



Project 3

Chav

(The Taste)

Guided by
Prof. Shilpa Ranade
Prof. Swati Agarwal

Pratik Dugane
216340007
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IDC School of Design
अभिकल्प विद्यालय



Approval Sheet

The Design Project 3 Titled “ CHAV (TASTE) ” by **Pratik Dugane** ,
Roll Number 216340007, is approved in partial fulfillment of the
requirement for the ‘Master of Design’ in the Animation and Film
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Bombay.

Project Guide :

Digital Signature
Shilpa Ranade Ranade (i01079)
03-Jul-23 02:16:10 PM

Chairperson :

Digital Signature
Girish Vinod Dalvi (i13174)
04-Jul-23 01:31:55 PM

Internal Examiner :

Digital Signature
Sumant Muralidhar Rao (i07120)
03-Jul-23 12:16:40 PM

External Examiner :



Date :

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Pratik Dugane

216340007

Date: June 2023

IDC School of Design, IIT Bombay

Acknowledgment

The successful completion of this project owes its gratitude to the collaboration and guidance of numerous individuals. I extend my heartfelt thanks to my esteemed guide, Prof. Shilpa Ranade, and co-guide Prof. Swati Agarwal, whose invaluable support played a pivotal role.

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My profound appreciation goes out to all the Professors who provided valuable feedback and suggestions during the project presentations. Additionally, I express my sincere gratitude to my colleagues for their generous assistance throughout this endeavor.

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Abstract

This abstract introduces a heartwarming yet cautionary story of a middle-aged woman's pursuit to impress her family through her cooking. After facing disappointment with her previous culinary attempts, she chances upon an expensive cooking sauce advertisement. Driven by the desire to change her family's perception of her cooking skills, she acquires the coveted sauce.

With the sauce hidden away, the woman daydreams about the perfect occasion to use it. However, in a moment of frustration, she impulsively scolds her son for unknowingly stumbling upon it. As time passes, the sauce becomes forgotten amidst the clutter of the fridge.

A stroke of luck presents itself when the sauce's expiry date aligns with a special occasion. Overflowing with excitement, she cooks a dinner infused with the sauce, accidentally using the whole bottle. The flavors are a hit, but the family members' stomachs grow upset later.

The story reflects the excessive possessive towards an object and how anticipation can lead to unforeseen consequences. It serves as a gentle reminder that true appreciation lies in simple gestures and that happiness should not depend on external validations.

Introduction

Object attachment encompasses the emotional ties individuals form with inanimate objects, eliciting a profound sense of loss if ever separated from these cherished items. This innate aspect of human nature leads us to develop sentimental feelings not only towards possessions but also towards our relationships. Despite this, it remains crucial to prioritize the value of human connections over material belongings.

The phenomenon of hoarding disorder (HD) often involves intense emotional attachments to objects, but it is essential to acknowledge that individuals without HD can also experience object attachment. Distinguishing between normal and abnormal object attachment becomes a significant consideration in understanding the complexities of human psychology.

Both individuals with and without HD exhibit emotional attachment to sentimental items, although those with HD may undergo more intricate and mixed emotions, indicative of an insecure object attachment.

This movie embarks on an exploration of object attachment, delving into the lives of characters who develop deep emotional bonds with inanimate objects, leading them to experience profound feelings of loss upon separation. It explores the inherent human inclination to cherish possessions and forge sentimental connections, while highlighting the paramount importance of prioritizing meaningful relationships with people.

Throughout the narrative, the film aims to underscore the happiness derived from object attachment and the powerful impact such attachments can have on individuals' lives. By delving into the complexities and nuances of these emotional connections, the project seeks to shed light on the intricate landscape of object attachment and provoke thought-provoking reflections on the balance between the material and the emotional in our lives.

Inspiration

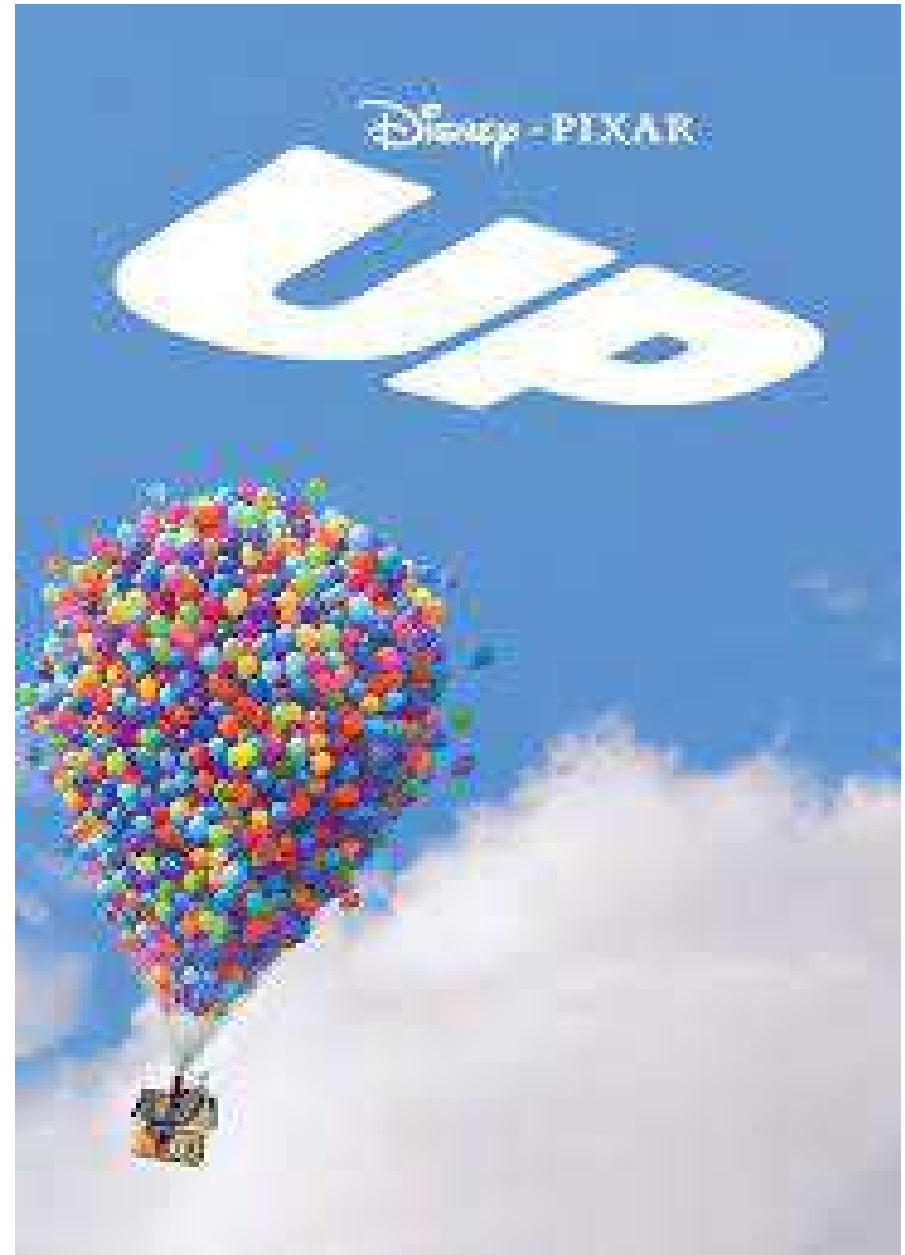
One of my inspirations for this topic was a marathi movie called Cycle (2017 film). Keshav, an esteemed astrologer and doctor, cherishes a yellow bicycle passed down by his grandfather. Possessive of it, only his daughter is allowed to ride. When thieves steal it, she wonders if it'll fly away. Distraught, Keshav sets off on a quest to find his beloved cycle.



