



THE ART OF
MONARCH + MONSTERS
BY VYLET PONY

INCLUDES ART BY VYLET PONY, JUNOSARTZ, NERKMIDZ,
STEREOFlier, AZIEBITES, ASTROEDEN, NEKOSNICKER,
LARVAECANDY, AND GLACIERCLEAR

CONTENT WARNING: VIOLENCE,
EXCESSIVE BLOOD, & NUDITY

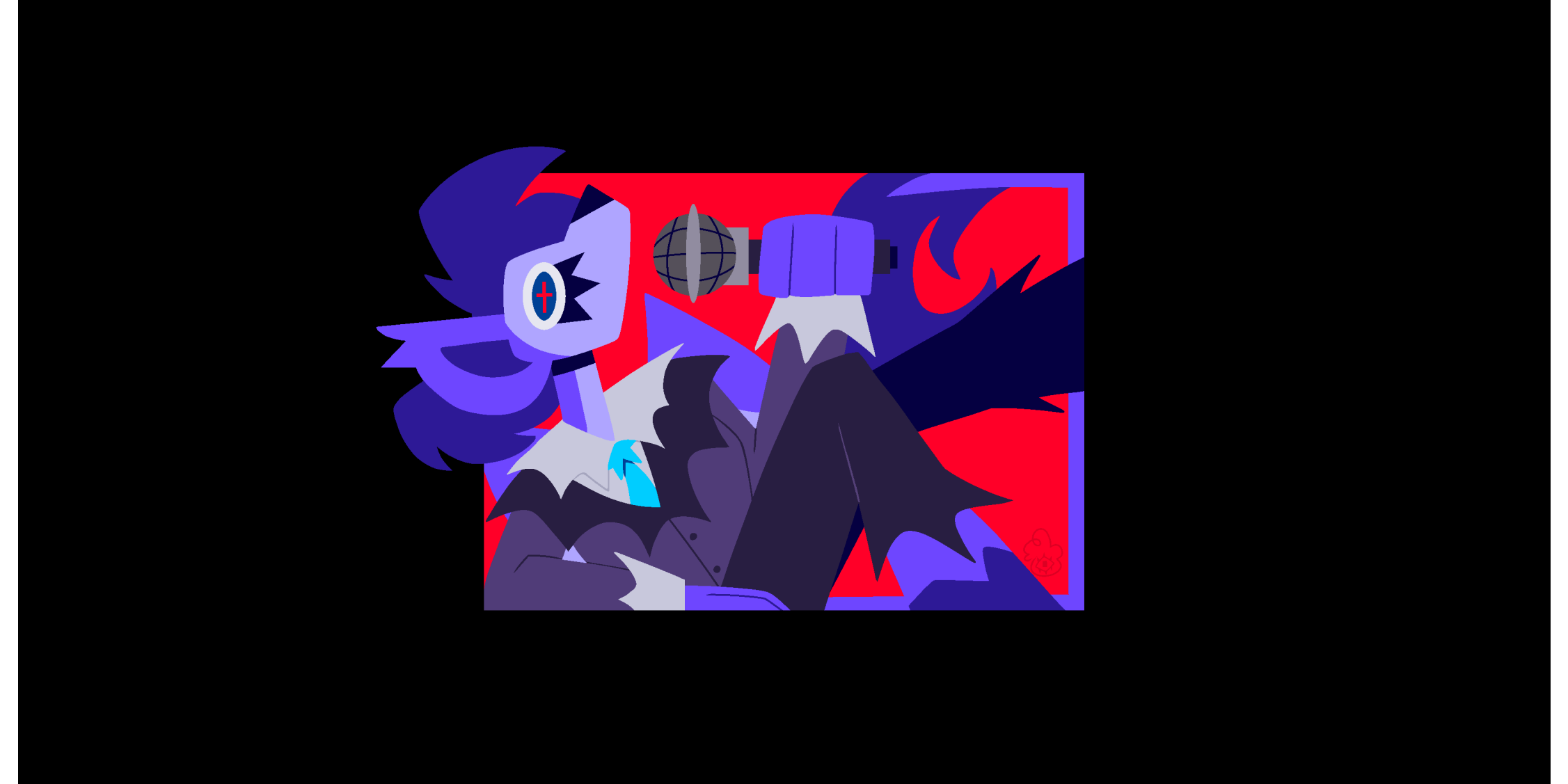
THE SONG COVER ARTS



PEST, BY NERKMIDZ



PLAY DEAD! PLAY DEAD!, BY STEREOFlier



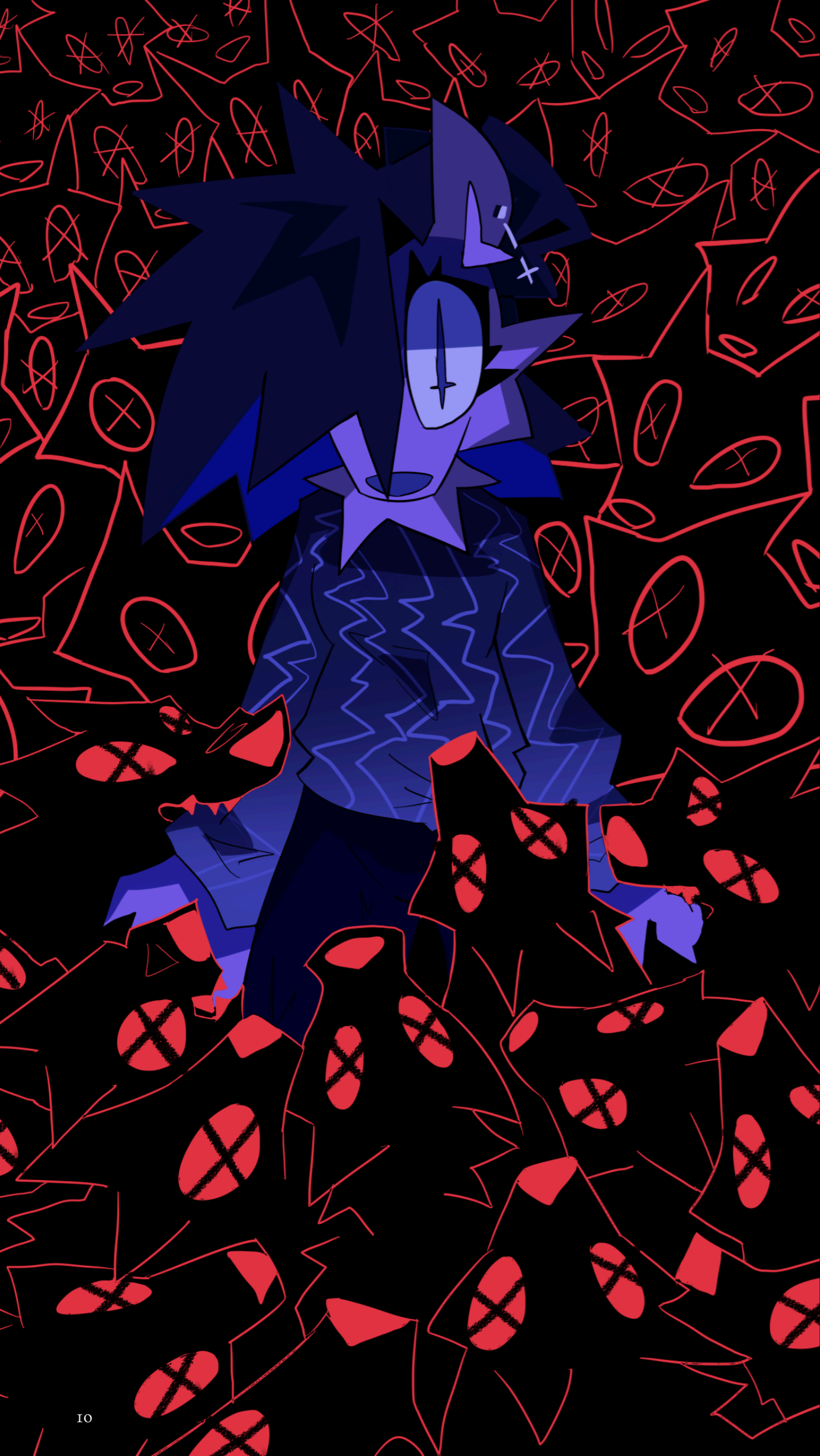
THE HERETIC, BY AZIEBITES



VITALITY GLITCH, BY ASTROEDEN



SURVIVOR'S GUILT, BY NEKOSNICKER



THE WALLFLOWER EQUATION, BY NEKOSNICKER



PRINCESS CUCKOO, BY LARVAECANDY



SLUDGE, BY LARVAECANDY



REVENGE FANTASY I, BY STEREOFLIER



REVENGE FANTASY II, BY JUNOSARTZ



HUNTRESS; OR, MONARCH OF MONSTERS
BY GLACIERCLEAR

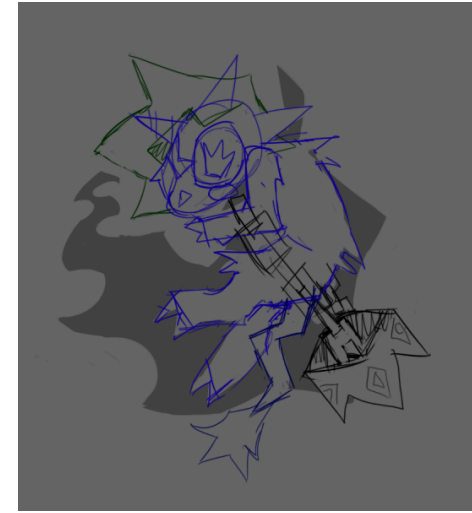
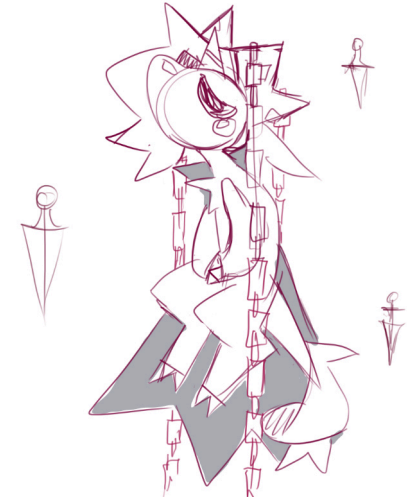
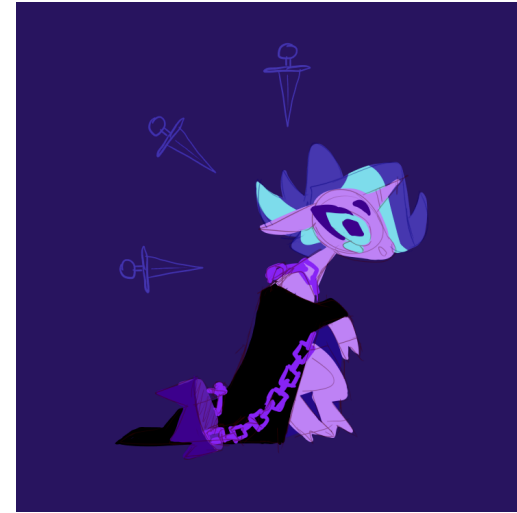


18 ... AND, AS HER HOWL ECHOED UNTO EVENTIDE, SHE BECAME THE FAR SEER'S HUNTING DOG..., BY NEKOSNICKER



REST NOW, LITTLE WOLF (A VIGIL FOR ARIA, OR, HOW THE LAMB STOOD IN AN EMPTY ROOM FILLED WITH EMPTY FRIENDS), BY STEREOFlier 19

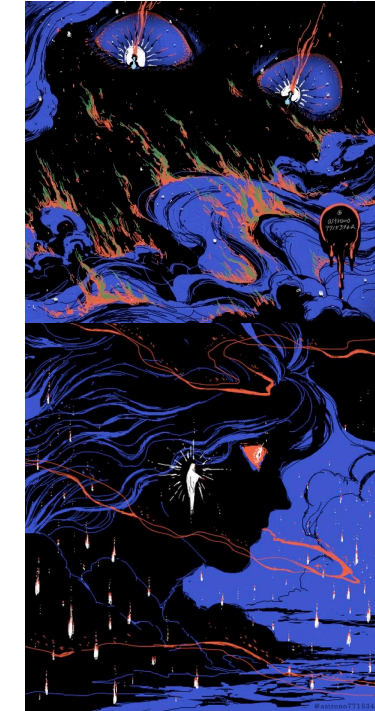
INITIAL CONCEPTS & DEVELOPMENT



Originally, Nekosnicker was going to be doing the album cover. Our first development work together started with Starlight Glimmer, since the original album concept was supposed to be about her.

