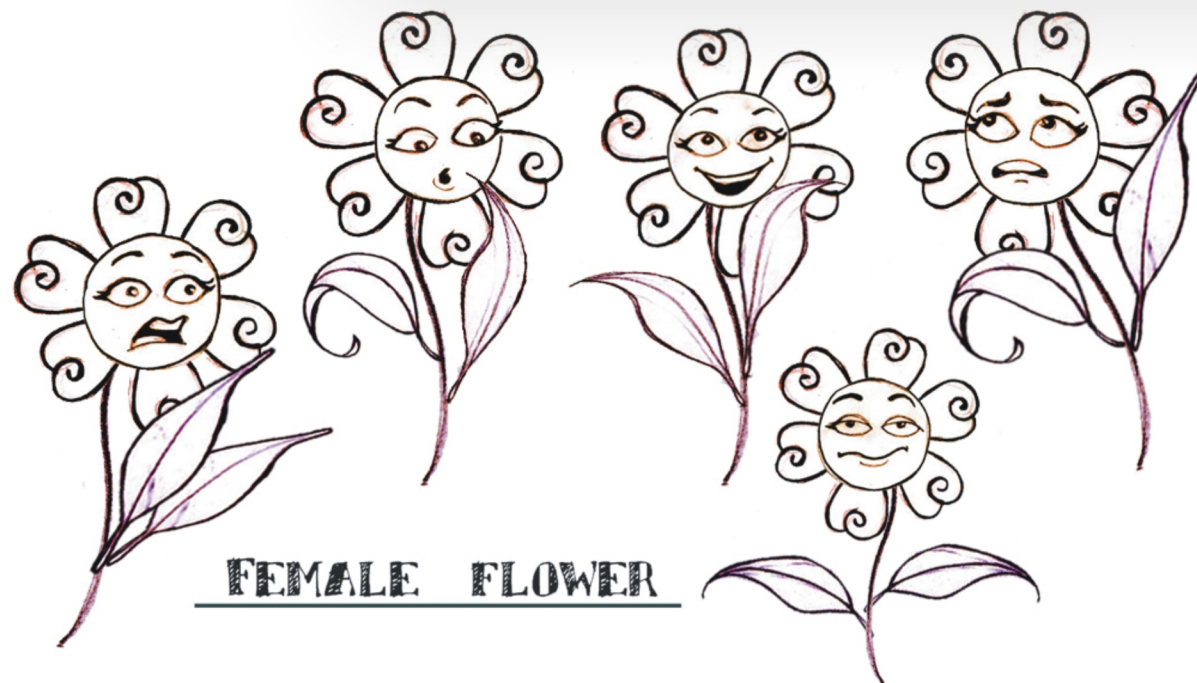
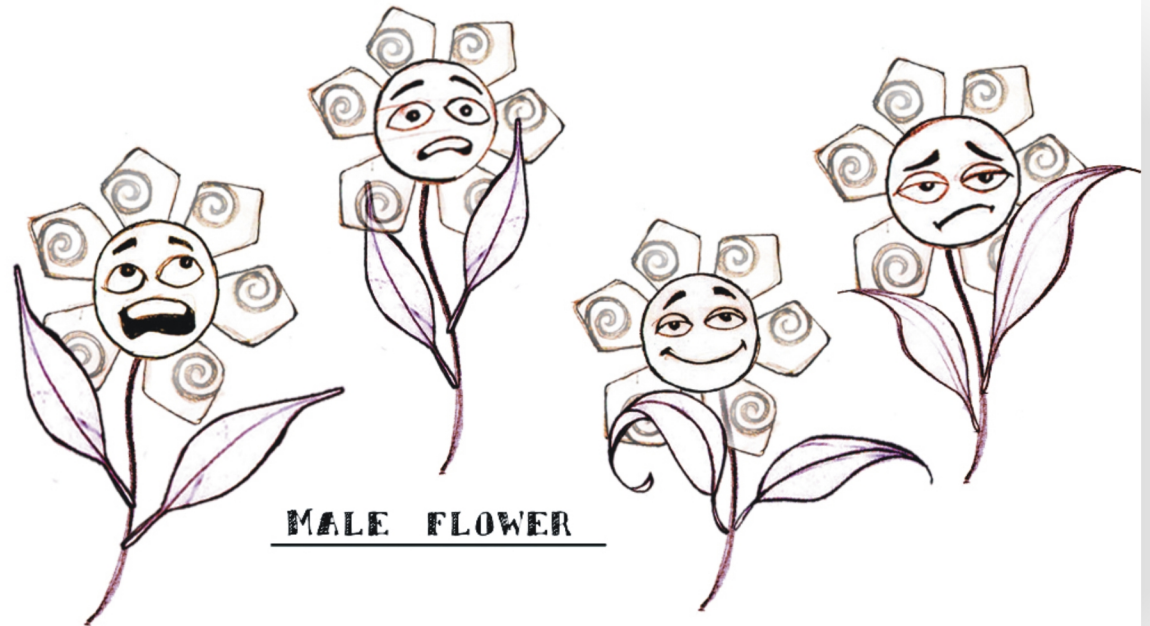


