

Making Comics

Student Projects F2018

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<http://spinweaveandcut.com/education-home/>

Comics Studies @SFSU

<https://humanitiesliberalstudies.sfsu.edu/minor-comics-studies>

Samples Pt1: Grids & Gestures, cutouts,

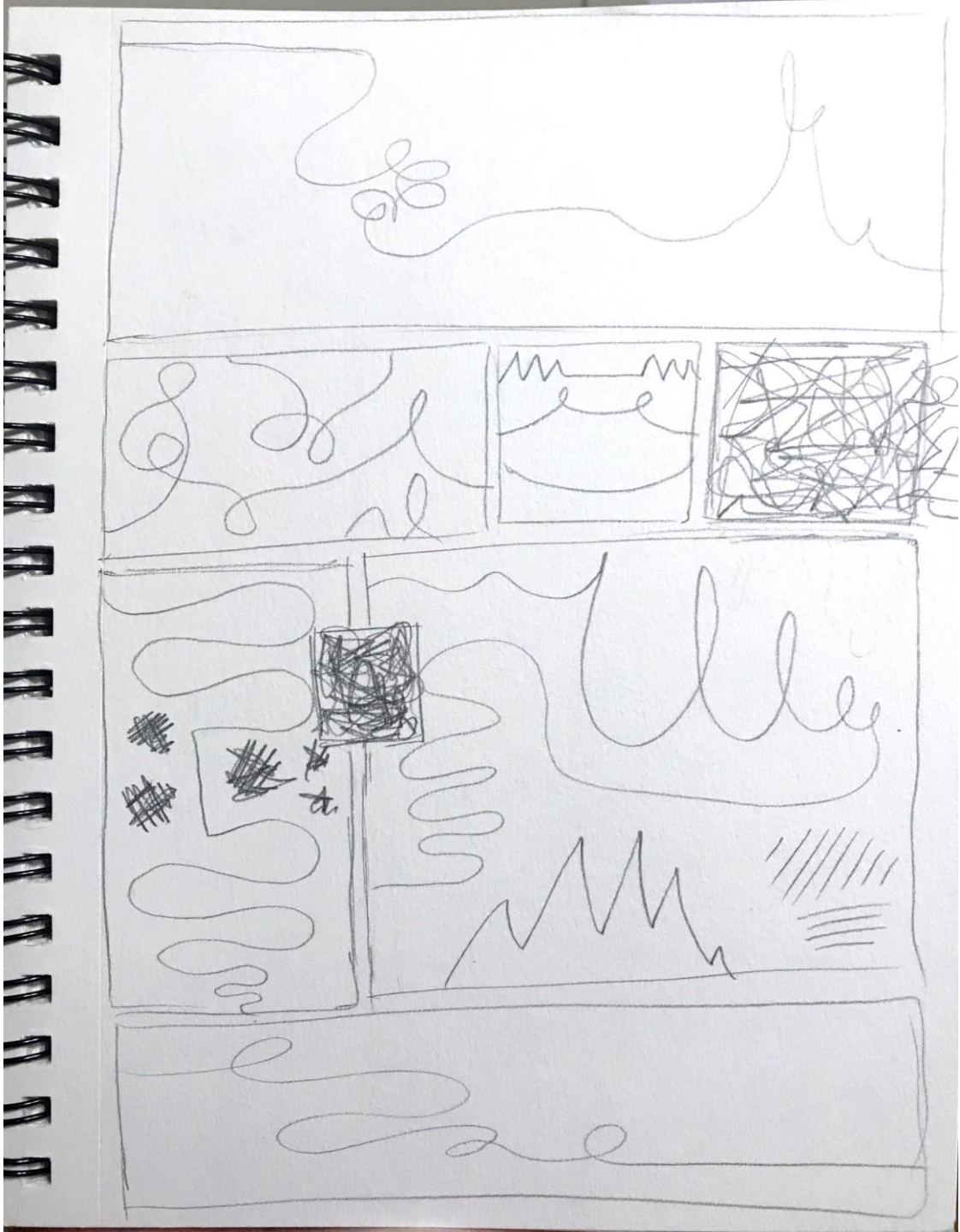
Grids & Gestures + Grids & Gestures as Diary

post your grids & gestures non-representational comic from class and write a brief reflection about what's going on in your comic and any other thoughts that you have on making it.