लवकरच येत आहे...

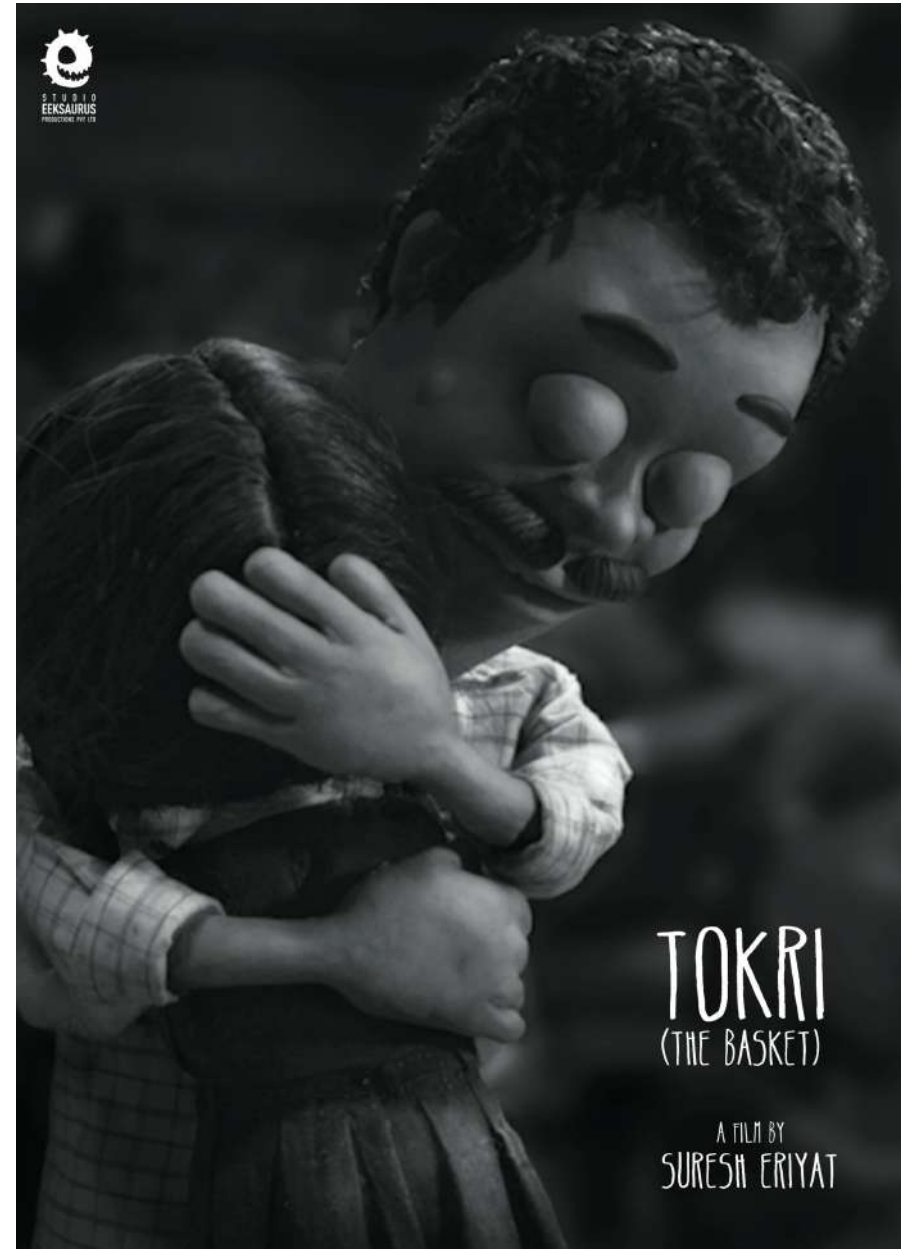
Inspiration

Up (2009 film) a Disney Pixar's oscar-winning 3D animated short film Directed by Pete Doctor. 78-year-old Carl Fredricksen travels to Paradise Falls in his house equipped with balloons, inadvertently taking a young stowaway. As a boy, Carl Fredricksen wanted to explore South America and find the forbidden Paradise Falls.



Inspiration

Tokri (The Basket) directed by Suresh Eriyat. After accidentally breaking her father's cherished watch, a young girl sells homemade baskets to pay for the repair. This stop-motion animation captures the lives of two seemingly insignificant people, changed by one fateful encounter.



Research

In my primary research, I explore the diverse experiences and narratives of individuals. I find that possessiveness serves as a clear indicator of insecurity and self-abandonment, resulting from a lack of self-love and confidence. This behavior arises when people overly depend on others for love and validation, seeking external sources for happiness and security. However, introspection and personal growth can lead some possessive individuals, especially those grappling with insecurity, to change.

Interestingly, many individuals unknowingly possess sentimental connections to certain items. When discussing possessiveness with my friends, they initially denied any possessive tendencies. However, as we delved deeper into the subject, some became aware of emotional attachments to various objects in their lives.

Common examples of possessive attachments encompass a wide range of things like bags, food, spaces, shoes, stationery, mobile devices, gifts, clothes, gardens, plants, trophies, medals, certificates, photos, games, collections, toys, aged liquor bottles, jewelry, cars, bikes, paintings, artworks, antiques, boxes, and love letters,

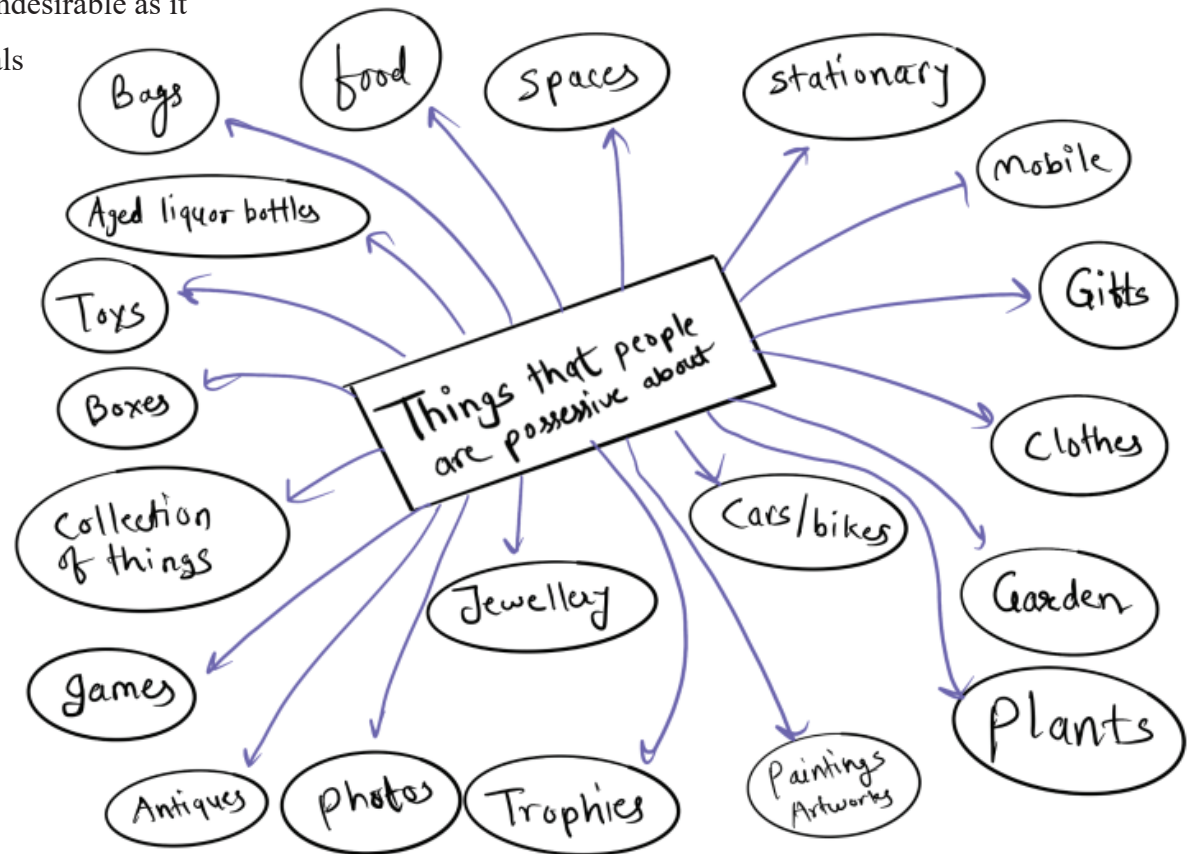
Especially evident among older adults.