A lot of colours and imagery that Neko developed would eventually get used as reference material for everyone else, once the narrative moved to being about Aria and Wolf.

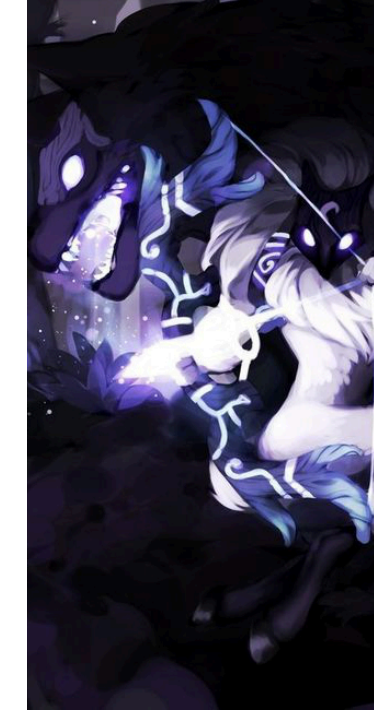
References I put together for all of the visual artists, pt. I



Various pieces by astrono77153462



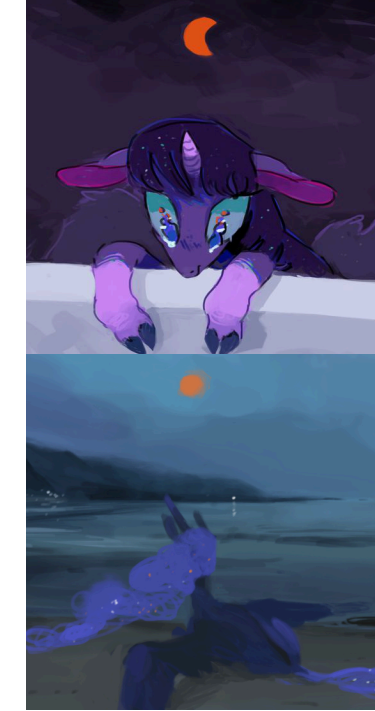
Crona from Soul Eater by Atsushi Okubo



"Kindred - The Eternal Hunters" by Glacescup



Various pieces by Kentaro Miura



Various pieces by StereoFlier

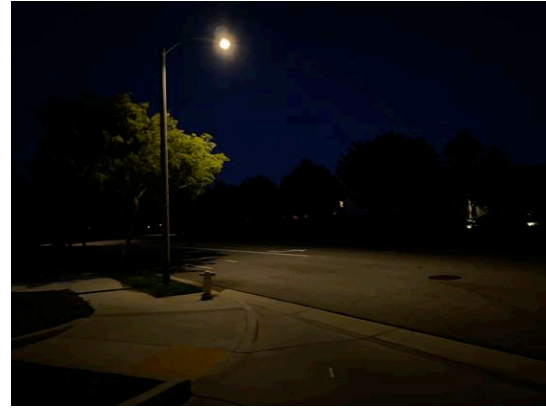
References I put together for all of the visual artists, pt. II



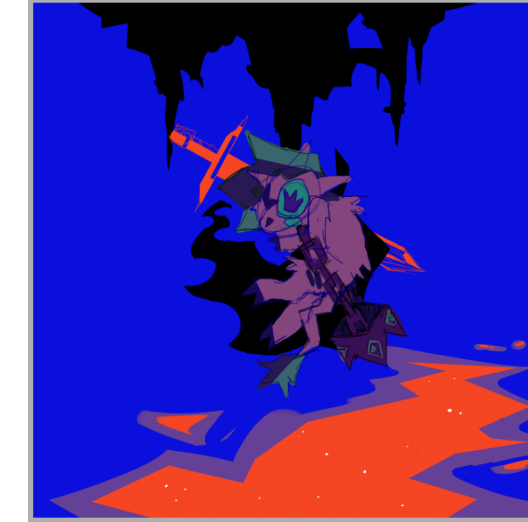
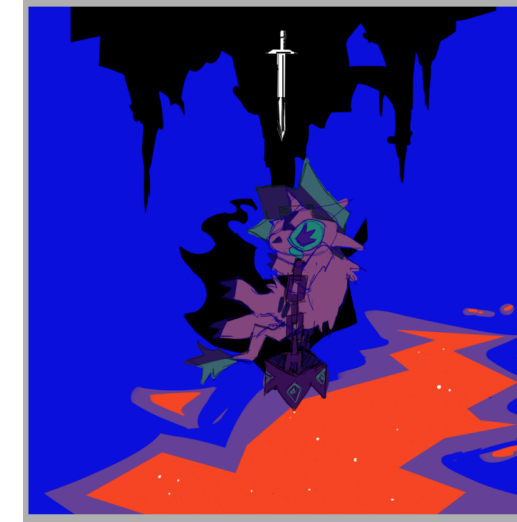
Various parts of "Princess Mononoke" by Studio Ghibli



"The Little Flower King" by Kveta Pacovska



I could not find credit for these photos, but I found them through Pinterest.



This is about where Nekosnicker arrived just before I changed the entire story to be about Aria and Wolf.

Aria was based off of someone I knew briefly in school many years ago. As explained in the meta booklet, Aria first appeared to me in a dream, and I spent a while trying to figure out how to explain what they looked like.

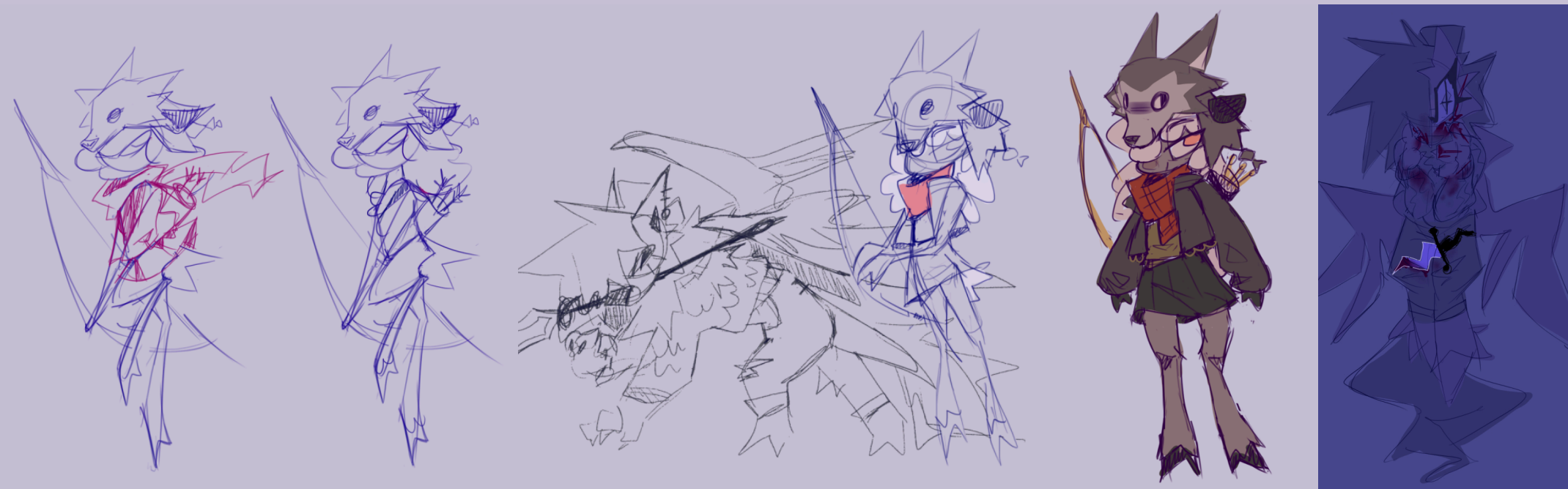
In these concepts by AstroEden, some slight refining and development took place between the Lamb and Wolf, before passing it onto other artists. Cadence, Aria's living hat companion, was conceived during this stage.



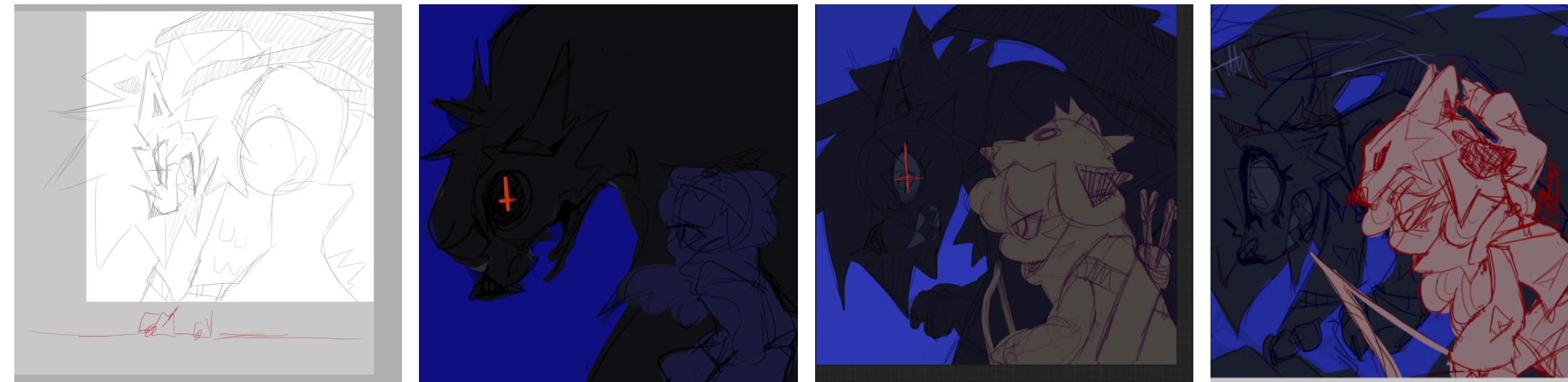
After the new concept sketches, I committed fully to Cadence the Hat being a character. She was developed more between myself and Larvaecandy.