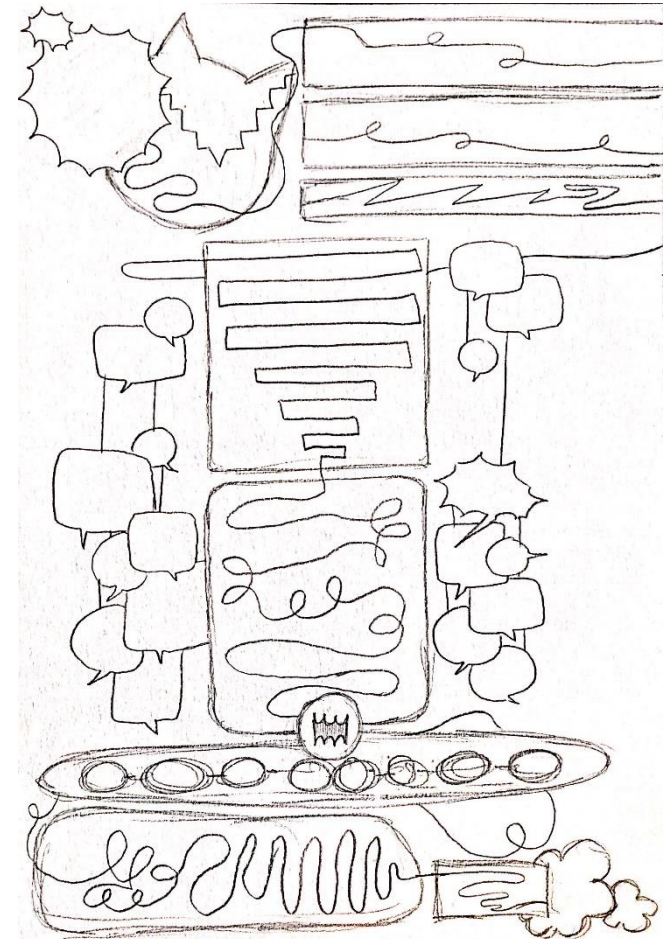
info on grids & gestures is here <http://spinweaveandcut.com/grids-gestures/> (direct link here: <http://spinweaveandcut.com/eisner-class-grids-gestures-redux/>)

post all three of your grids & gestures non-representational comics that you do over the next two weeks and write a brief reflection about what's going on in your comic and any other thoughts that you have on making it.