Understanding possessiveness and its underlying roots can empower individuals to foster healthier relationships with both others and themselves, encouraging a more profound sense of self-assurance and emotional well-being..

Research

To be possessive entails being somewhat selfish about the things and people in one's life, tightly holding onto them and asserting ownership by saying, "Mine!"

However, possessiveness is generally considered undesirable as it often stems from feelings of insecurity in individuals



Concept

Over time, a person develops a profound bond with an object, but they are eventually faced with the need to sacrifice or part ways with it, resulting in a poignant and bittersweet experience.

Story 01

Tuka, a 40-year-old man, is possessive about his belongings and takes great care in cleaning and arranging them on a shelf. When guests with children visit, one child becomes determined to take Tuka's prized possessions. Rather than confronting the child and risking upsetting the guests, Tuka redirects the child's focus to other items. After the guests depart, he inspects the shelf and discovers everything intact, except for one item with a crack. Although relieved, Tuka remains somewhat suspicious and worried about the safety of his cherished possessions.

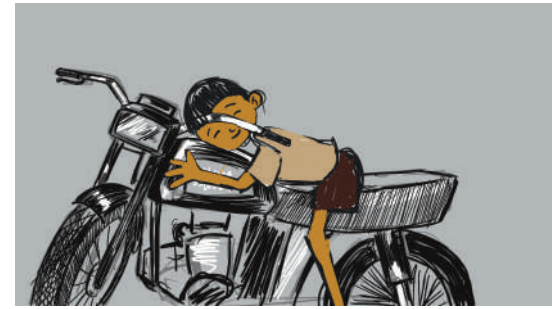
Story 02

The story centers on Vinod, a 60-year-old man deeply devoted to his beloved Yamaha Rajdoot bike from 1986. He lovingly maintains and protects it, especially from children. Childhood flashbacks reveal his admiration for his father's bike and the joy of riding with him.

In the present, an older Vinod safeguards the bike from scrap workshops, observing a caring young man looking after it. Memories of his adulthood resurface, including receiving the bike's key from his father and bonding with Chintu, a helpful neighbor.

However, tragedy strikes when Vinod has an accident, destroying the bike. In a poignant dream, he gazes at the bike through his window. The next day, he lovingly hands its key to the now grown-up Chintu, who fixed it. Vinod sits behind Chintu as they ride, symbolizing continuity and joy at different stages of life.

The story eloquently depicts Vinod's emotional attachment to the bike, intertwining past and present with cherished memories. The bike becomes more than an object; it represents family, love, and the passage of time.

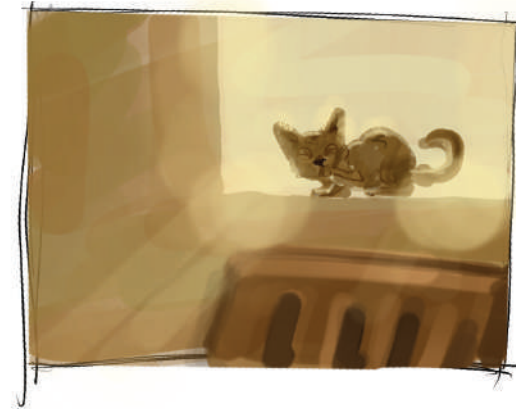
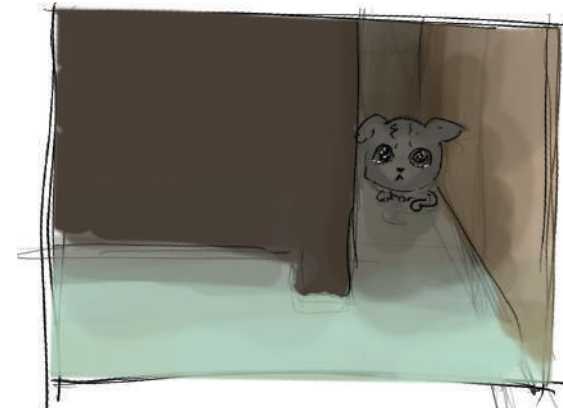
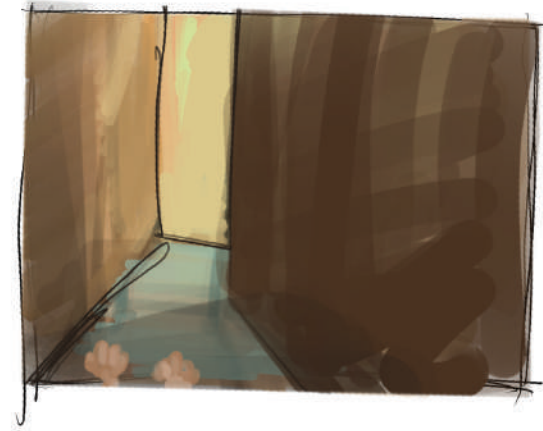


Story 03

In a tale of an elderly man living alone, he holds dear a box that accompanies him everywhere, meticulously cleaning and placing it in the same spot daily. One day, he encounters a sweet kitten sitting at the window, and they develop a delightful bond. The man adores the playful kitten, even as she wreaks havoc around the house, pushing and breaking things. Despite the chaos, he overlooks her mischiefs out of love.

However, tragedy strikes when the kitten accidentally breaks the box containing cherished belongings of his late wife, including a hand mirror, hairpin, brooch pin, and precious photos. Consumed by anger, the man impulsively throws a broom towards the scared kitten, who hides in fear. Realizing his grave mistake and heartbroken at the loss of his wife's items, he seeks reconciliation.

The remorseful man extends an offering of milk to the kitten, who emerges cautiously to drink it. He lovingly pampers her, understanding the importance of nurturing the newfound bond over material possessions. The story touches upon the significance of companionship and the healing power of love, eventually leading the old man to prioritize the precious moments shared with the kitten over his possessions.