FEMALE FLOWER
Model sheet

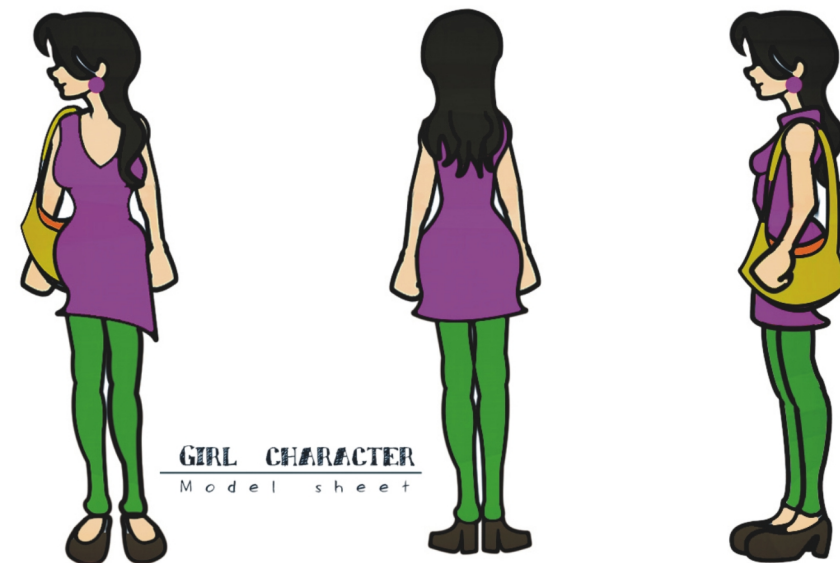
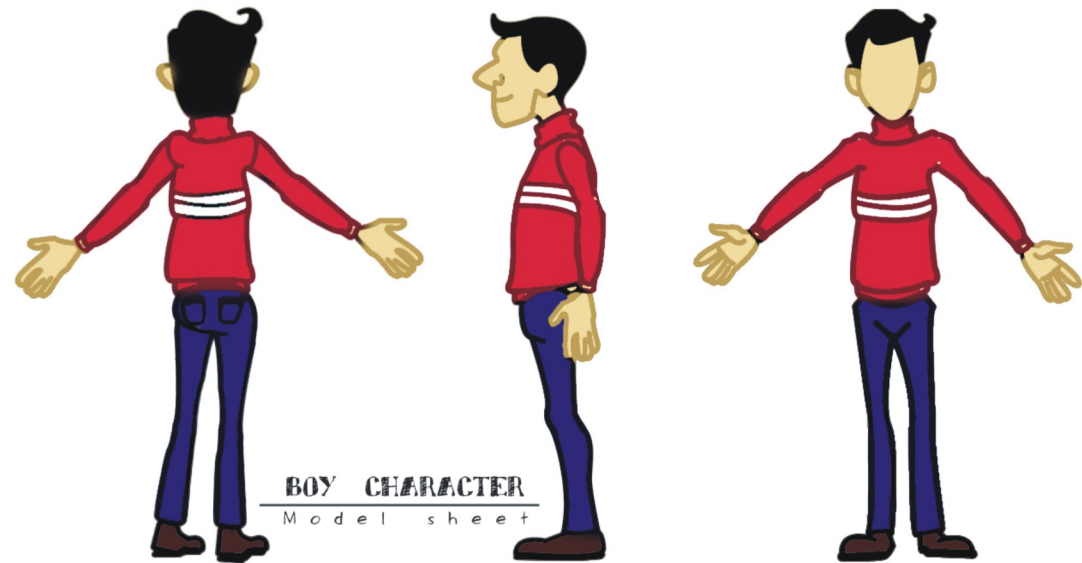


