



An Interactive Motion-Comic

## P3 Project

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## Approval Sheet

The Design Project 3 Titled “ PAIRED HEARTS ” by **Rhea Rane**, **Roll Number 18U130025**, is approved in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the ‘Master of Design’ in the Animation and Film Design at Industrial Design Center, Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay.

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# Declaration

I declare that this project report submission contains my own ideas and work, and if any pre-existing idea or work has been included, the original author(s) have been adequately cited and referenced.

I also declare that I have adhered to all the principles of academic honesty and integrity and have not misinterpreted, fabricated or falsified any idea, data, or fact source in my submission.

I understand that any violation of the above will be cause for disciplinary action by the institute and may evoke penal action from the sources.

Rhea Rane  
18U130025

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rane', enclosed within a large, horizontal oval loop.

IDC School of Design  
IIT Bombay  
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# P3 Report

## Title - PAIRED HEARTS

### Abstract

As families start to include the use of tablets and phones in their children's daily life, I wondered if I could experiment with storytelling that can be consumed over screens and if so, how can I make it better than childrens paper storybooks. The features that keep children engaged with screens more so than books are its interactivity, colorful fun motions and the freedom to do many things. This project entails writing a children's story and making it into an interactive motion comic for children of the age 6-12.

### Research

Research into existing motion webcomics

1. <http://ocean.sutueatsflies.com>
2. <https://www.studiomik.nl/hype/maggie/home.html>
3. <https://www.thesememorieswontlast.com>
4. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/tell-me-your-secrets/zdwd382>

Research into topics I could cover for that age range (6-12)

1. Dreams
2. Unknown forces - sci fi story using real science experiments as a base
3. Female periods - an understanding for young girls
4. Trans gender/gender binary childs story

### Topic chosen -

*Stories surrounding Trans gender/binary children*

I chose this topic as an inspiration to write my children's story because as we move on and keep up with the changing technology, culture and social norms, topics like this are hardly discussed or accepted. And since they are rare and mostly never accepted, I will not be writing a story that directly addresses this topic but rather subtly hints at a possible child's discomfort with body dysmorphia or confusion or acceptance. My aim is not to educate children about this social issue but rather a small story on accepting yourself as you are, kindness and strength in yourself.