Story 04

In this story, a middle-aged, middle-class woman with a passion for collecting different products goes shopping and stumbles upon a sale of branded kitchen and cooking items. She buys an expensive cooking sauce at a low price and feels elated about the purchase. Eager to save it for a special occasion or guest, she hides the sauce bottle in a corner of the fridge, warning her son not to touch it.

Every day, she glances at the sauce bottle with a smile when she enters the kitchen, but as time passes, it gets hidden behind other products, and everyone forgets about it. One day, while checking the fridge's contents, she discovers the sauce bottle and realizes it's the last day before expiry. Excitedly, she uses the sauce to prepare a delicious dinner for her family.

When they sit down to eat, the aroma lures everyone to the dining table, where they find a delightful spread of food. With the first bite, they are stunned by the incredible flavors resulting from the woman's decision to use the sauce for a special dinner, making it a memorable and enjoyable family meal



Final Story

In this heartfelt tale, a caring middle-aged woman lovingly prepares lunch for her family, hoping for their appreciation. However, they politely decline the food, leaving her disheartened and yearning to change their perception of her cooking skills.

One day, she comes across an advertisement for an expensive cooking sauce on sale. Excited about the potential to impress her family, she rushes to get it. Eager to surprise them, she hides the sauce, but her son accidentally discovers it, leading to frustration and an impulsive reaction from her.

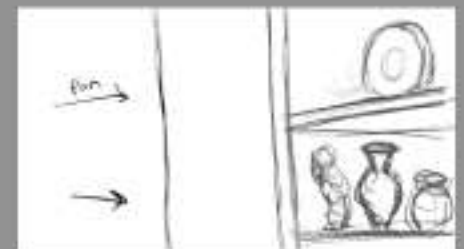
To safeguard the sauce, she keeps it in a secluded spot in the fridge, stealing glances at it daily with anticipation. However, over time, it gets lost behind other items, and everyone forgets about it. One day, while rummaging through the fridge, she rediscovers the sauce and envisions using it for a special guest. To her delight, she finds that it coincidentally expires that day.

Filled with excitement, she uses the sauce to make dinner, unintentionally pouring the entire bottle into the dish. Though she realizes her mistake, a pleasant aroma fills the air, suggesting the meal might still turn out delicious.

That night, the family is enticed by the mouthwatering smell of the food infused with the special sauce. Everyone takes their first bite and is stunned by the incredible flavors. However, after some time, their stomachs become upset, leaving the woman confused about whether she should continue eating or not.

The story emphasizes the value of love and obsession, highlighting the significance of cherished efforts and family moments, regardless of the culinary outcome.

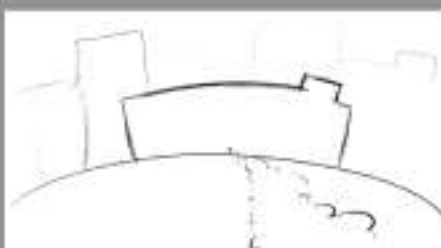
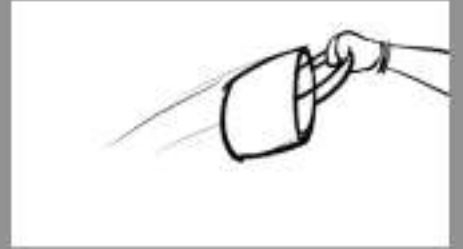
Story Board



Story Board



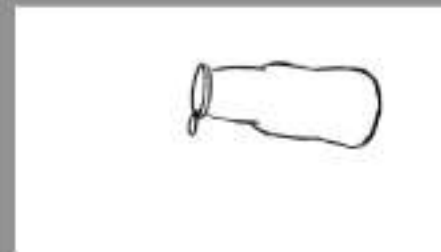
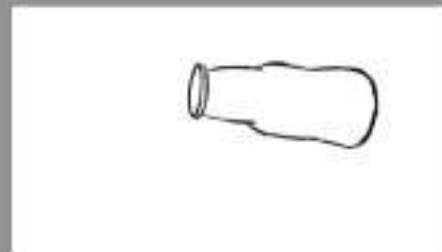
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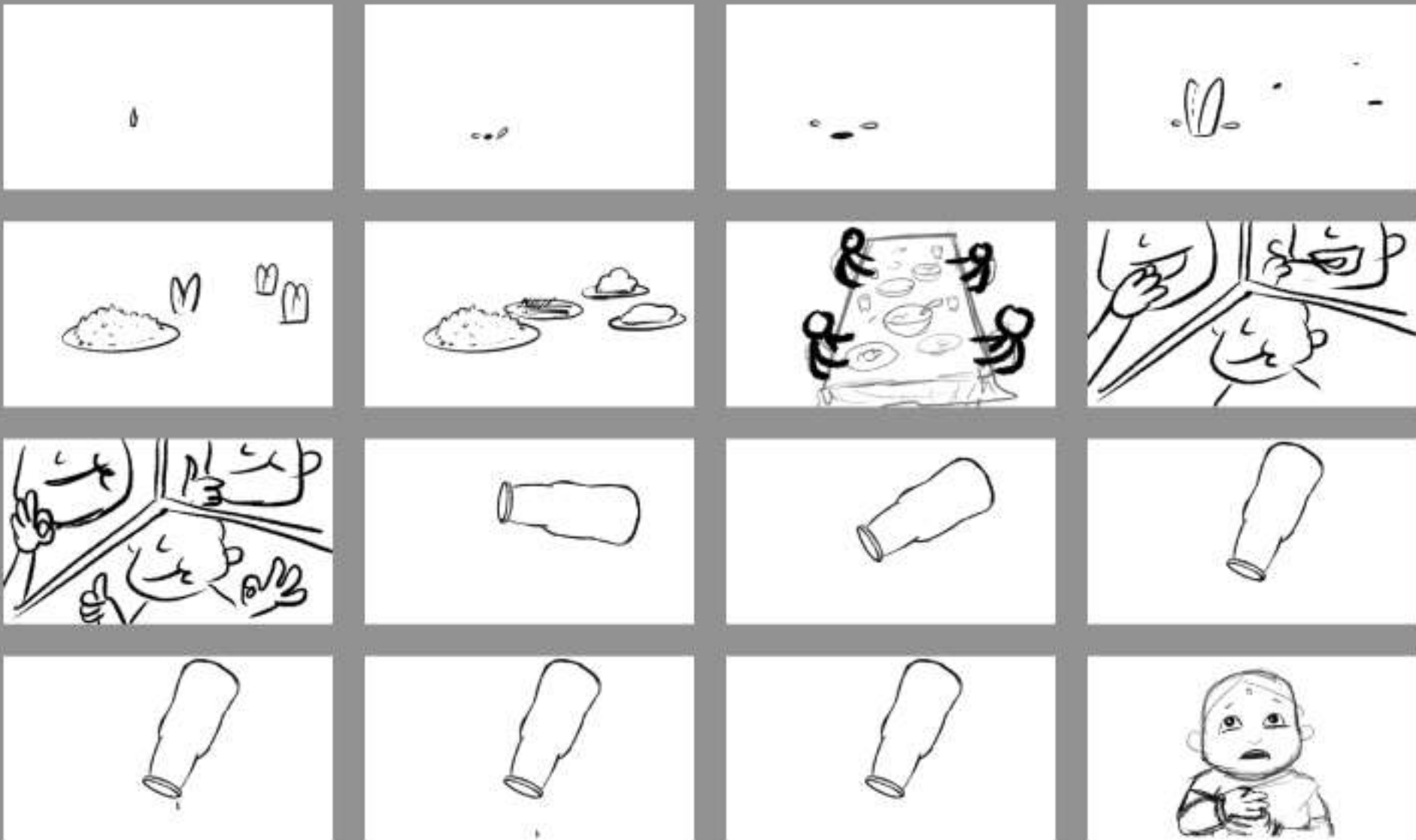
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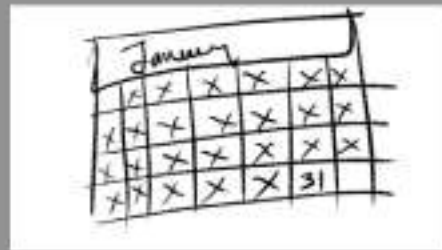
Story Board