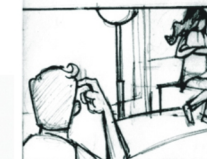
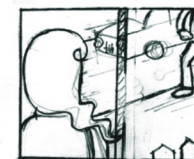
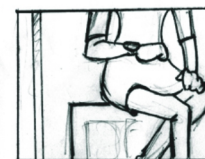
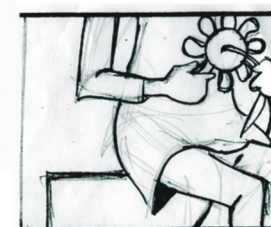
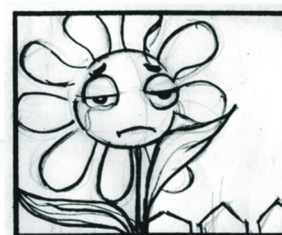
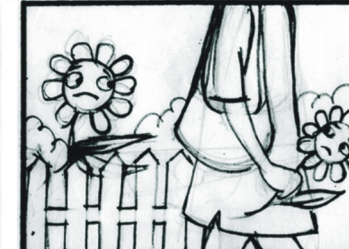
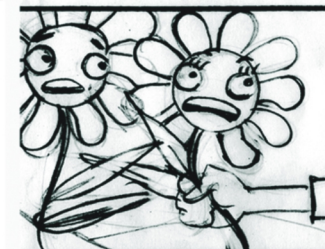
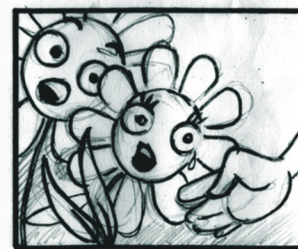
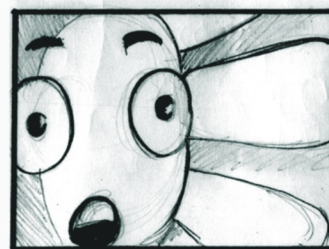
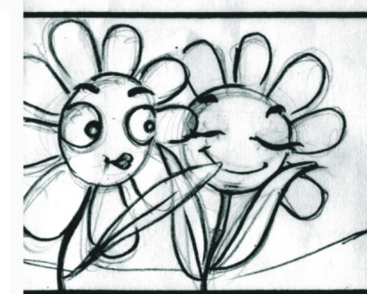
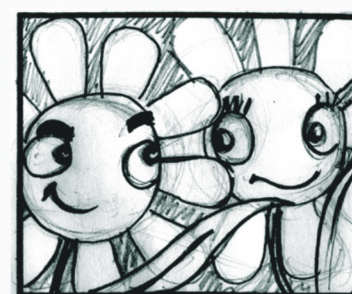
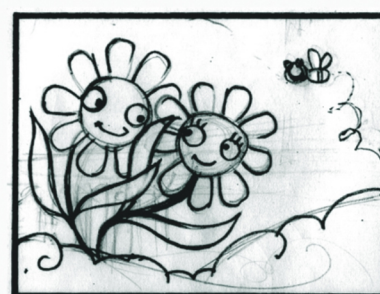
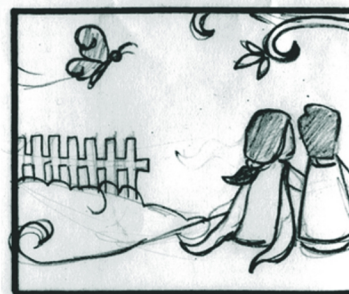
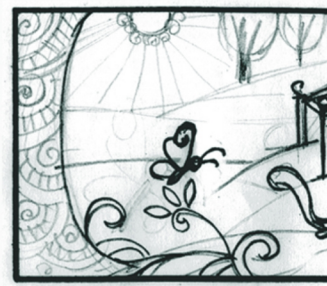


Character Attitude Sheet



As far as my human characters are concerned I tried not showing their faces. As the various expression performed by the human character will be conveyed through their hand gestures and leg movements. **This decision was made so that I can give complete attention to the main characters of my film which are flowers.**





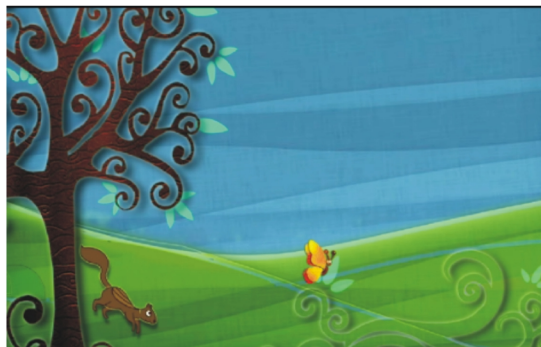
Storyboard



Location: Inside the garden [camera zooms out & moves]



Squirrel hopping and running on the tree top.