Neko started doing their own concept explorations of the characters in preparation for what would have been in the album cover.

Since Wolf could be either a normal anthro character as well as a crazy beast, the artistic decisions fluctuate a lot between development



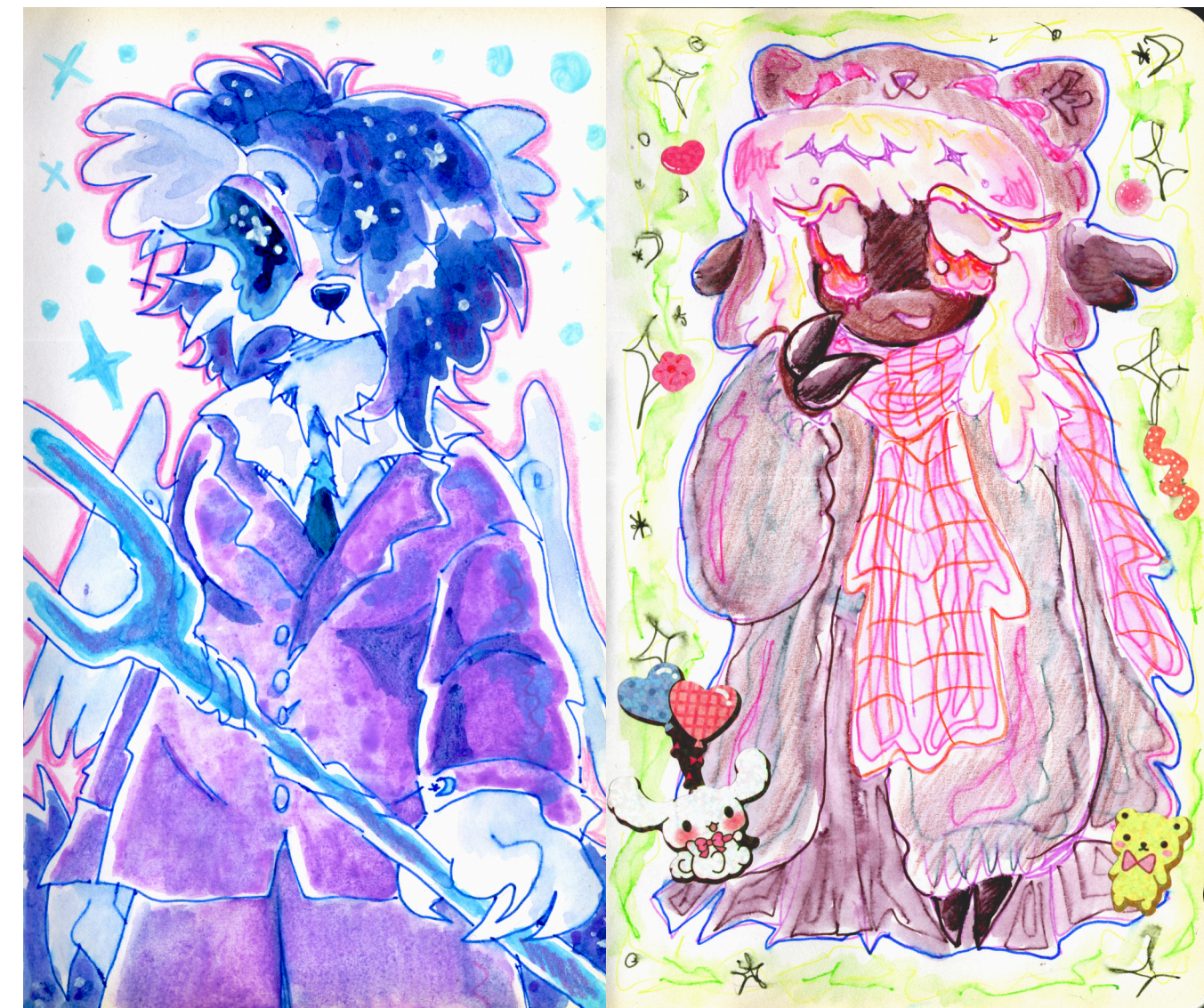
Eventually as the album progressed I realized I had started to want a visceral and adult direction for the album cover, something I wasn't comfortable asking from Neko. So this cover art instead was used for "...and, as her howl echoed unto eventide, she became the far seer's hunting dog..."



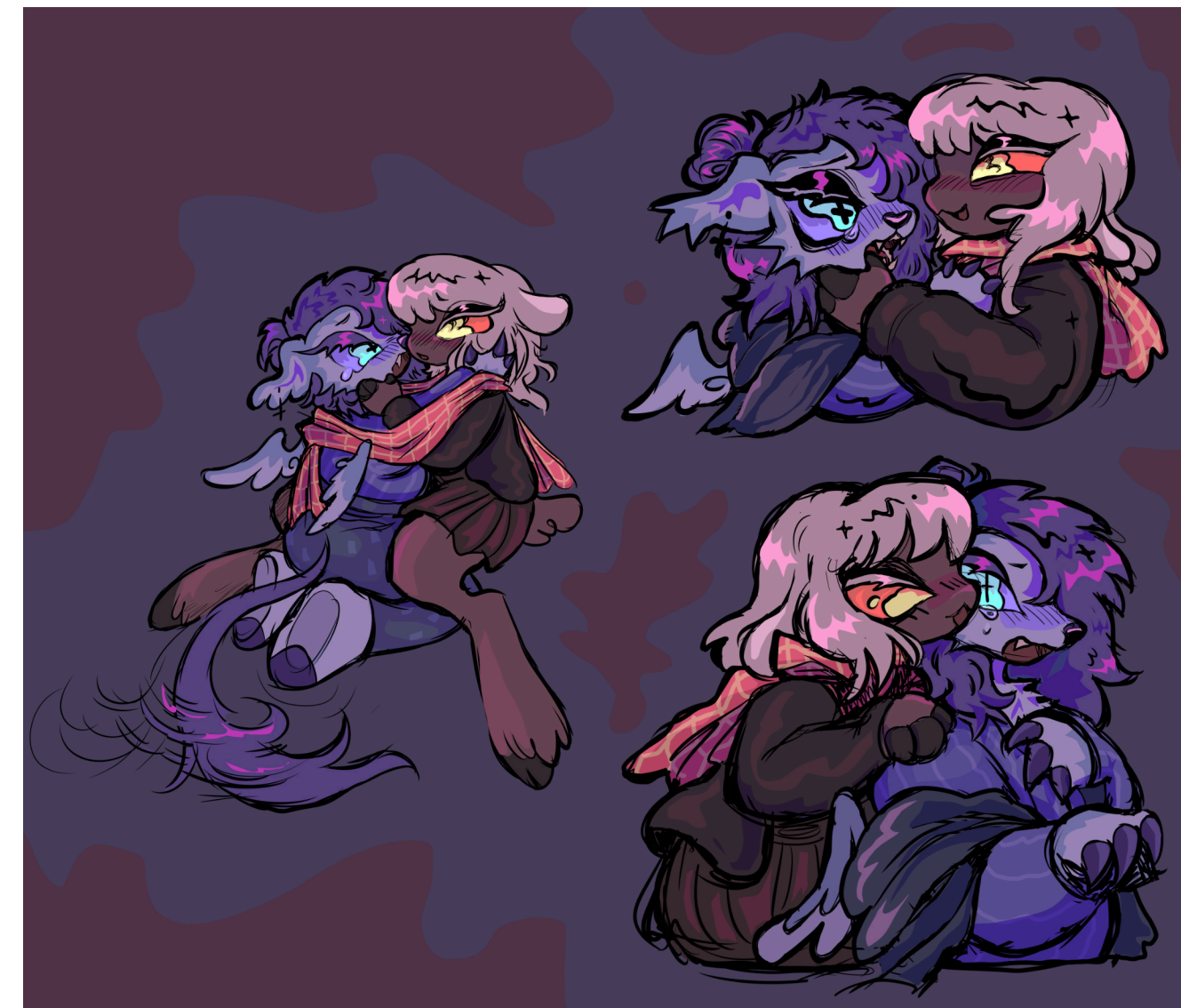
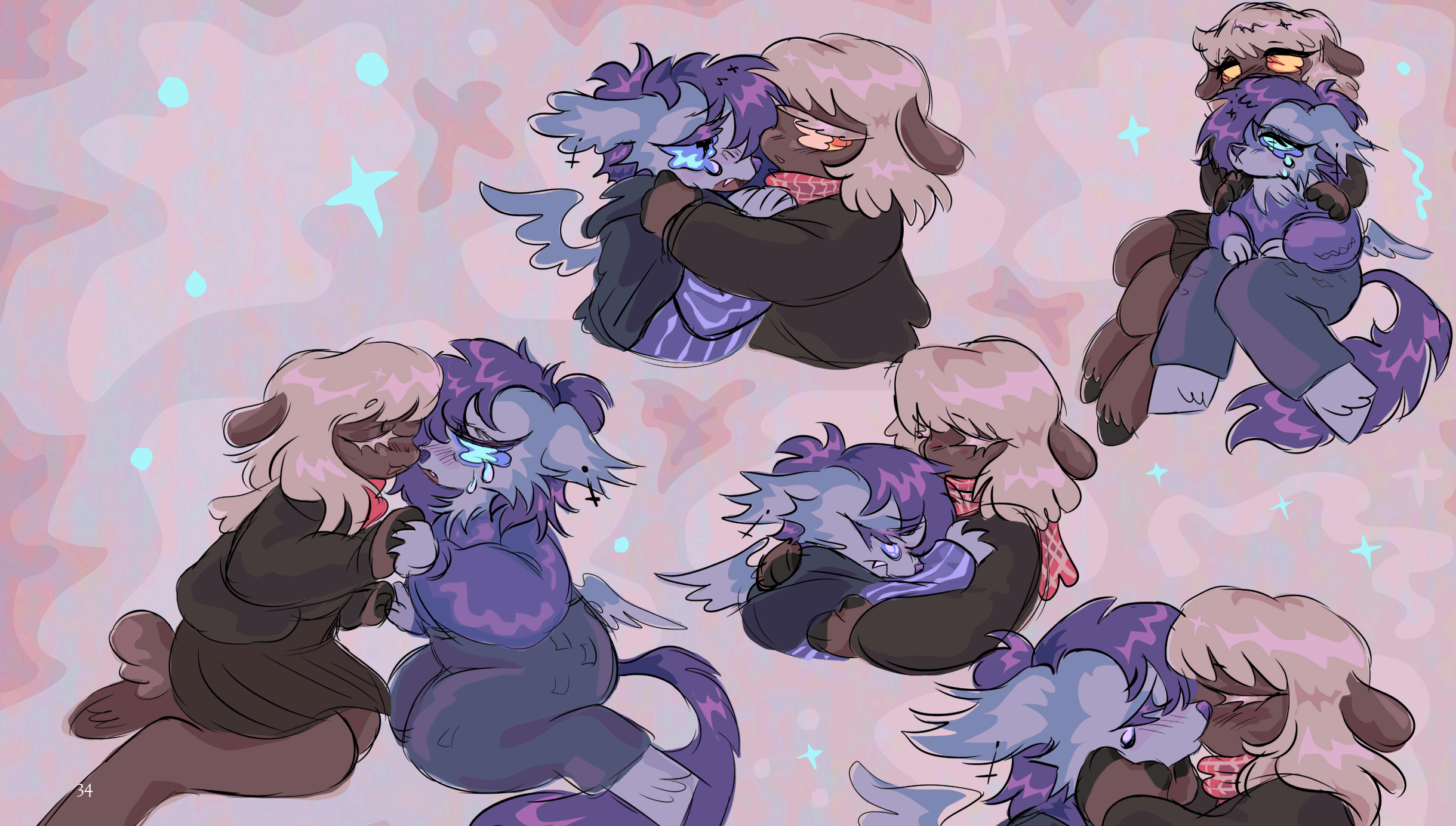
LARVAECANDY CONCEPTS



I started having Larvaecandy do explorations for the characters, which helped me feel out more what I wanted to do with them and how the story would play out.