Story Board



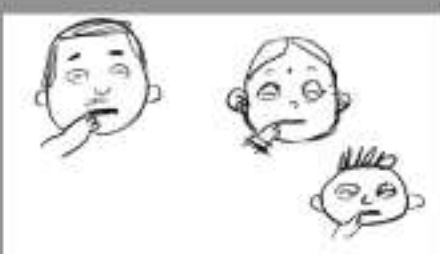
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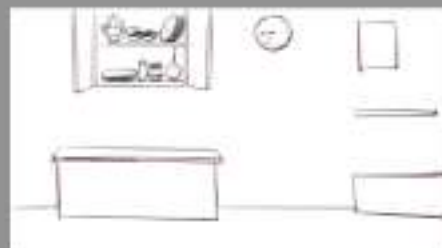
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Story Board



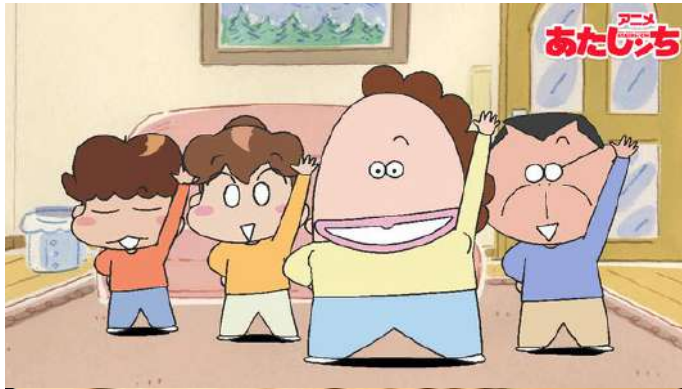
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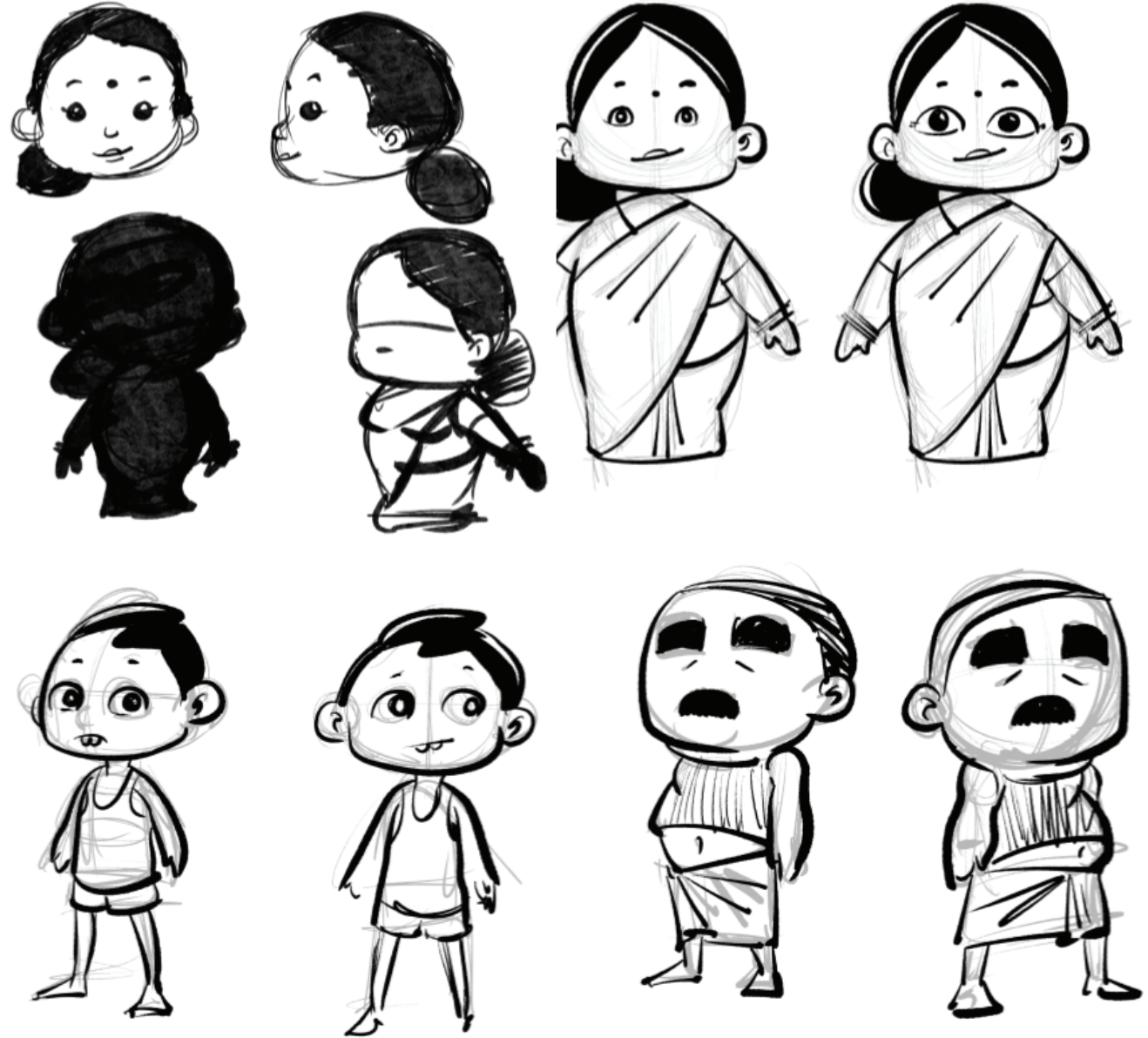
Mood Board