### **The story - quick summary**

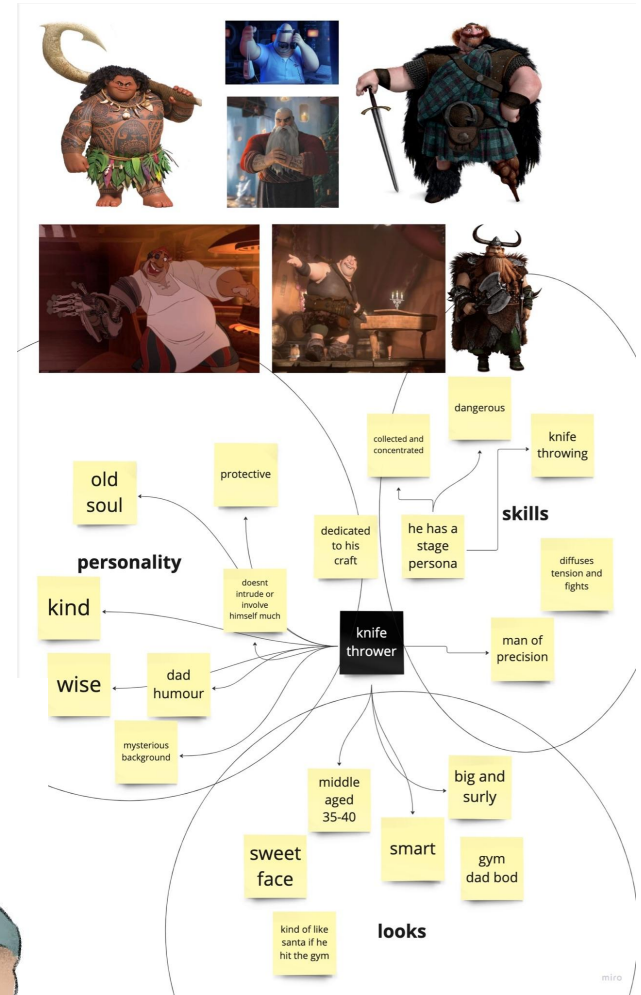
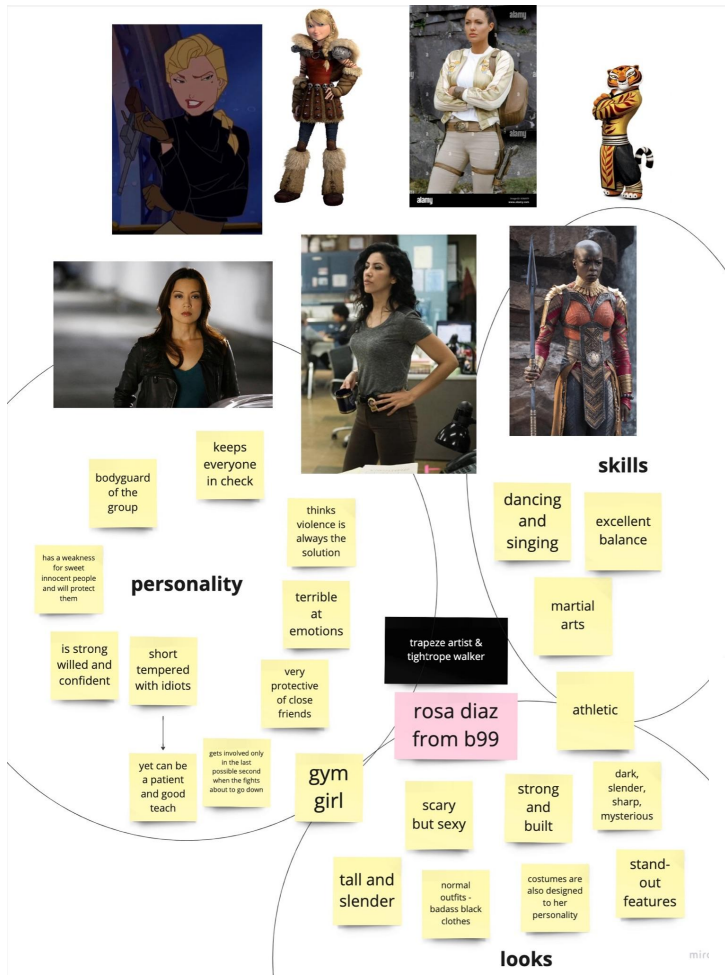
The story is of two children (a girl and a boy) that were cursed by the gods to share one body. They grew up learning how to adjust with one another but because they were harshly bullied by people around them, they were forced to either be a boy or a girl. The boy took control and grew up to be a famous trapeze artist and went on to open his own circus show. But an unexpected tragedy befell them when animals were banned from being used in their show, they began to lose business and as the boy weakened under stress, the girl takes control over their body to fix things in her own way but the boy misconstrued this as an act of dominance and anger the girl had for him. Once he begins to see things differently he realizes that she was only trying to help and that they were stronger and better together than apart. So with a renewed purpose he vows to help make this world a better place for both of them to exist together.