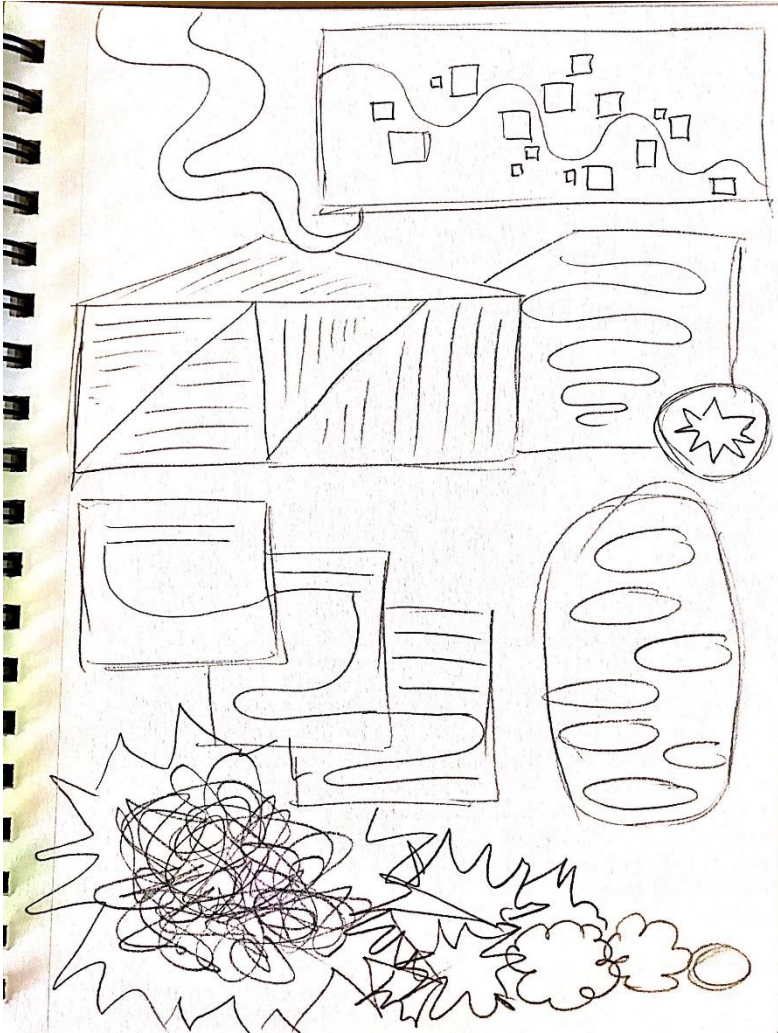
Hey. This gesture-grid-comic-thing tells of my first day of classes. I woke up slowly and took my time getting ready. First thing that day I had outreach/club rush for the christian club I'm apart of, so I was drifting back and fourth meeting all sorts of people. Afterward, I went off to class but got lost along the way. As I stepped into the class it was full of students spilling out into the hall (I think 15 people were trying to crash). Class was monotonous and it was difficult to hear my professor from the back. I had a quick pitstop back home and my roommate wouldnt stop talking my ear off despite what little time I had, and pulling my attention in all different directions. Comic class came next and it was fun, though I felt a bit shy for some reason just being around everyone new. After class I went home to meet with those same club members from earlier and got to relax and wind down.



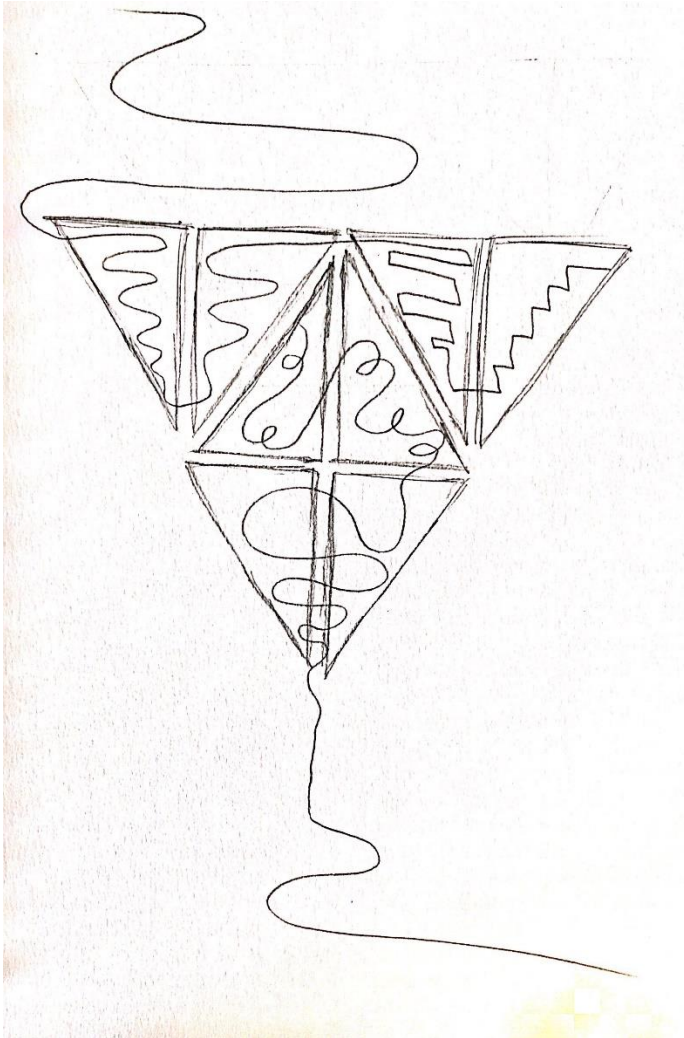
A lot was going on this day. I had to feed my roommate's cat first thing in the morning, then go about my busy routine of back to back classes all while my phone is blowing up with people trying to schedule things with me or having arguments while I'm caught in the middle.