I had an idea for Wolf to wear a suit inspired by new wave and post-punk fashion aesthetics of the late 70's and early 80's. Batty came up with this!

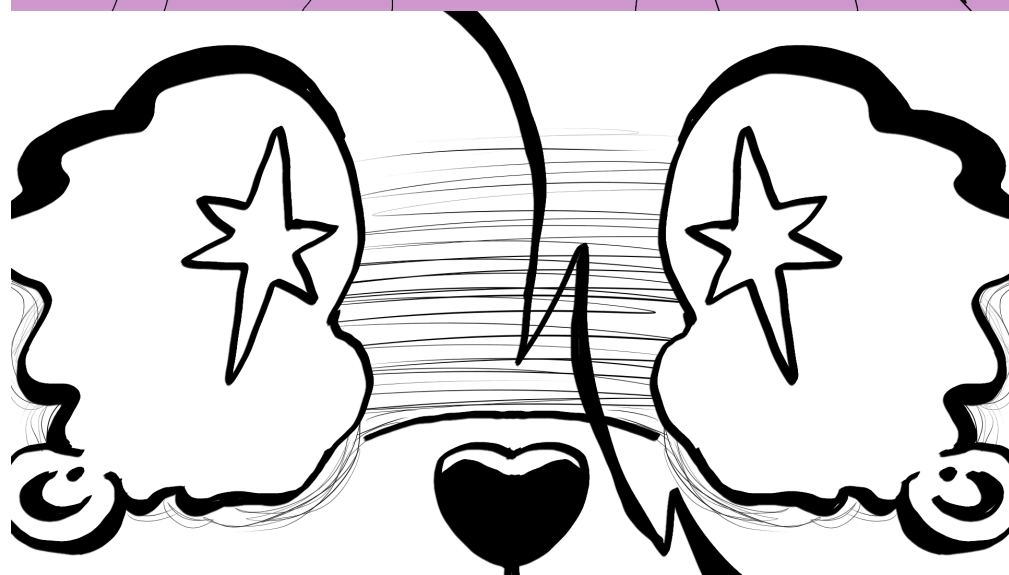
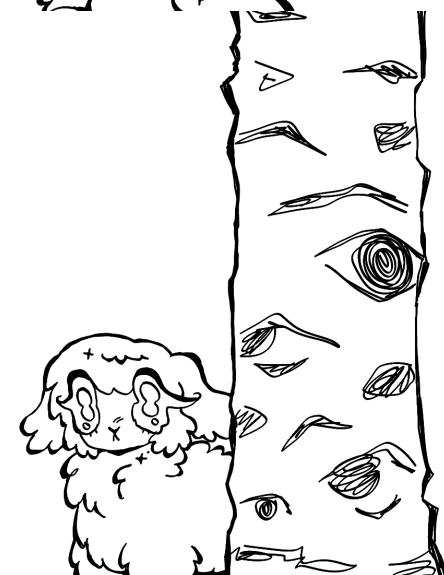
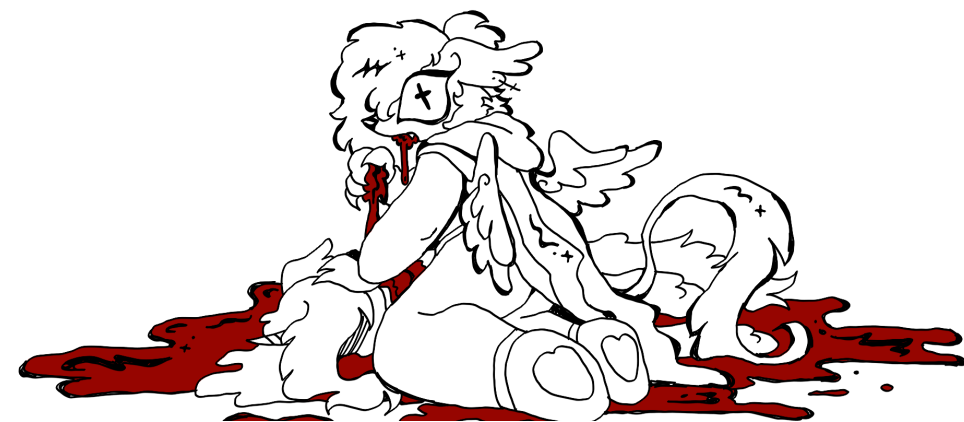


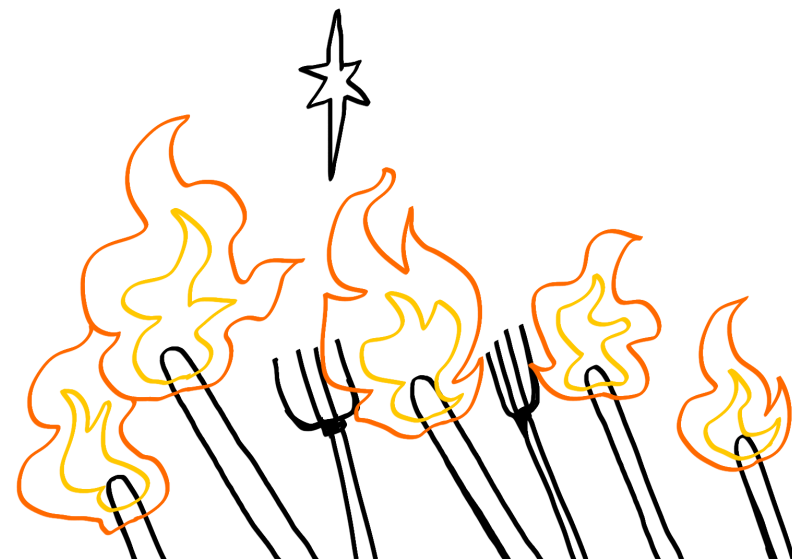
Some emotes
Larvaecandy made
for the novella.

While Glacier was working on the album cover, this is the art I used for the temporary cover. I got pretty used to seeing it once the album was done. It still feels vaguely odd that it's no longer the cover.



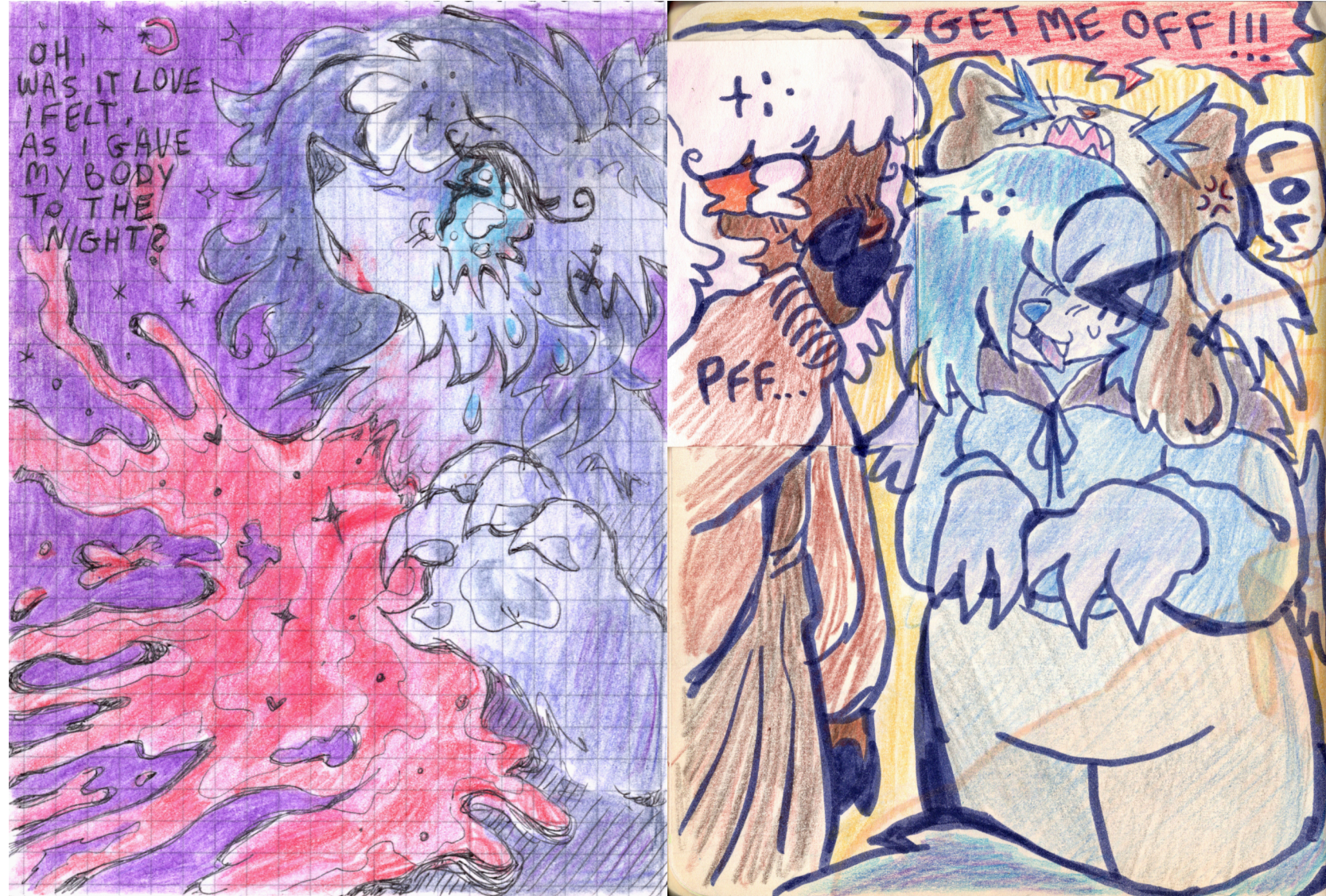
Cadence became a lot more fleshed out the more Larvacandy continued to develop concepts with the characters. This included how we would eventually explore the loss of Cadenza, Aria's late sister.