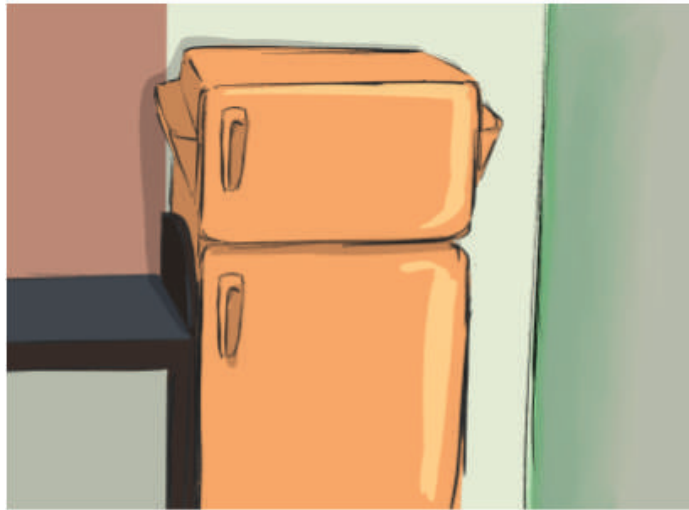
Mood Board



Concept Sketches



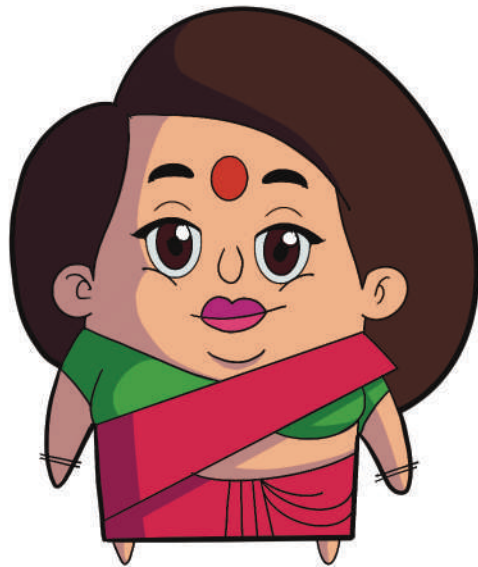
Concept Sketches



Concept Sketches



Concept Sketches



Concept Sketches



Character design



Om



Lata



Vinod

Character design



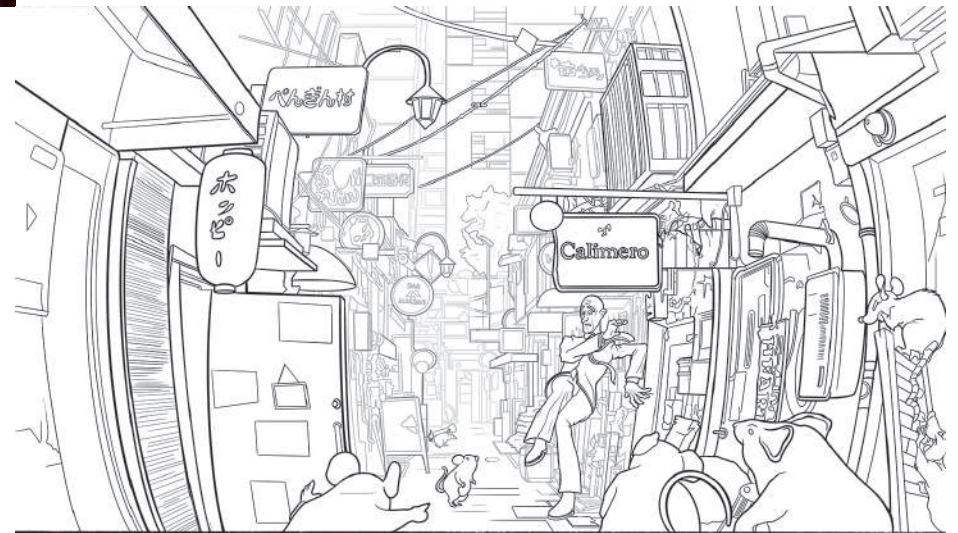
Character design



Character design