This day started out early for a weekend but I somehow woke up easily. A friend drove me and a few others to church, taking the hills and making light conversation. I got to wander around after and try new foods I hadn't had before. Later that night I did some work, had a long chat with a friend. My roommate was a little out of it and knocked one of my plants over. It lost a lot of leaves and I got really pissed, but I know she's going through a lot so I took time to calm down and chill with her.



So I thought that the real life grid comic was supposed to be a gesture panel thing as well, but then later realized that wasn't the case. So here's me going about my day and walking all over campus and up and down many stairs as I go from class to class.



My day was very scattered although they were closely related. The curves represent the energy of my day because I get energetic at times and then I ate some candy (and I was definitely energetic again hence why I was so giggly in class). I used the different sized rectangles to show the different events that occurred during the day. In most of the panels have the sun and cloud but the last panel on the right bottom corner shows how the day came to a fading end (night).

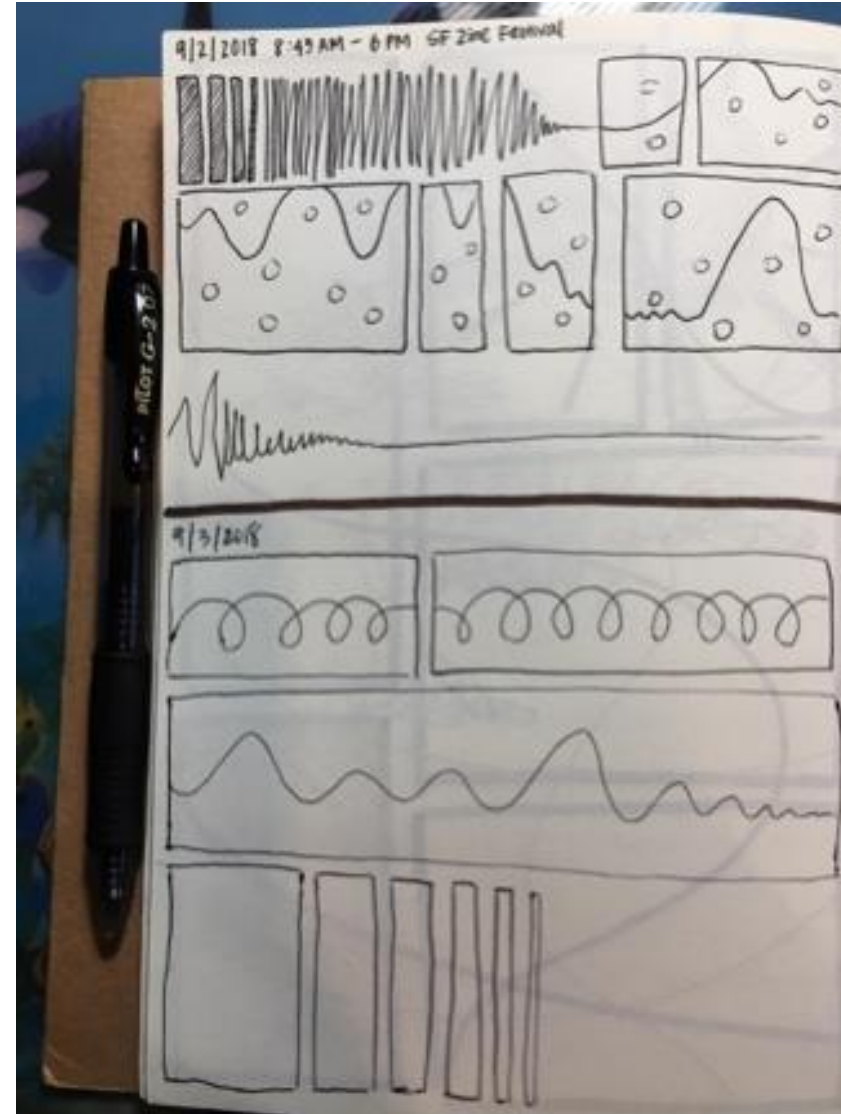


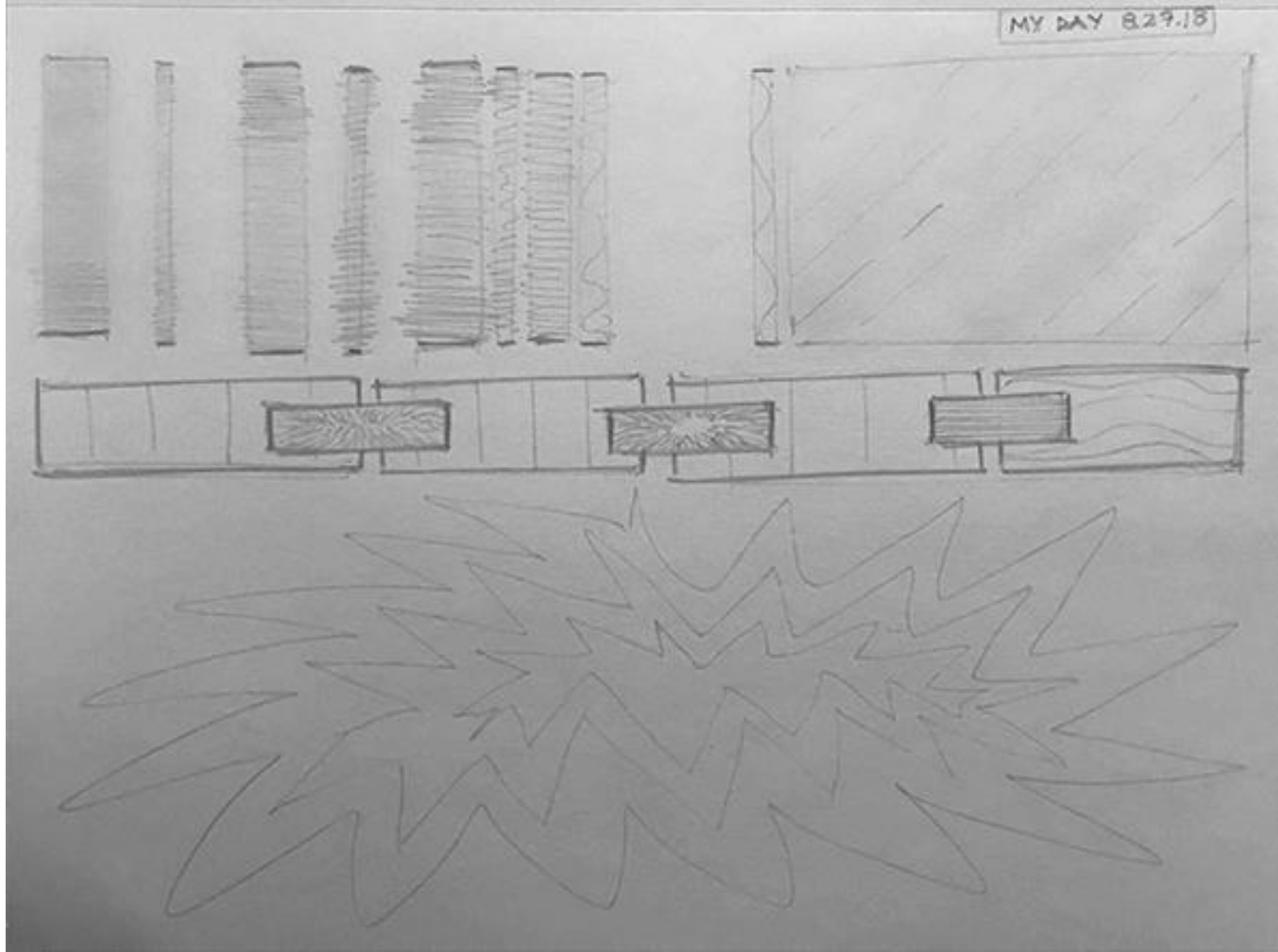
8/30: Very bad day: I was very stressed about school and I witnessed a car accident on the way home. When I was back at home and finished dinner, my family decided to start drama with me. I was dealing with a lot that day. I cried that day too. I won't go in depth about it but it was overall a really bad day.