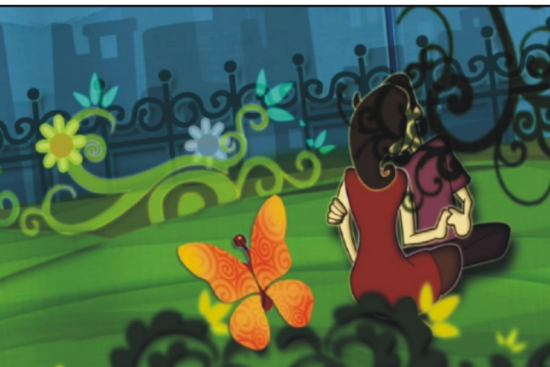
Camera follows: Squirrel jumps on the floor & hops out of the frame, quickly the focus of the butterfly



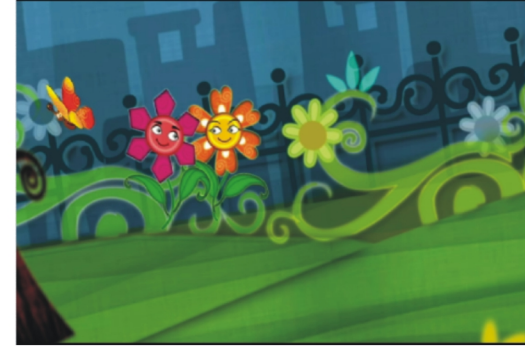
Location: Camera comes near a small pond in the garden. a beautiful butterfly is happily flying around and the camera follows her way. n the pond two frogs are sitting on the lotus leaves which are floating around.



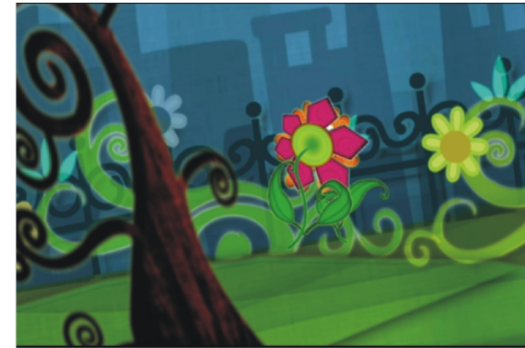
Location: On the branch of a tree, two love birds are chirping, it sounds like they are singing a song creating a very pleasant atmosphere. Camera is following the butterfly to the sky and from the top angle view camera is looking at a couple who are sitting in the garden spending some caring time with each other.



Butterfly is happily spreading its wings and flying around the couple. When the boy kisses the girl the camera blurs and zooms to the two flowers.



Location: Near the fences behind the flowers we can see the city landscape.



Flowers are happy & coming closer to each other. Fade out to black



Flowers are happy with each other sharing their feelings. Close up shot of the flowers.



Close up shot of the male flower.



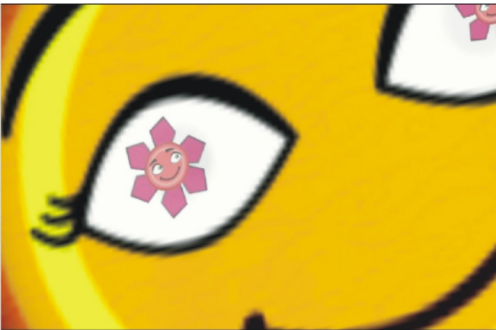
Close up shot of the flowers. Suddenly the face of the male flower looks as if he is terrified



Close up shot of the female flower.
Looking at male flower



Camera still in the close up we can see one female hand comes near the female flower to pluck it.



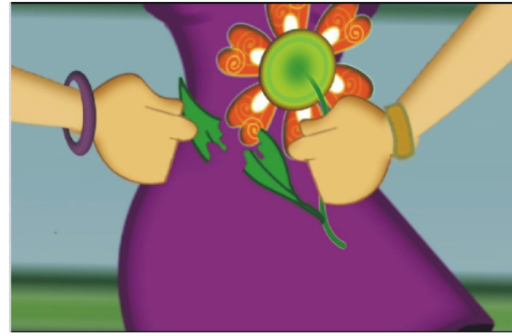
Camera zoom in to female flower. Her got reflections of male flower in her eye.



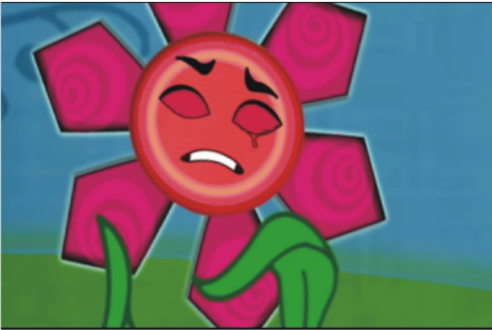
At that moment both the flowers gets scared and they try their level best for not getting away from each other.



But all their efforts were in vain, they couldn't resist the girl from plucking and taking away the female flower from the male flower.



After some time she pluck leaf of the beautiful flower



Now male flower is standing alone without his companion around, he is feeling very sad thinking about female flower.



After some time she starts pulling the petals of the flower one by one.