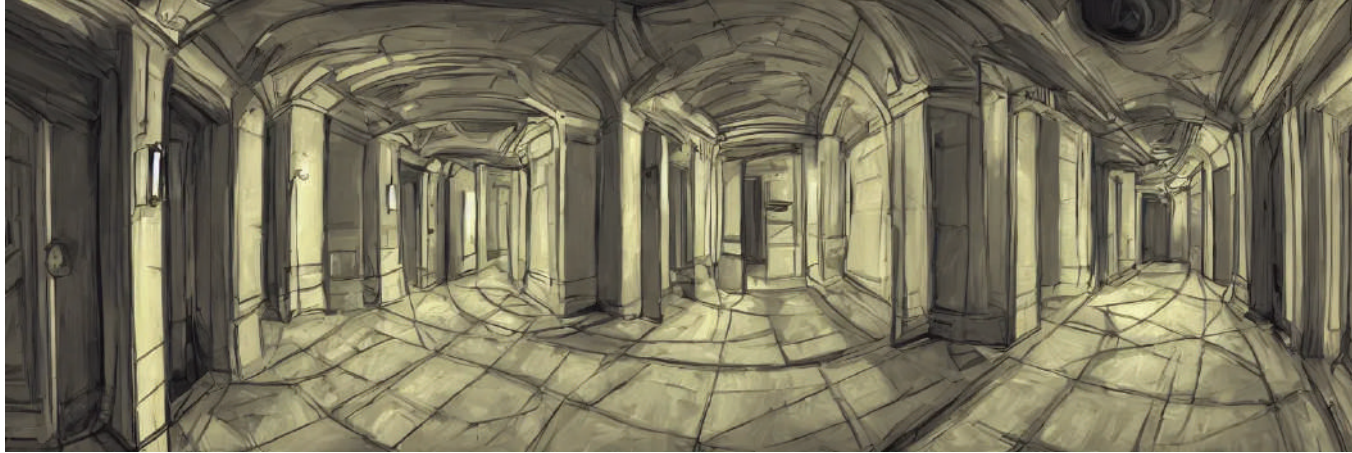
Background Inspiration



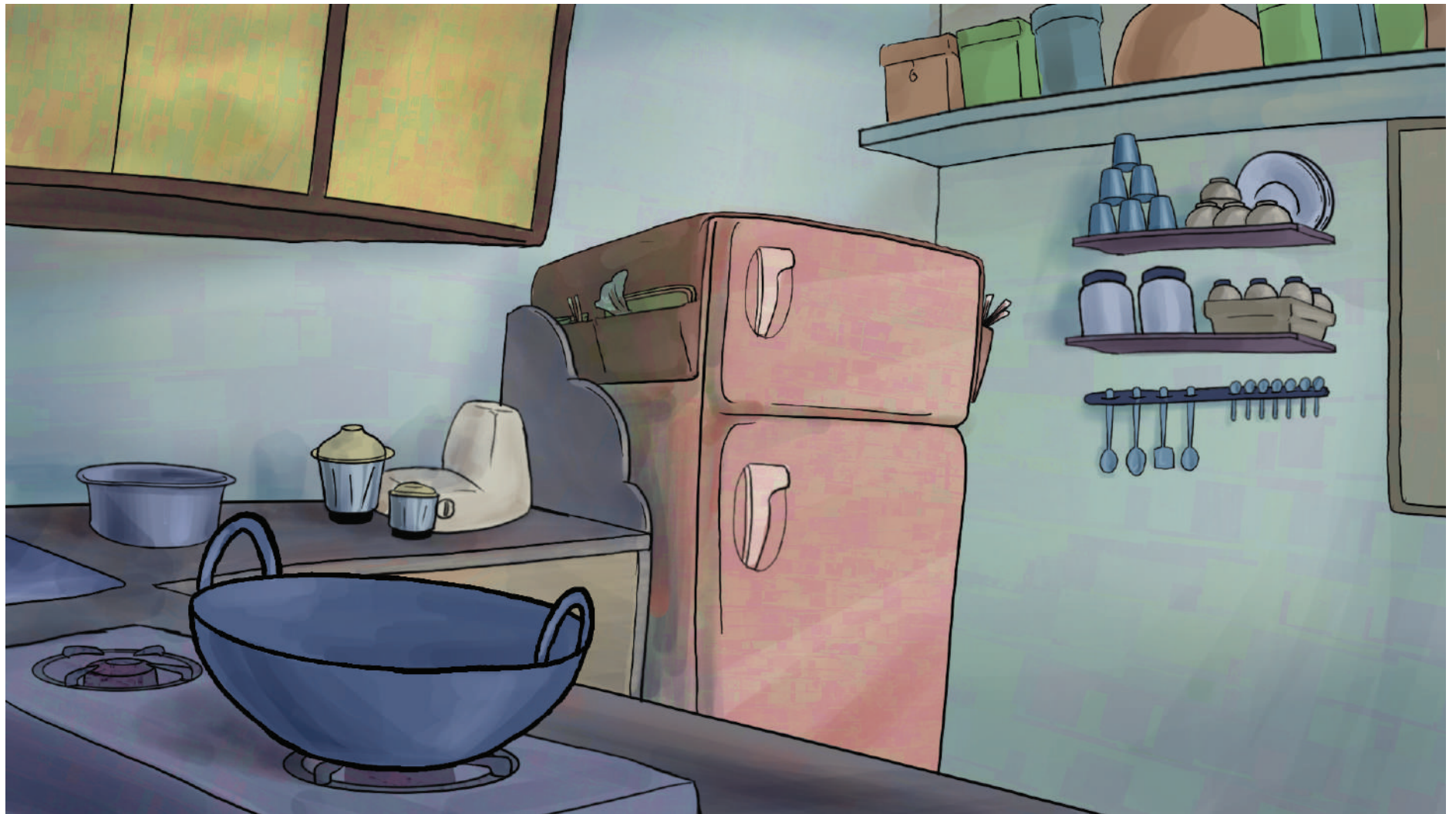
Background Inspiration



Background Inspiration



Backgrounds



Backgrounds



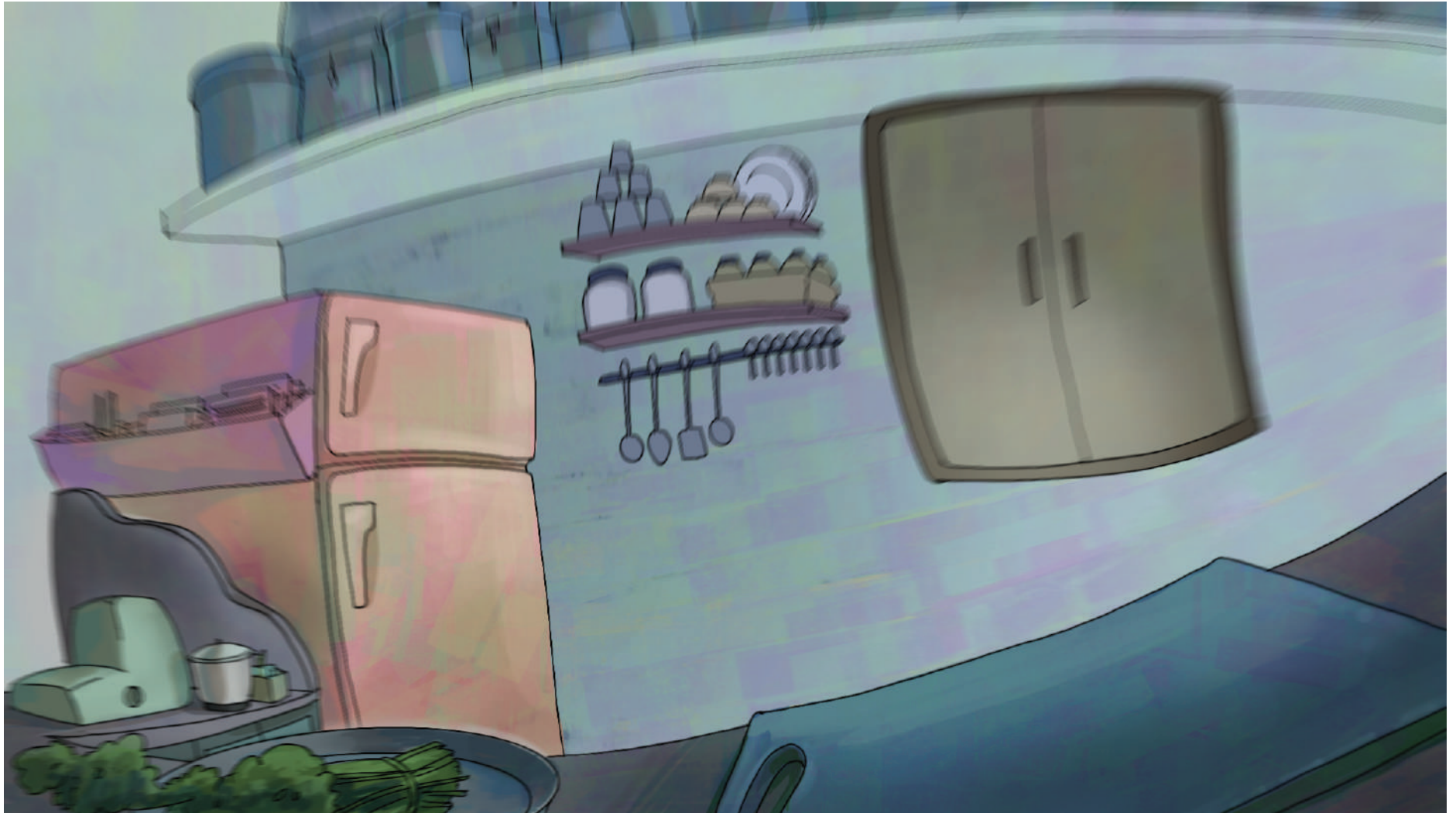
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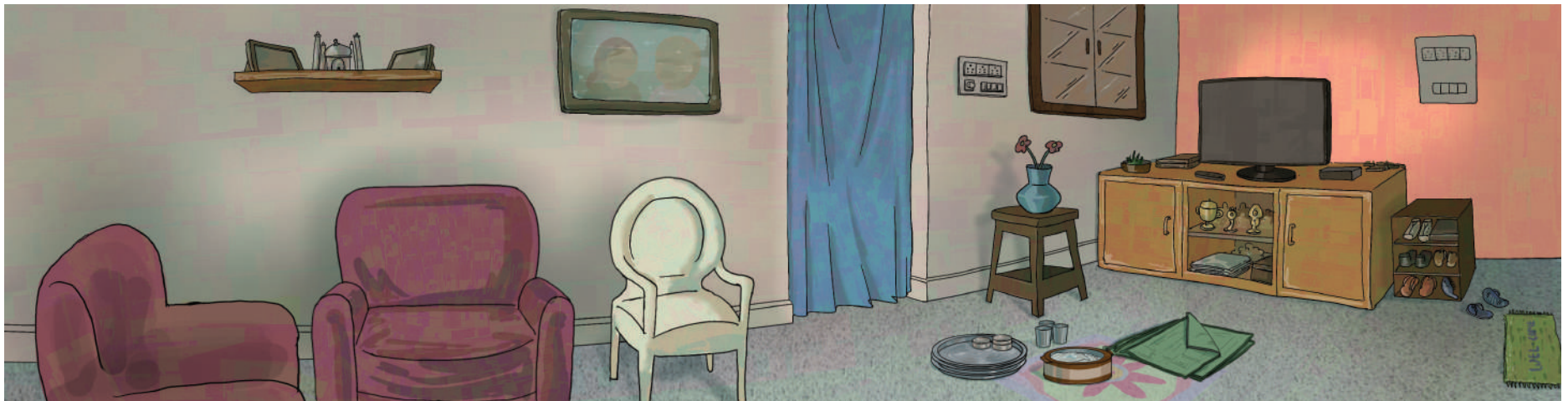
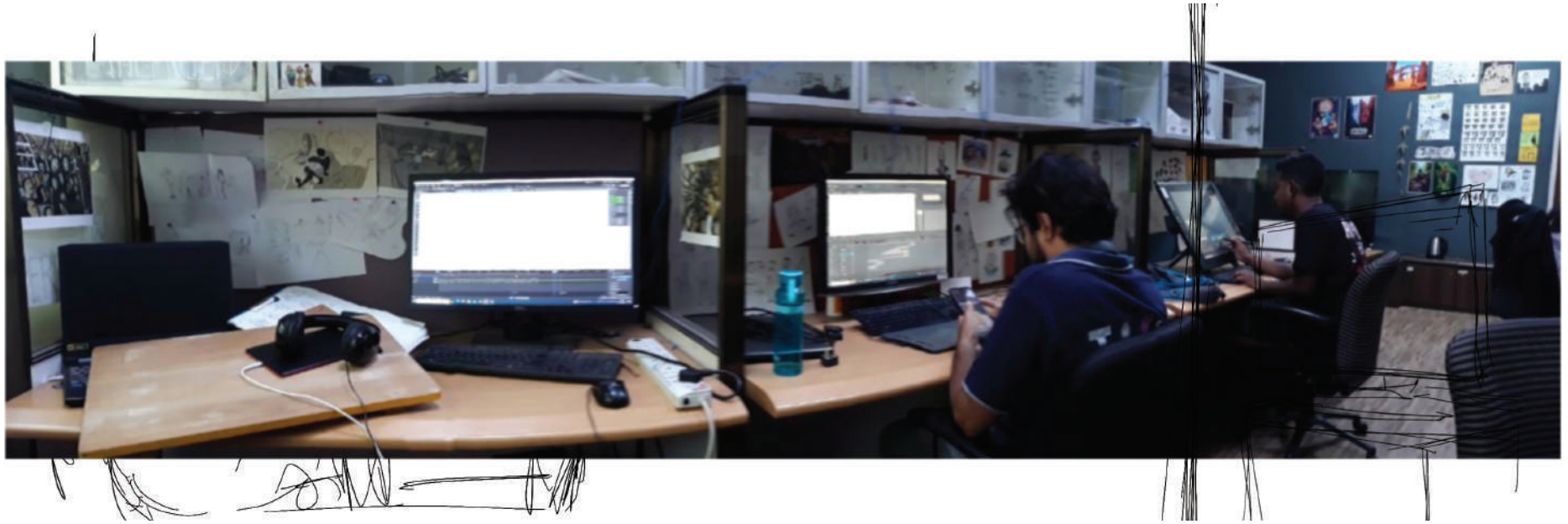