9/2: SF Zine Festival: The morning went by quickly because I had to make sure that I get to the venue on time since I had most of the tabling things. After setting up, I started to feel my energy going up and down (eg. energetic, excited, tired, hyper from candy, food coma). I met a lot of people at the festival and enjoyed talking with many other creators and artists. When it was time to pack up, my day quickly came to an end. I had to carry all tabling things up my hilly street and I was very worn out.

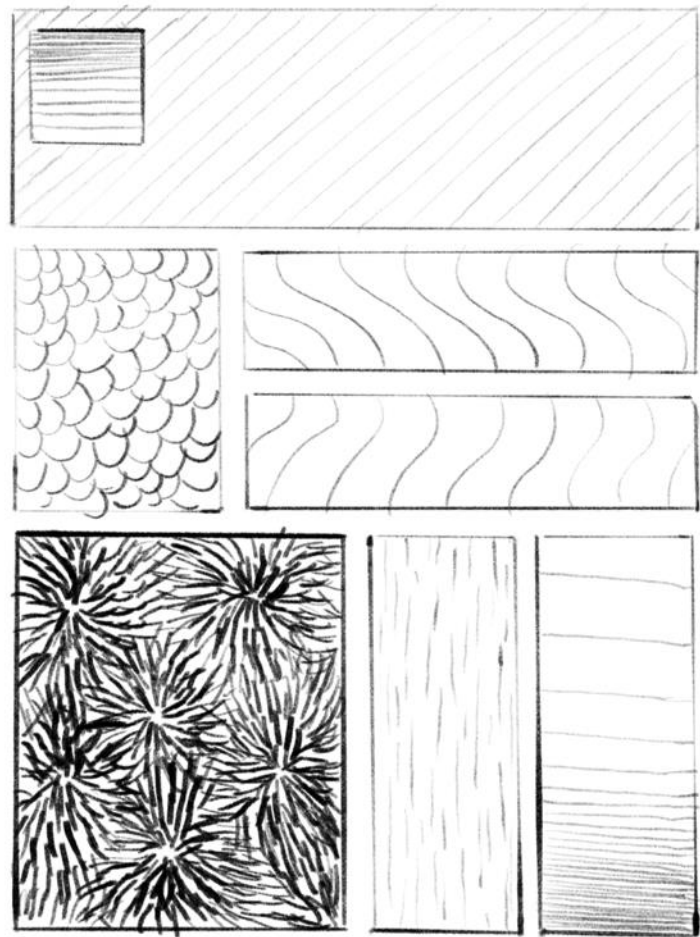
9/3: Typical day without school: My day went by slowly but I was able to catch up with my Discord friends and do most of my reading homework for my other classes. I also did some drawing homework towards the end of the day.