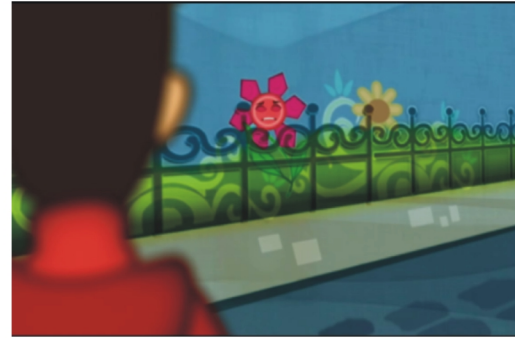
After plucking the flower the girl goes to the bus stop. Waiting at the bus stop for someone



After destroying away all the petals of the beautiful flower, she gets bored



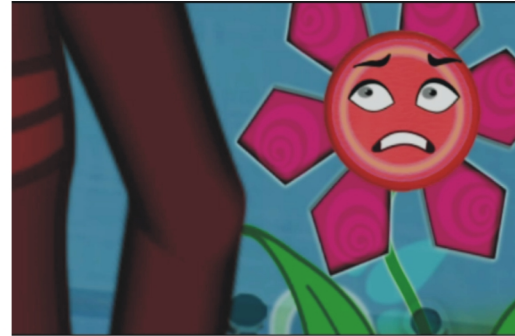
Sometime later a boy comes running



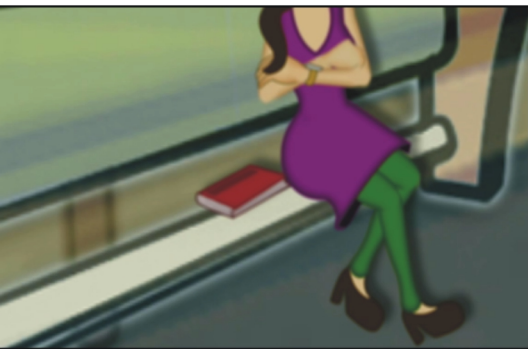
For impressing her he thinks for a while & he sees male flower



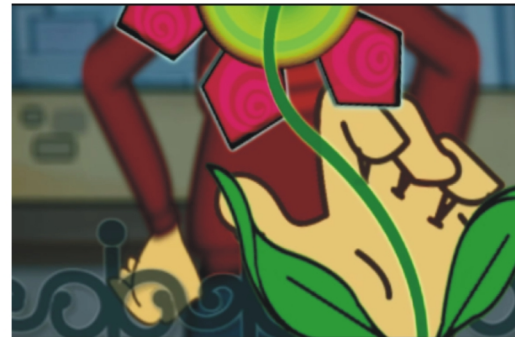
sees the girl from a distance.



Boy goes near to the male flower. Flower get scared



After waiting for him at the bus stop for such a long time the girl was really in a bad mood. She throws the flower on the floor.



and plucks the male flower.



After plucking the flower, on his walk towards the girl, he stamps the female flower which was already lying on the floor.



She started looking at that beautiful flower and handles it very delicately.



With the flower in his hand he tries to console the girl and cools her anger.



After some time she kept that flower inside the book .fade out to black.



She forgives him after accepting the flower and gets in a very happy mood.



Sometime later a bus arrives at the stop, smoke comes to the camera



the girl and boy gets into bus
and the bus moves on.



Now the camera
follows the
passerby who later
enters a hospital.



Bus stop top view camera
zooms out and we can see
the female flower lying on
the floor



He enters the
hospital room
holding the bouquet
in his hand. The man
kept the bouquet on
the side table, where
the patient was
lying on the bed.



After sometime the female
flower looks at the passer by
carrying a flower bouquet. The
flowers in the bouquet also
looked sad and helpless and
were looking at the
female flower that was lying on
the floor.