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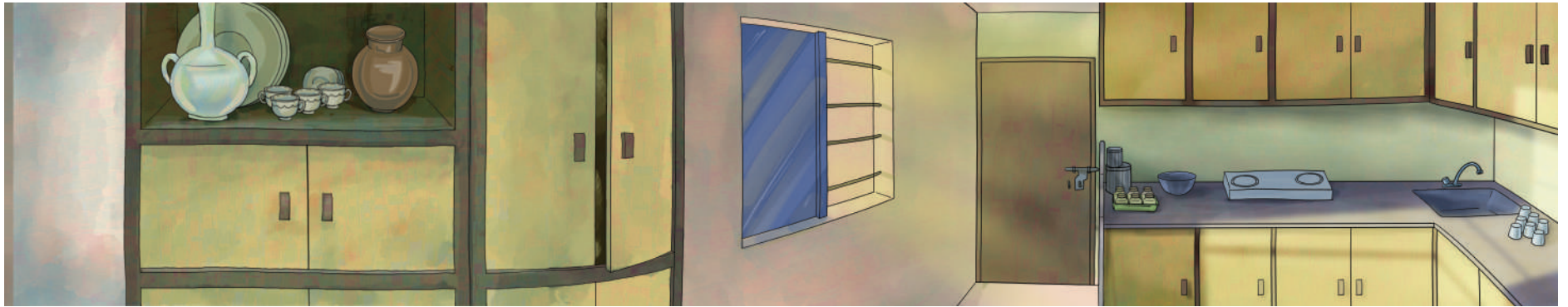


Backgrounds

Reference I took, by taking PANORAMA picture for panning shots.



Backgrounds



Sound

The IDC recording studio served as the location for the sound recording of the lead character, Lata. Rajani Gawande provided her voice for the role during the recording process.



Animation and Compositing

I utilized Procreate on my iPad for storyboarding and rough animation, while Callipeg was used for character animation. The compositing process was carried out using Adobe After Effects and Premiere Pro.

The video reference for shot



Final shot

Animation and Compositing

The animation was executed using Callipeg in Ipad.



Animation and Compositing

Compositing was performed using Adobe After Effects.



Animation and Compositing

Adobe Premiere Pro was used for compiling the film.



Conclusion

In the end, the story captures the woman's possessive attachment to the sauce bottle, signifying her deep desire to impress her family. From the moment she laid eyes on it during the sale, she cherished it as a key to transforming their perception of her culinary skills. Hiding the bottle and stealing glances at it daily showcased her unwavering dedication to the idea of a special occasion.

However, as time passed, the sauce bottle became lost in the crowded fridge, symbolizing how possessiveness can sometimes obscure one's true intentions. When rediscovering it on the day of its expiry, her excitement reached its peak, leading her to use the entire bottle impulsively in her cooking.

Despite the initial success of the meal, the unintended consequences surfaced as her family's upset stomachs brought forth the limitations of her possessiveness. The story serves as a reminder that while ambition and anticipation are natural, it is essential to strike a balance between desire and practicality, ensuring that genuine love and appreciation for family members prevail over material possessions.

Challenges and Learnings

Creating a film is a vastly different experience from merely watching one. While being an audience is familiar to everyone, the process of crafting a film is challenging and distinct. Seeing your film take shape from start to finish is gratifying, but it comes with its share of difficulties. One of the most demanding aspects of my film was generating diverse ideas within the theme of "possessiveness towards inanimate things." While small ideas were easy to come by, weaving them into a cohesive narrative presented a unique challenge, especially considering it was a 4-minute animated short film.

Throughout the journey, I worked on multiple layers, continuously refining the story and script through numerous animatics and iterations. Often, I found myself overthinking and struggling to strike the right balance. However, I learned to seek guidance and feedback from my mentors and peers, which proved invaluable.

Another revelation was the significance of considering multiple perspectives rather than relying solely on one viewpoint. Engaging in discussions with professors and friends, I began contemplating the broader audience's preferences and beliefs.

As I move forward, I aim to enhance my storytelling skills and create visually captivating films by incorporating diverse perspectives. Time, experience, and constructive feedback will undoubtedly guide me towards refining my storytelling and cinematic abilities.

References

Why are we so attached to our things?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H2_by0rp5q0&ab_channel=T-ED-Ed

Animated short film Tokri -

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5qKYrajRNwo&t=2s&ab_channel=ShortoftheWeek

Animated short film Fisherwoman and Tuk Tuk -

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WwQKLgUYEdY&ab_channel=StudioEksaurus