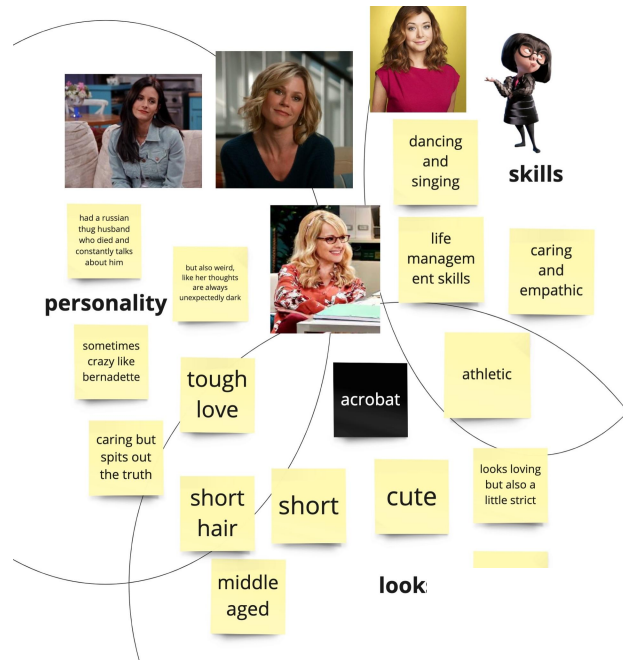
Extended version -

### **Moodboards and Concept Art**

Side characters -









## Main character mood board -



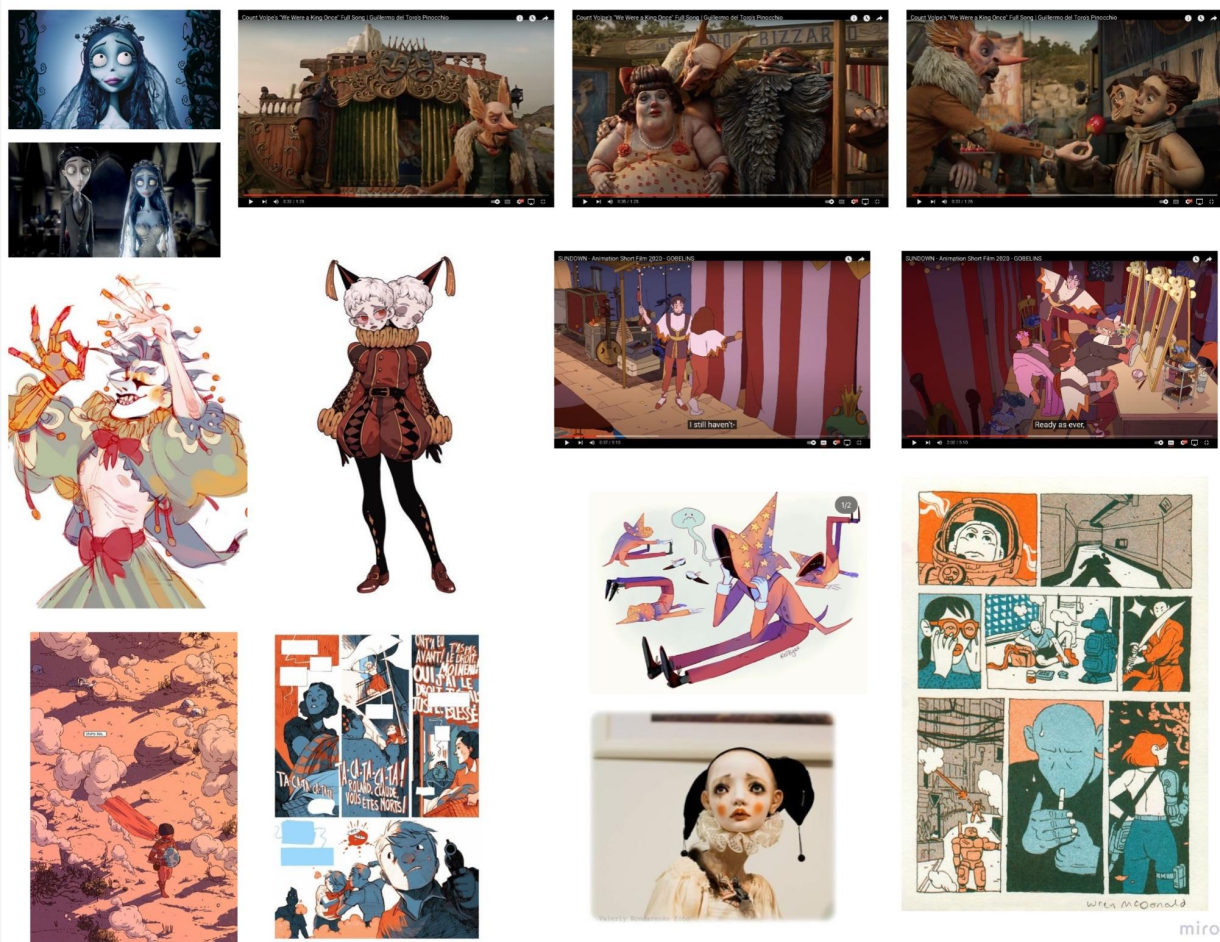
### Initial sketches of characters



## Inspiration for overall Look of the comic

- Inspired by Theatre and circus aesthetics
- Puppet characters (pinocchio, Coraline, Corpse bride)
- Colors by “Sun Down” - Gobelins short film