For the trailer, I drew a bunch of frames and had Larvaecandy redraw them with line boil. It later finished some of these for a potential sticker pack to sell.





An interesting experiment was using both serious and humorous ideas to continually figure out how characters existed and what their personalities were like.

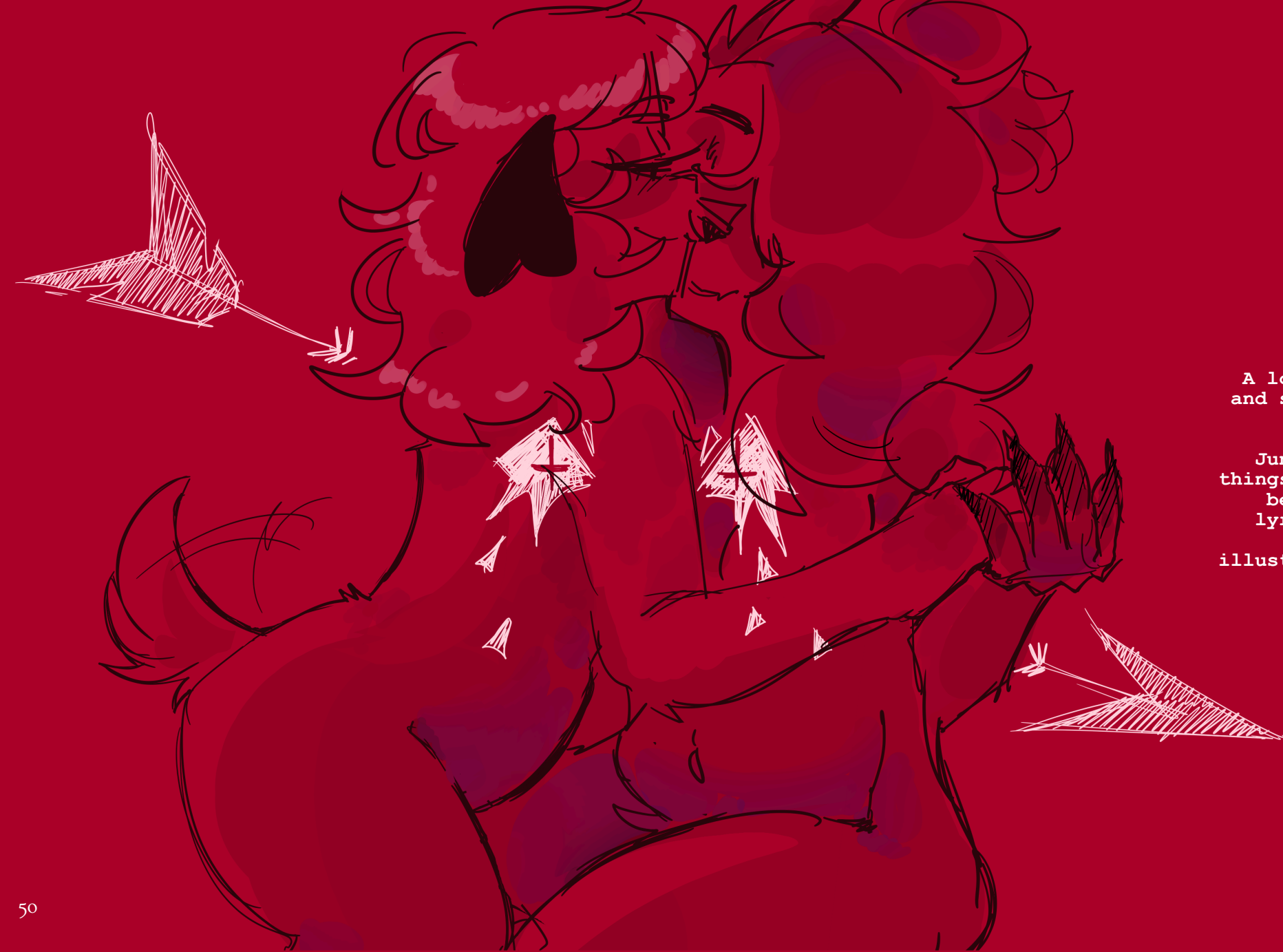




The decision to have a design and visual repertoire for Cadenza was a last minute decision. The album was already done by the time we decided to have art of her.



JUNOSARTZ CONCEPTS



A lot of emotional ideas and symbolism was derived from the concept illustrations that Junozartz did. A lot of things that they developed became story elements, lyrical ideas, and even references for other illustrators on the album.

Nudity and sexuality is explored often in the album's story and art to establish vulnerability, rawness, and shifts in personal dynamics between characters.

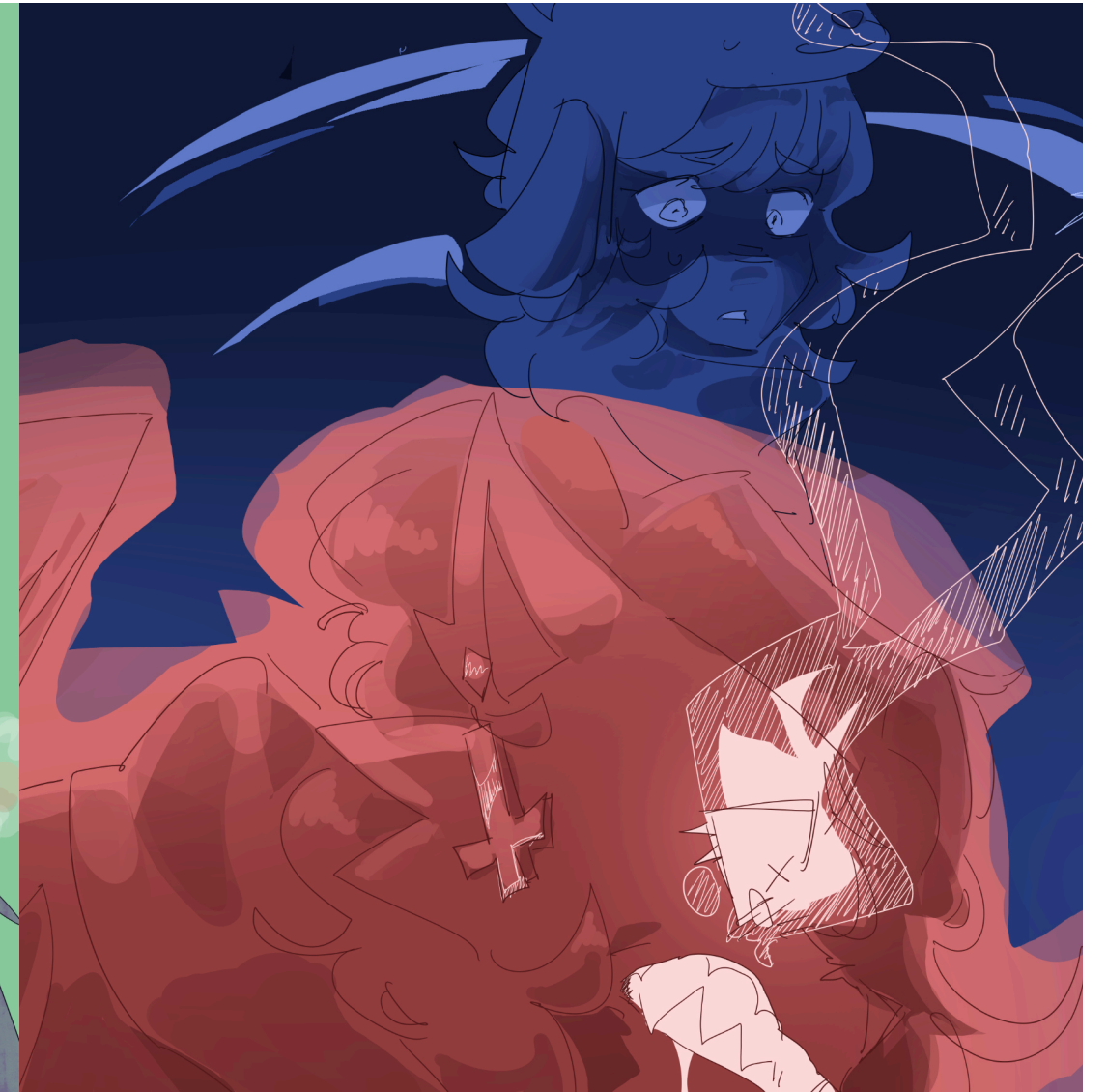
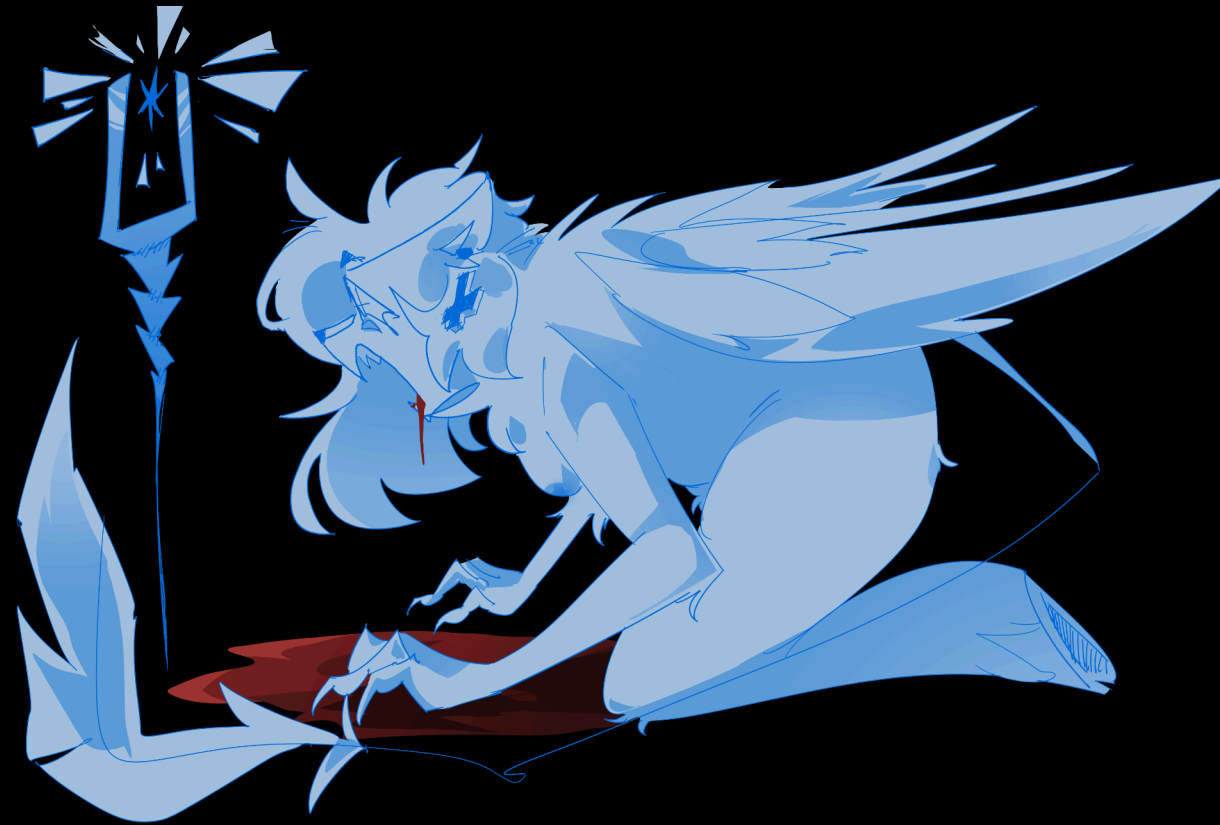