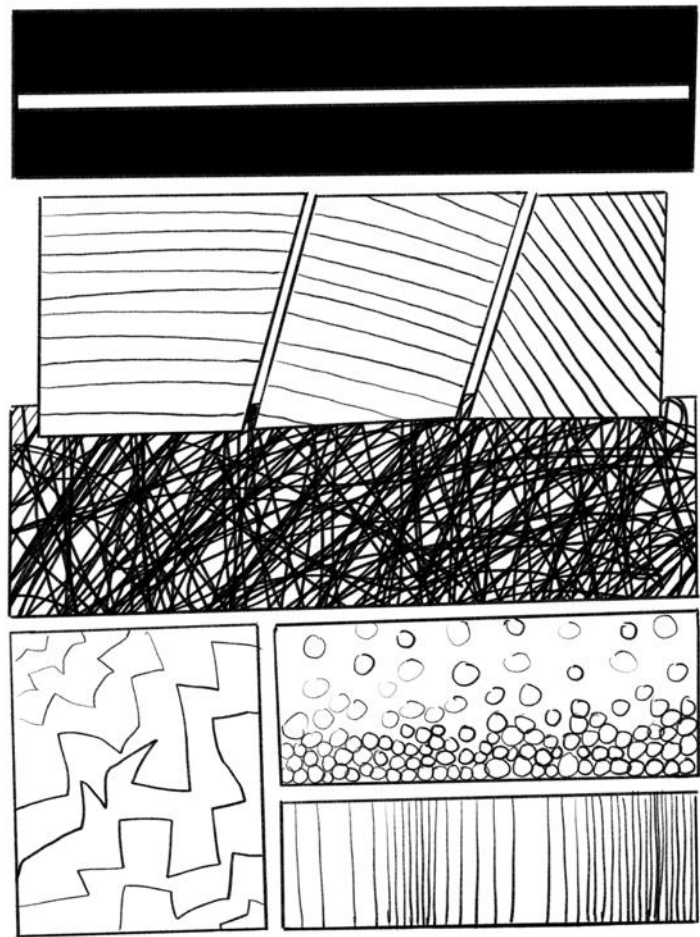


My comic attempts to communicate my day without words or representation. The comic starts with the restlessness I felt in the morning as I spent the last few hours of sleeping waking up on and off. Finally, as I wake up and see the sun outside everything gets a bit calmer. The second row describes my work day, long sections of work that overlap with small events that were outside the routine. The row concludes with my drive home, wavy lines to represent the flow of traffic. The explosion at the bottom of the page is the largest because it had the greatest impact on my day, the first day of Making Comics and I was very excited to be there.

Tuesday, August 4th: I woke up and the day was pretty bland from the start. I got to work and just sort of went through the day. After work, I went to figure drawing class and was happy to be drawing. I laid in bed doodling until I eventually fell asleep gradually.