## Moodboard -

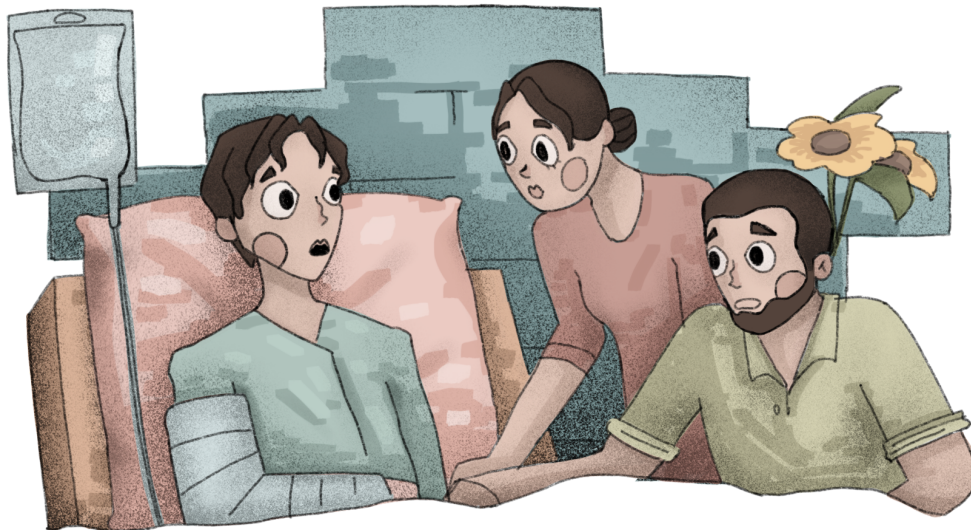


## Concept art

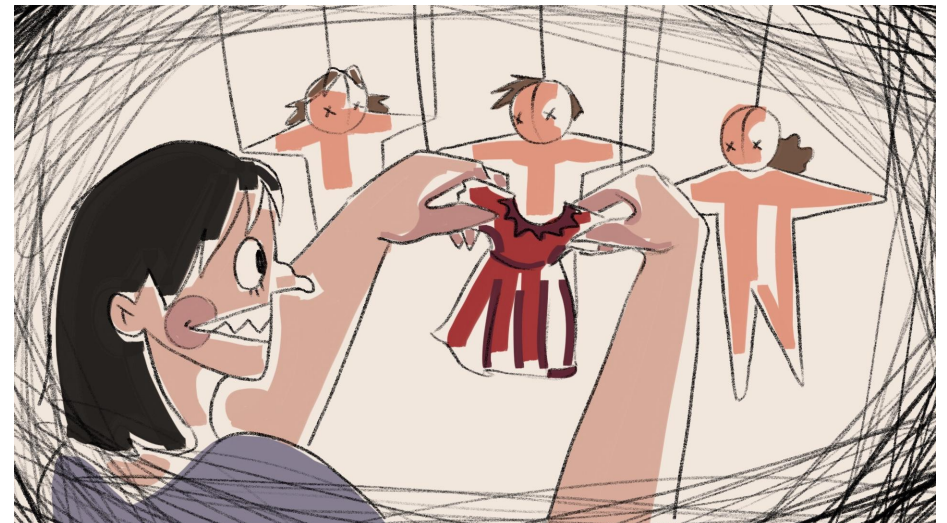
I wanted the look of the webcomic to be slightly dark, sad and contemplative while also colorfully engaging for children. While this is created with children as my main audience in mind, I believe adults can also find themselves enjoying the story as they are able to process the story on a deeper level while also appreciating the intricate illustrations. The illustrations will have some common features that are predetermined in order to give them the desired effect mentioned above.

### Features

- Scratchy pencil edges
- Sharp colors and contrast
- Colors inspired by theater or circus aesthetics
- Puppet eyes and lips
- Use of grain for shadows







## **Medium/Platform for the Motion comic**

I put together a prototype of the motion comic using Figma, which allows me to easily create transitions between each panel of my motion-comic when the readers interact with it.

## **Challenges and conclusions**

The story was rewritten on almost every stage in the progress of this project, which set back my timeline over and over again. This not only complicated my thought process while designing the storyboard and character designs but also slightly demotivated me along the way. The initial draft involved many side characters to a great extent but the final draft barely mentions them at all and since much of my time had been spent on designing these side characters, it was sad to see them go. The Art style in particular was hard to nail down, it took a long while to realize my vision and it was even harder to be consistent with it in every frame. My main character would look ever so slightly different with every drawing and that was frustrating and took a long time to get right. Overall I had many more plans for this project such as a short video form of the motion comic with a voice recording of the story and more animation in the panels. But even though i was not able to do everything in time, I learnt a lot from my mistakes and in the end i have a positive outlook of this project. In conclusion, I enjoyed this project as it was venturing into a new medium of storytelling that I had no prior experience with and in spite of all the challenges I am happy with what the project has come to and how much it has taught me.

Initial Draft of Webcomic -

<https://www.figma.com/proto/W3GV0bRHnmoBogMvvTyOQ3/Untitled?page-id=0%3A1&type=design&node-id=251-33&viewp ort=-292%2C7168%2C0.08&scaling=contain&starting-point-node-id=328%3A507&show-prot o-sidebar=1>