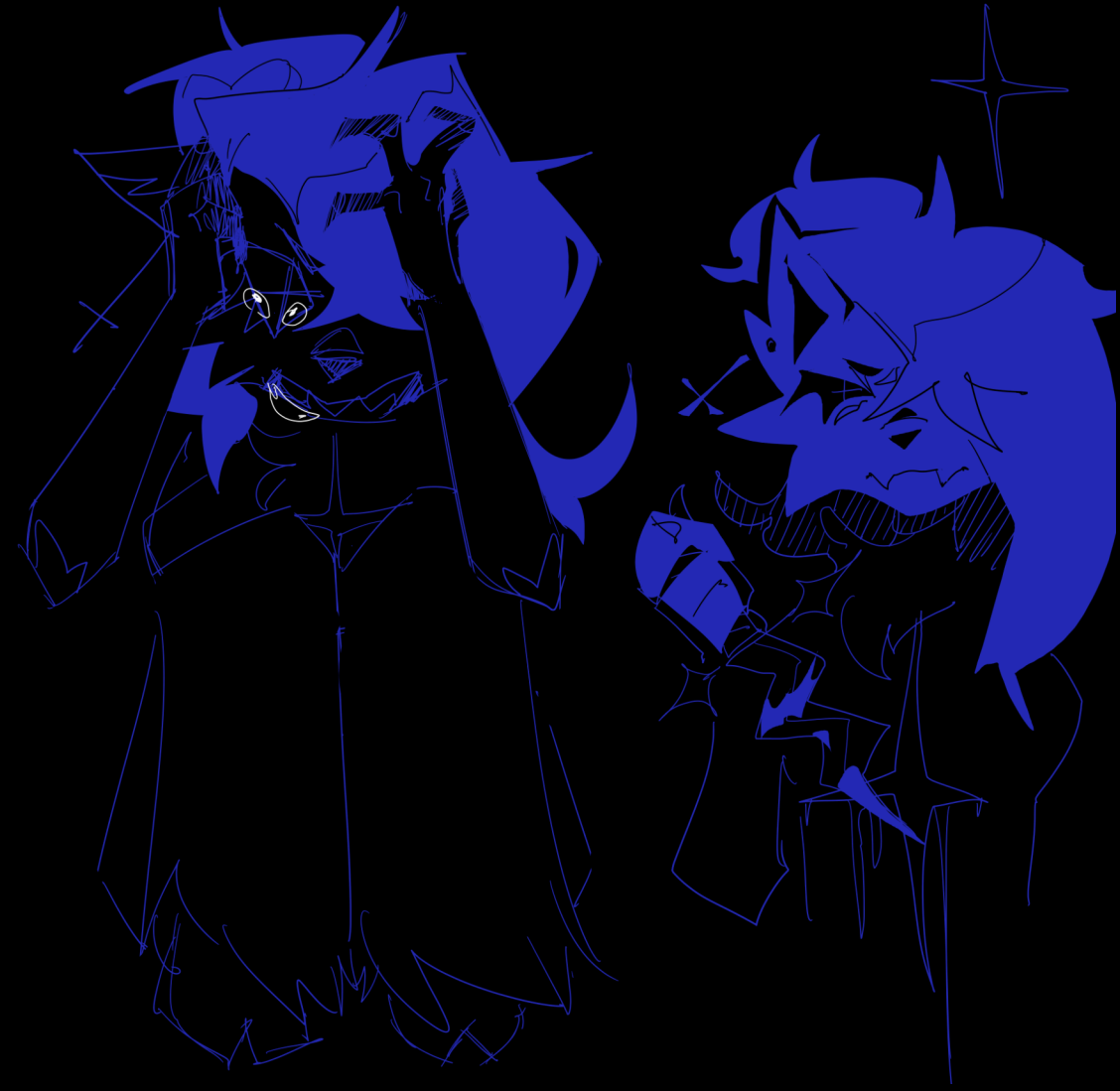




Wolf's "lute", or guitar, was designed by Juno in such a way that it felt both futuristic and occult at the same time. My mind was blown at this idea completely, and is probably one of my favourite symbols used in the album.

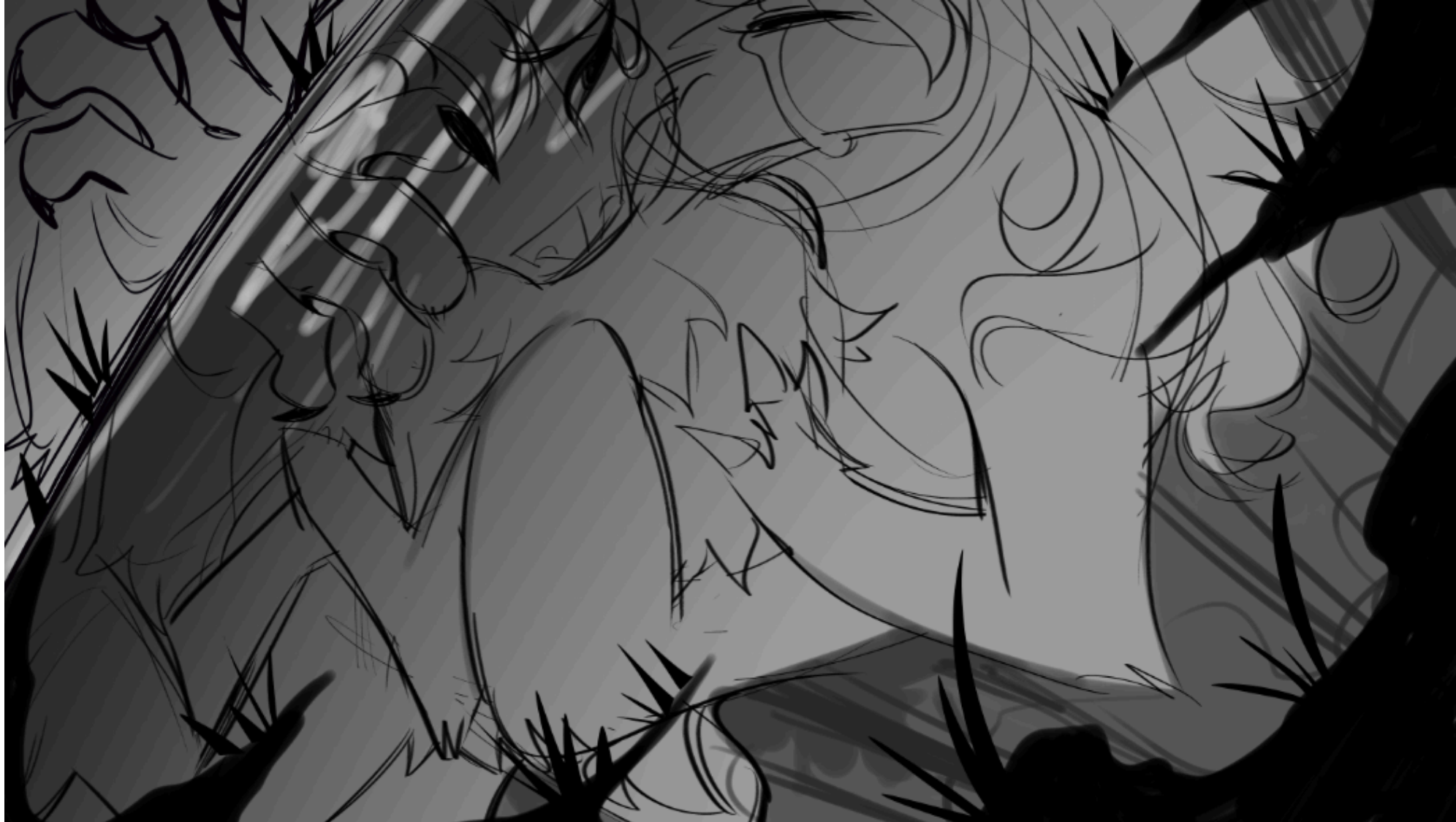
The spirit
tadpole/fish
designs were also
derived from this
concept art that
Juno did.





Wolf's dagger was
also an idea
created by Juno.