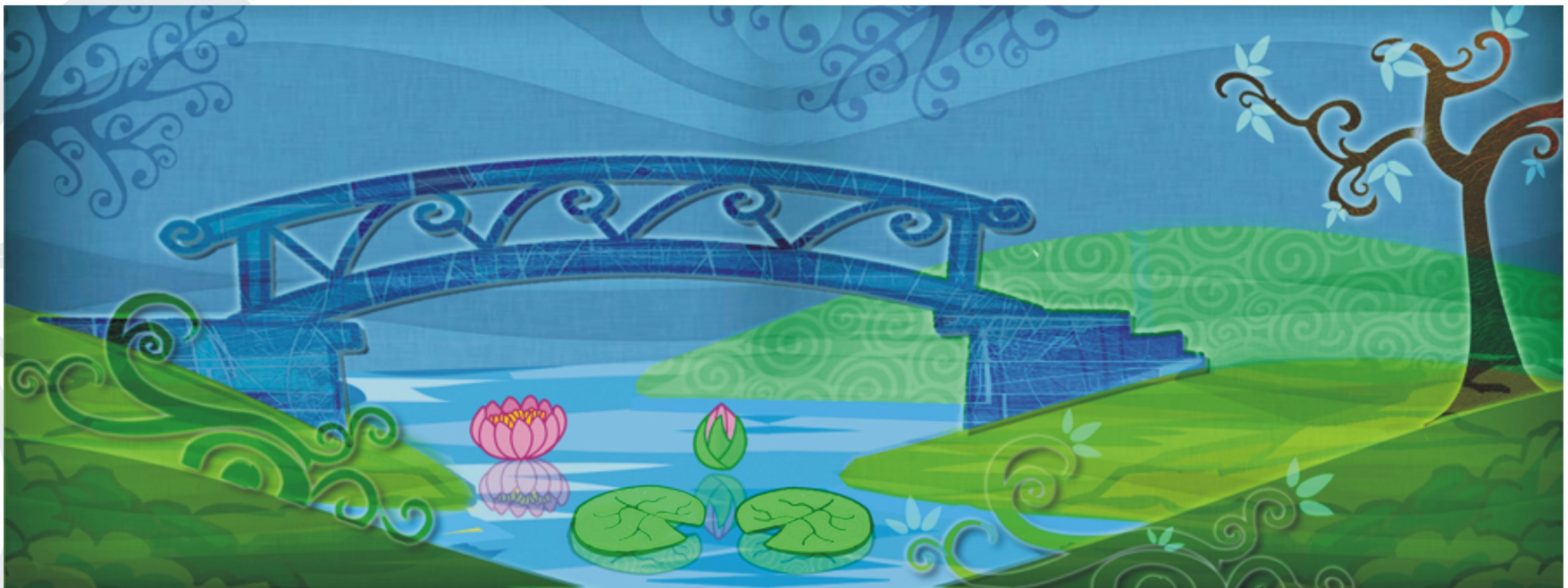
Close shot of
bouquet. The label
on the bouquet said
GET WELL SOON.
Black out.