THE ALBUM COVER BY GLACIERCLEAR

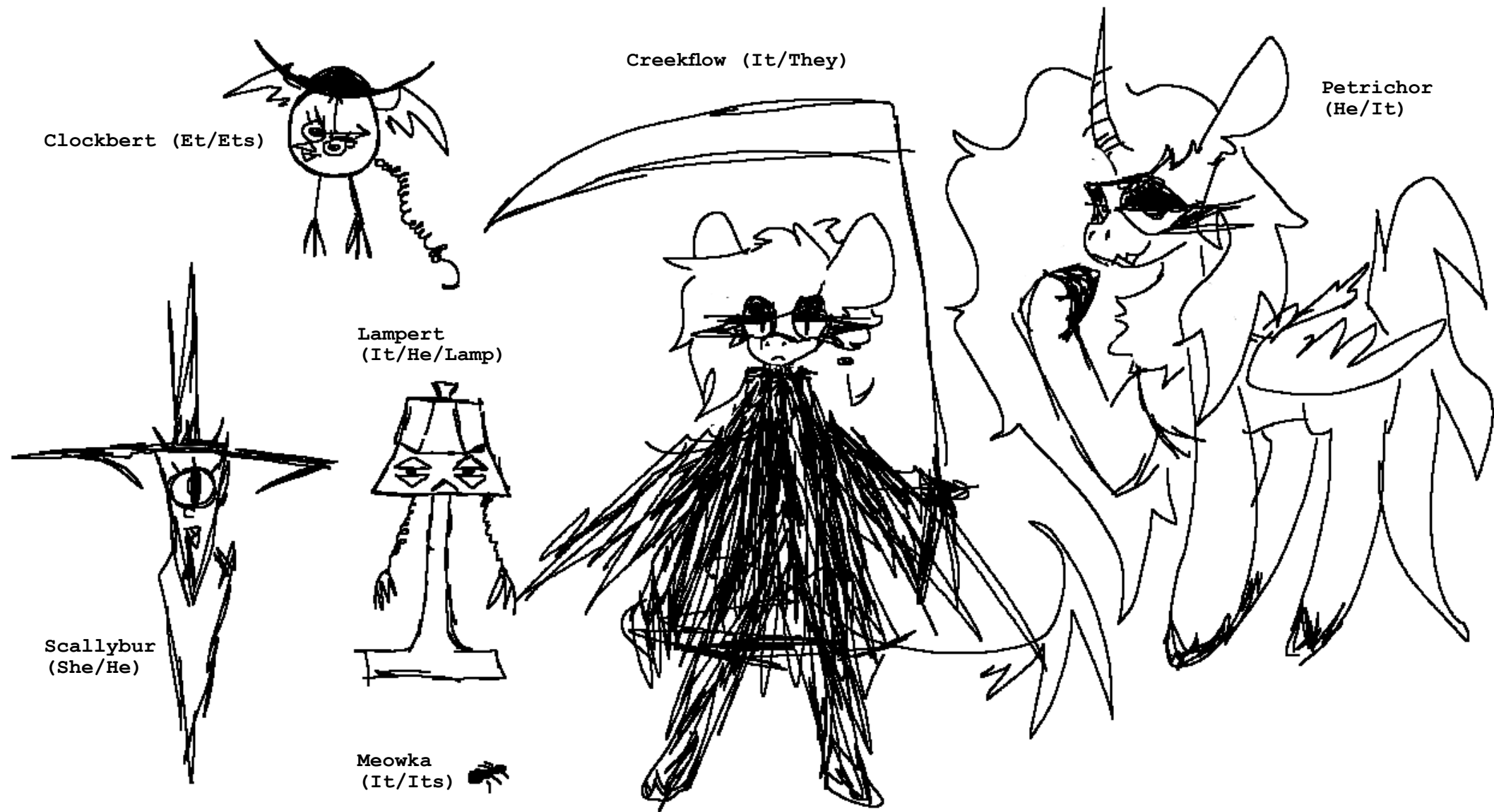


GlacierClear is someone who I've respected and been at least emotionally and conceptually inspired by. Though known for adult art, I have always recognized a visceral, sensitivity in their work. So when I decided to change the album cover's direction, I turned to them because I knew they would understand my intentions and hopes fully.

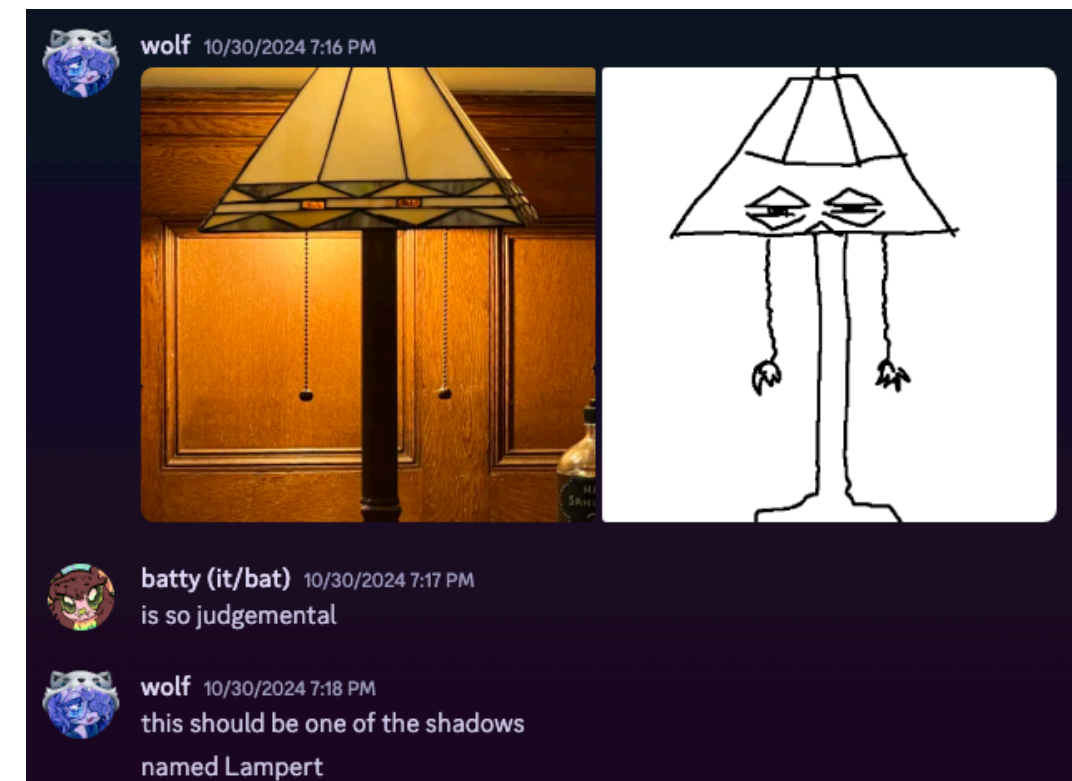
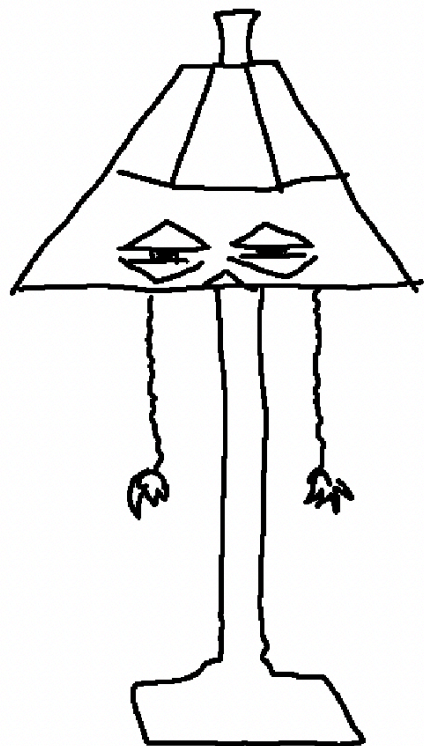
We went through a few ideas before eventually settling on the one we did. My intention with the cover was to elicit a sense of sexual and identity rehabilitation. I think it's a very important feeling to portray correctly and I really, really love how Glacier ended up accomplishing this.



THE SHADOWS



The shadows can literally be anyone and anything they want to be. I got an idea for a shadow named "Lampert" based on this lamp I saw in my therapist's office. He has since become well loved by those with early access to the project.



lampert was born because a lamp maker gave up being a lamp maker and decided to become a banker
it has no particular talents other than providing a light source and complaining about everything
it uses it/he/lamp pronouns
lampert is popular with everyone for no particular reason. all the shadows love lampert, but he has no idea why everyone is always so excited to hang out with lampert even though he rarely speaks
even Aria is a huge lampert fan
they sell tshirts in the Locus gift shop with just a really shit photo of lampert squinting at the camera and it says "welcome home"

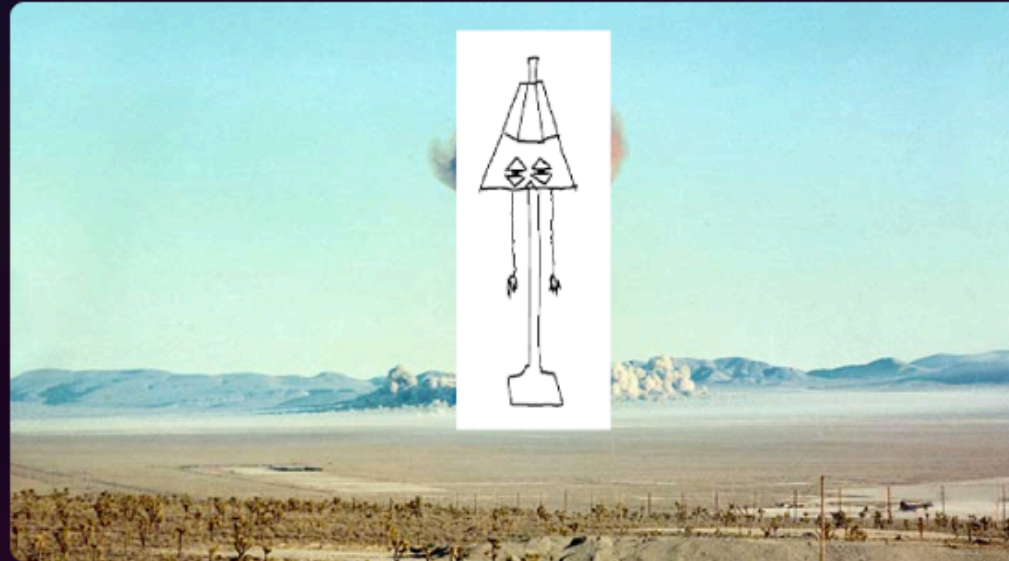
@wolf *Click to see attachment*

picochu.xml ★ 10/30/2024 7:28 PM
 last thing i see before the nuke hits
 i never saw a mushroom cloud i saw lampert

wolf 10/30/2024 7:28 PM
 EHLLO>>>>>>
 hELLO????????????????????????????????

picochu.xml ★ 10/30/2024 7:28 PM
 hi

wolf 10/30/2024 7:29 PM



picochu.xml ★ 10/30/2024 7:33 PM



wolf 10/30/2024 7:33 PM
 IM GOING TO FUCKING PUKE MY FACE OFF
 WHY IS HE SO SMUG ABOUT THE DESTRUCTION OF THE UNIVERSE



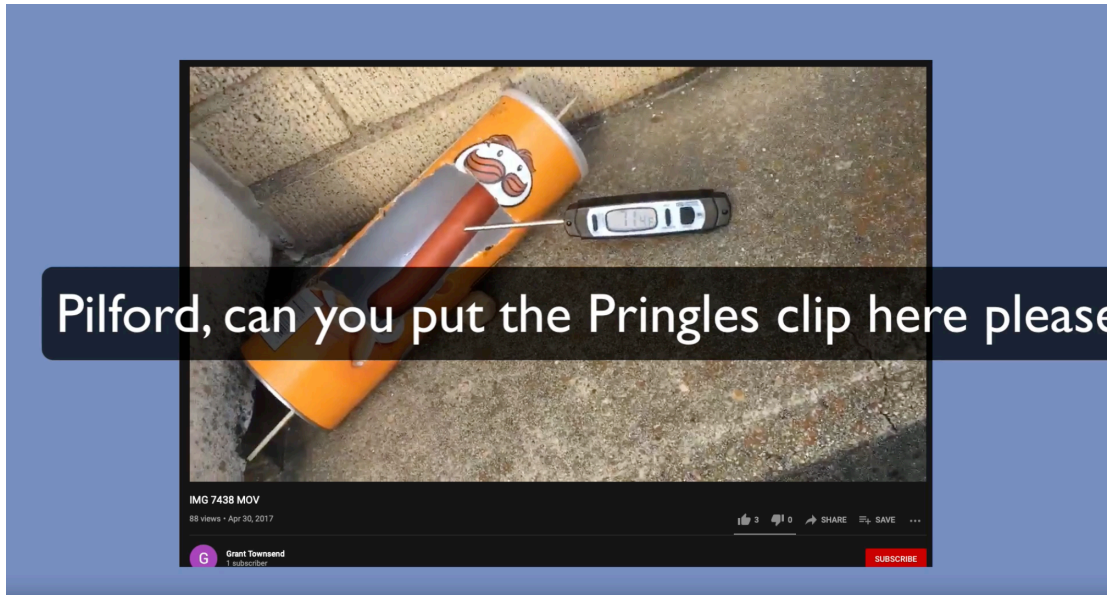




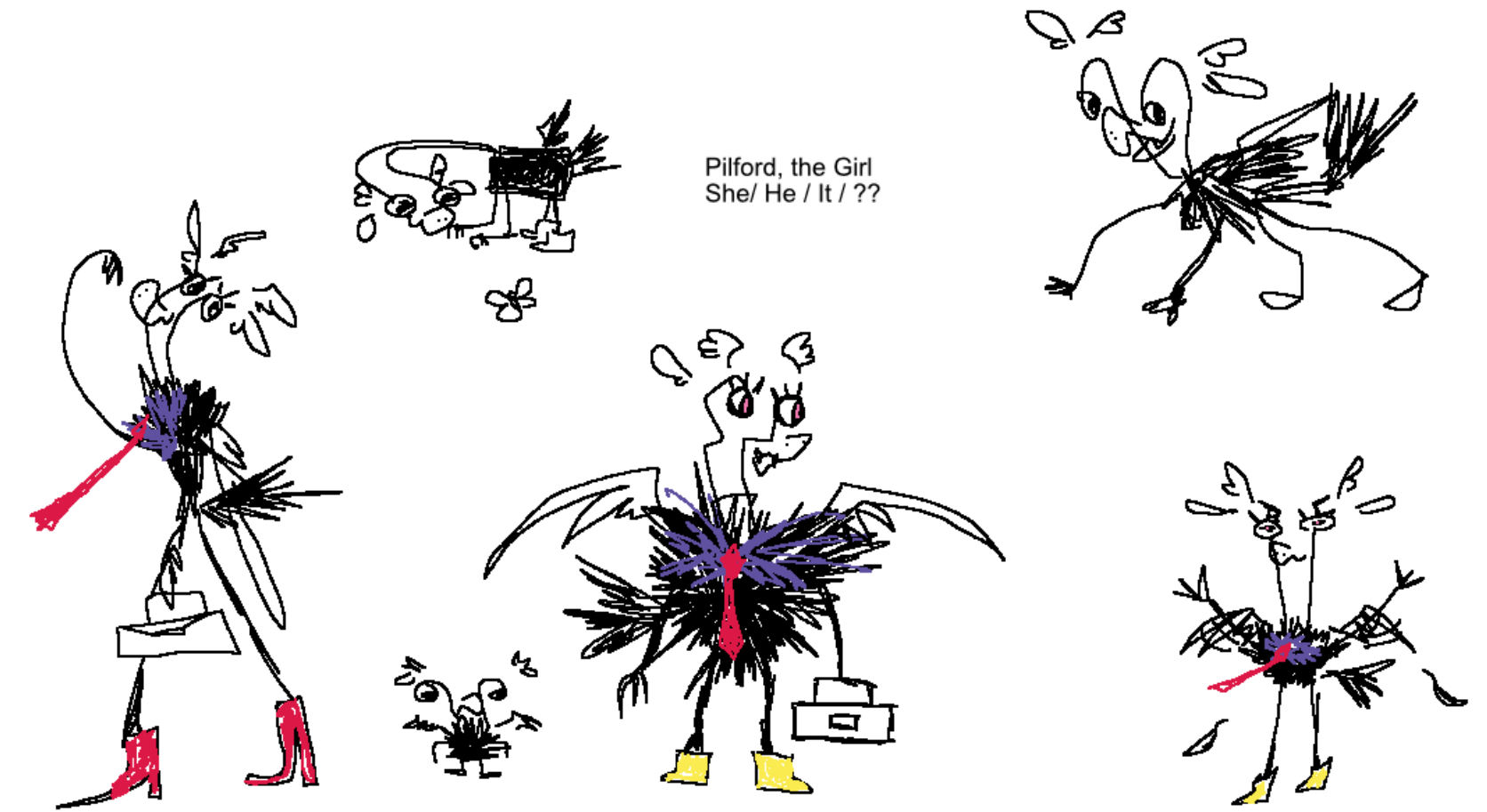
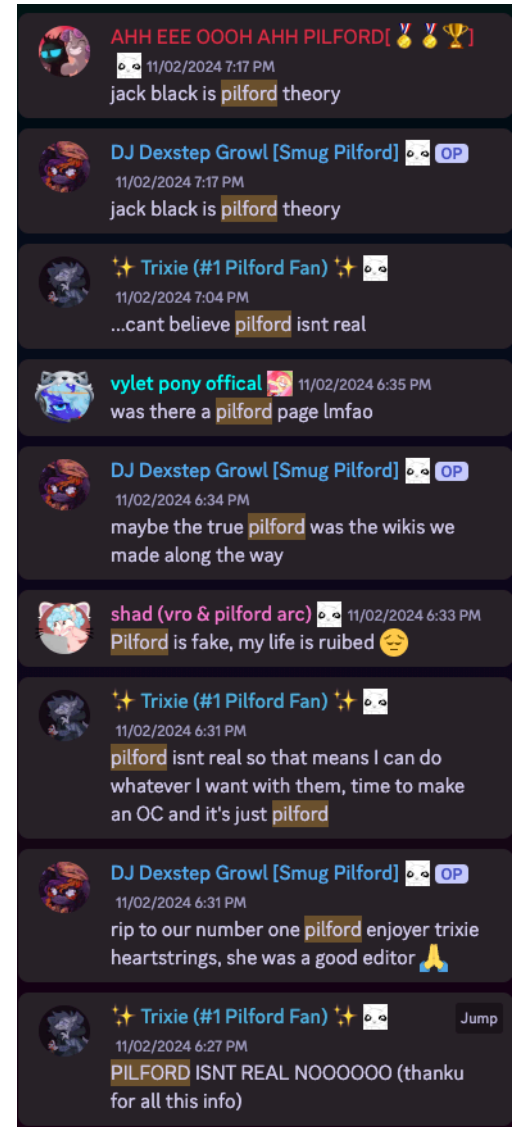
basketbal

AND, FINALLY, PILFORD



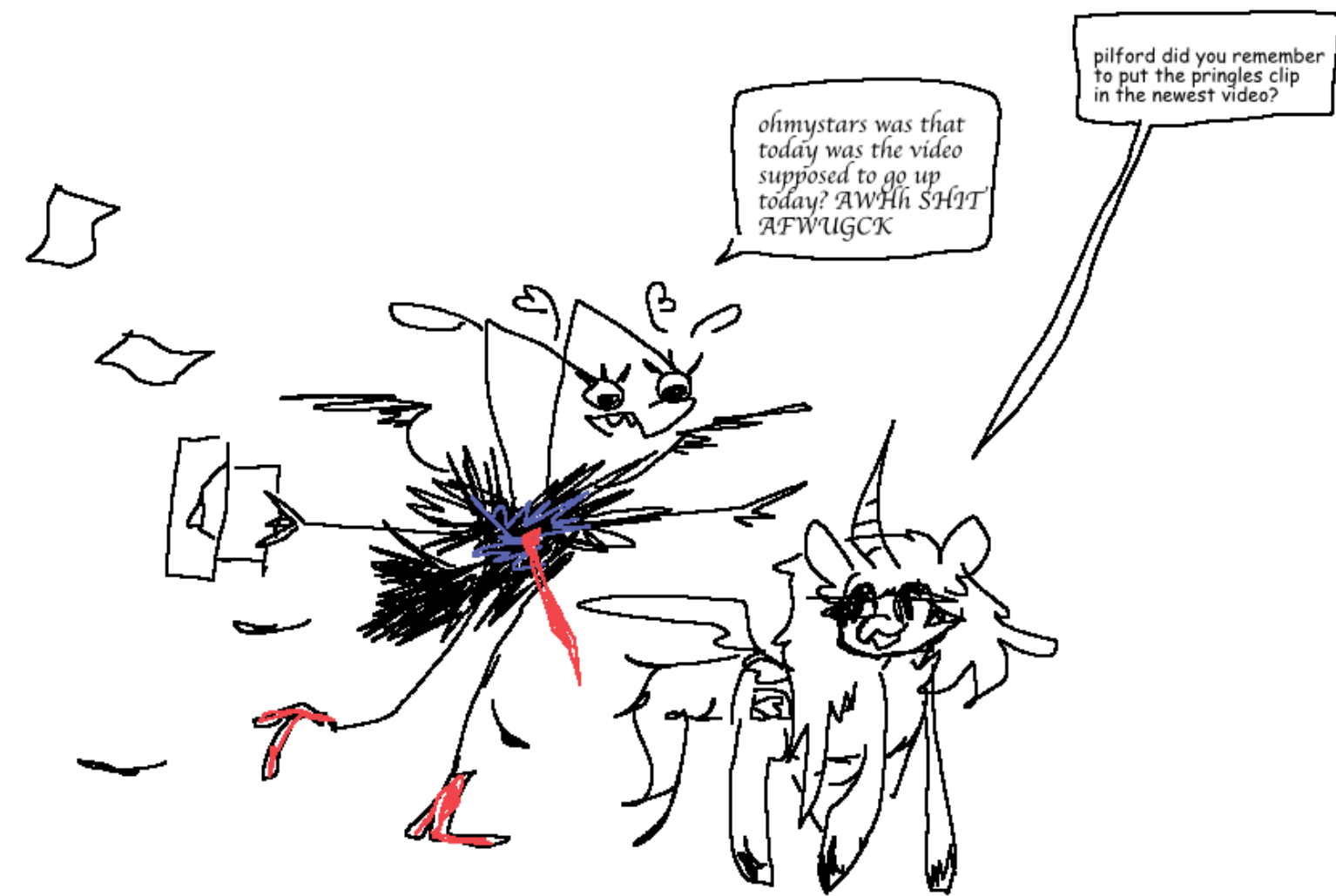


"Pilford" was a throwaway joke name for my video "top five videos 4". A newly formed editing group for the Vylet Pony Wiki were distraught to discover that Pilford didn't actually exist. After much debate, I made Pilford real. She is a shadow too.



Pilford, the Girl
She/ He / It / ??

Her 'head' is just her eyestalks which extend to also form her mouth.



howwwwwwwww
do i loookk <3



like mario :D



and this is my son,
Spaghetti!



so i balanced the checking account for scoobert and ronahldino.. and idk like im just feeling really exhausted after the locus bash last nilsday. idk it just feels like i have to be socializing but im soooo tired do you know what i mean lampford



lampert.

i know i said that but anywho i was just hoping that since like everyone seems to rilly look up to i mean sorry HA HA HA! down to you you could give me some pointers on how to like you know get over this thing.

i want beer.





MONARCH *OF* MONSTERS