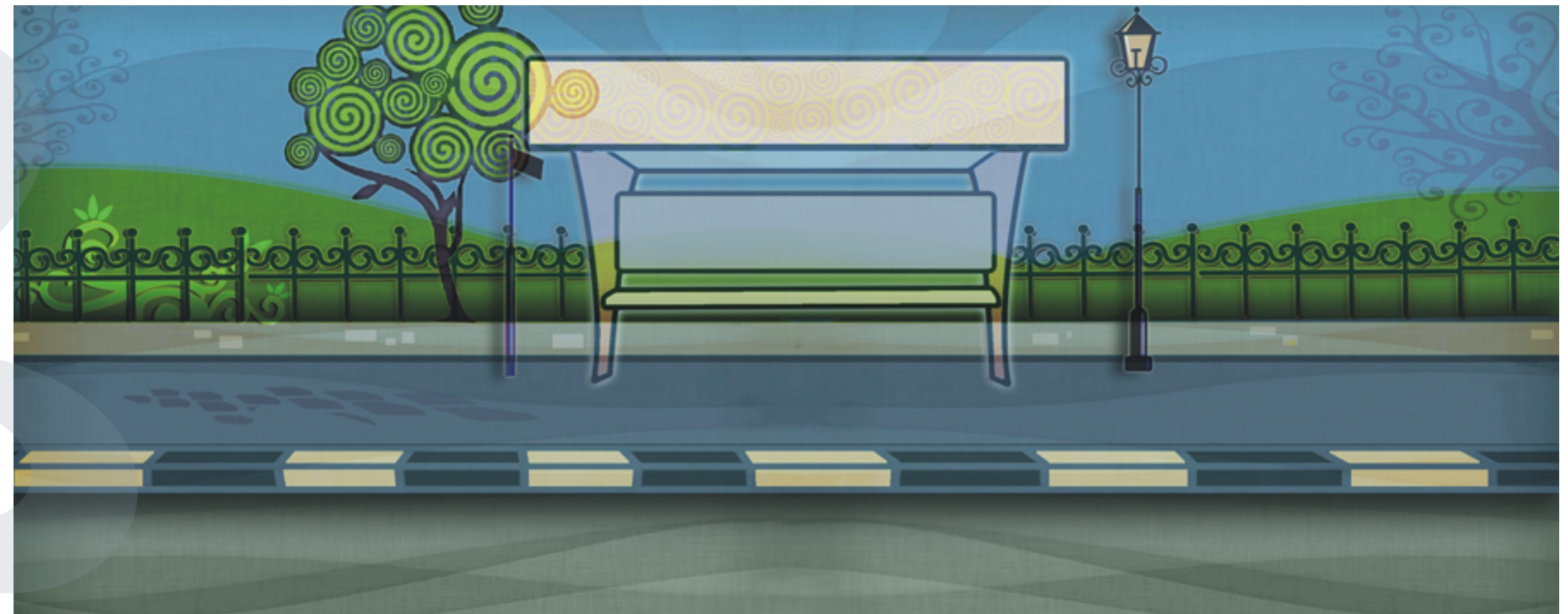
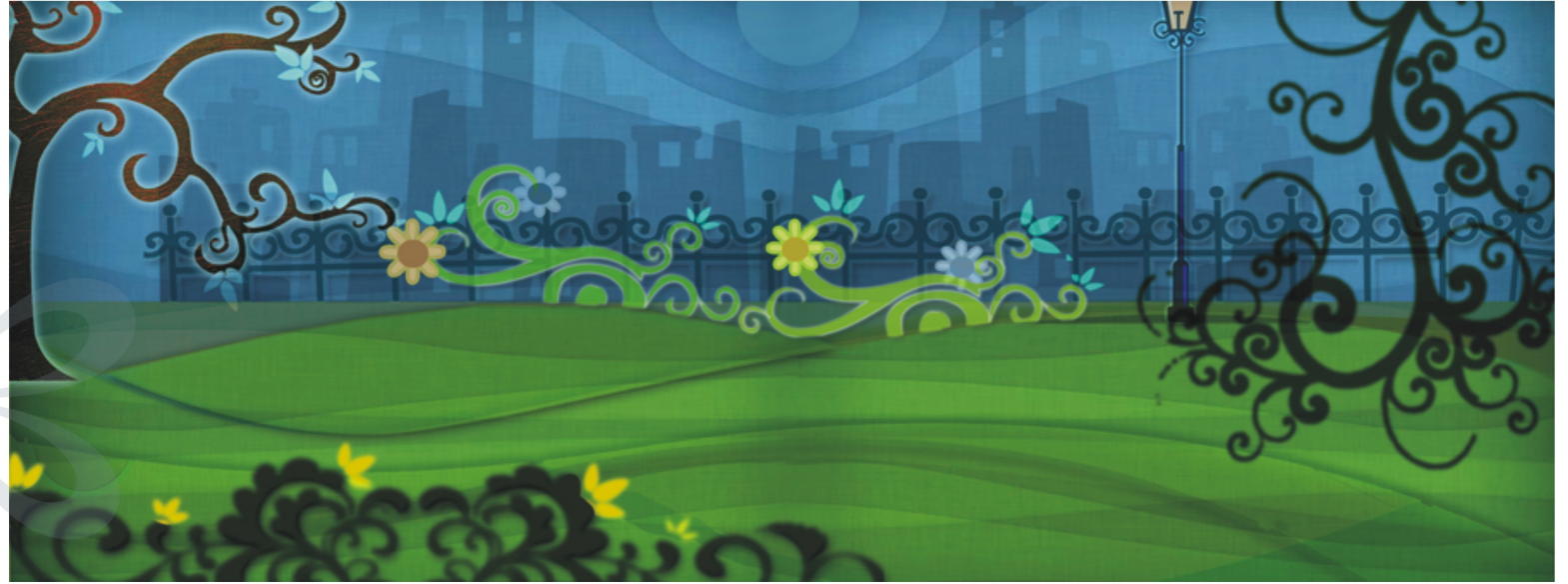
Concept Art

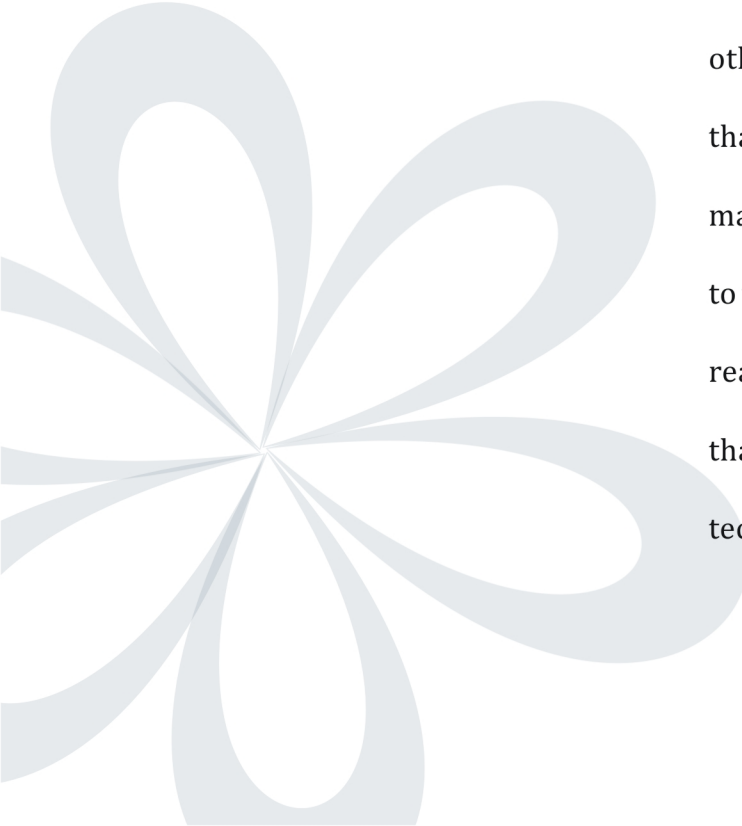
25

The film had to look visually very appealing. To show this film I had the freedom to choose any form of animation. Here, I choose cutout animation as my form of portraying the story. As I felt the look will enhance the motion and dynamism of the movie. .





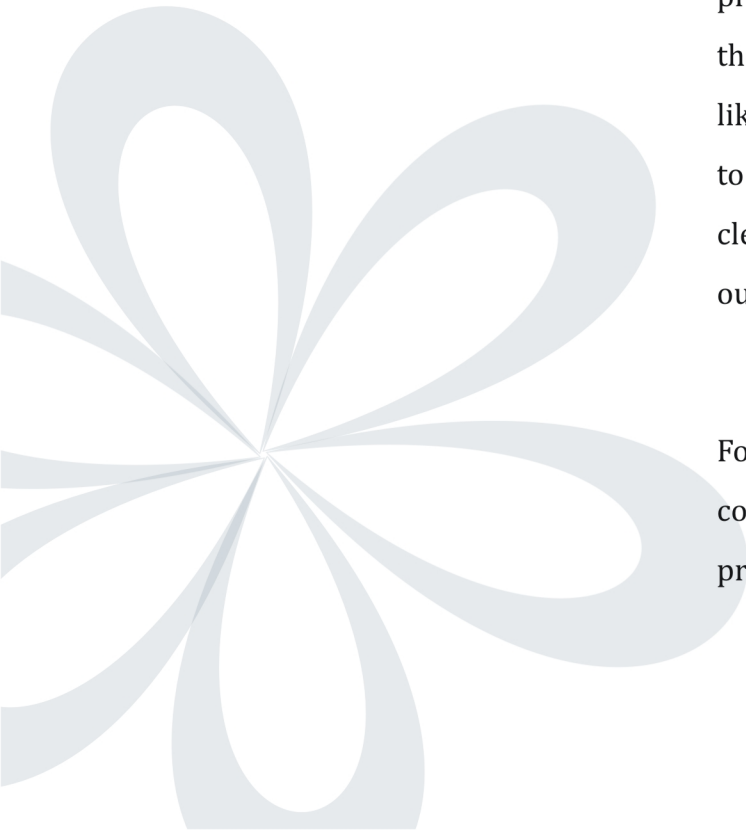




Flowers life is short and sometimes we make it shorter. But in their short life they try to give their life to others and make them happy. We never cared about them . At the end of the project I would like to say that with the help of animation and fantasy I have not only made the movie to entertain them but also to make them realize the emotion and pain of flowers. After watching the moving I at least expect people to **think twice before** they pluck the delicate beauty. Other than that I would also like to say that it was really very interesting and exciting to study the new style of animation. I would also like to mention that it was totally a new kind of experience learning about the flower as well as the animation technique used behind it.



Being a 2D animation movie technique of animation is **cutout animation**. Here cutout animation is produced digitally. To describe briefly about cut out animation, it is a process whereby movable, parts of the figure are moved to create an illusion of action. Of course cut out animation has its own limitations, like the fluid movements are not easy to achieve with the flat puppets. Most of the time I used the light box to draw different actions of character. Other than that I used Photoshop to make certain drawings. For cleanup and positioning I thought of using after effect for animation after effects is very nice for doing cut out animation, in animation and it has more camera movements than that of body movements in it.



For sound mixing and editing I have used cool edit pro. Finally all the audio and visual sequence are composited using Premiere. Technique used in animation is cutout, because it is a unique technique for producing animation for the style of characters I have selected.

Books

Scoble Gretchen. *The Meaning Of Flower*,
Library Of Catlogging In Publication 2003

James McCabe, *The Language Of Flower*,
Library Of Cataloguing In Publication 2003 2003

Rudginsky Marlene, *The flower speaks*,

Web

<http://www.aniboom.com/>
<http://creativeblogdirect.blogspot.com/>
<http://www.youtube.com/>
<http://www.vladstudio.com>
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flower>

Movies

The Flower Directed & written by Phil Dubrovsky

The Child of the Flowers -
an animated short film- HAFF 2008

Persopolis - The story of
the Islamic Revolution, Directed by Vincent Paronnaud