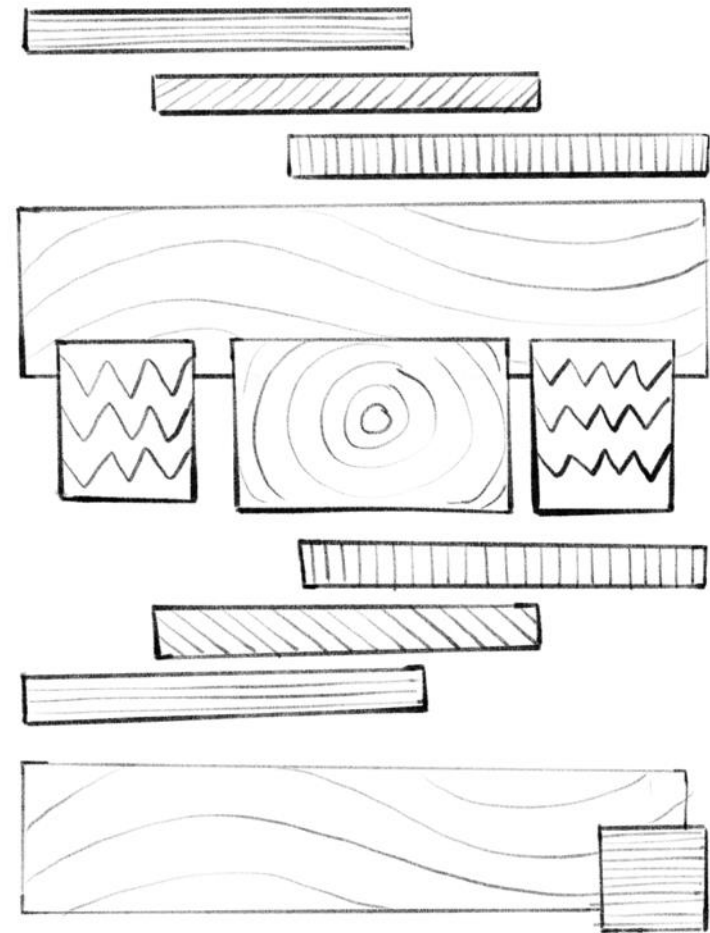


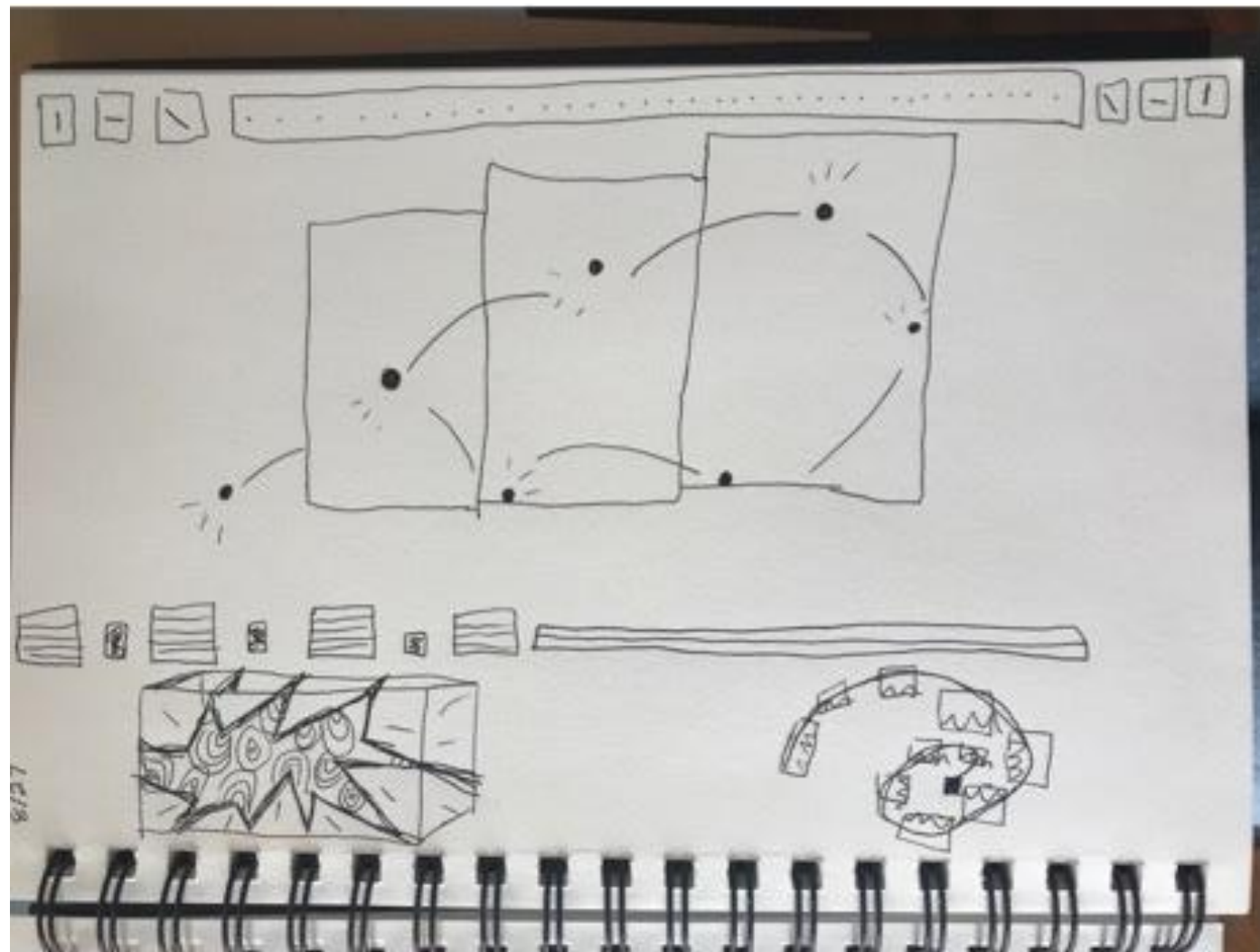
Wednesday, August 5th: The day went downhill right from the start. I felt a bit overwhelmed at work with all the projects I had to get done before I left. I was pretty nervous for a meeting I had in the afternoon, but once it was over, I felt the weight of the anxiety lift off of me.



Saturday, August 8th: Saturday was an awesome day with my wife, it was exciting and very relaxing. We slept in, had a fun day out in Half Moon Bay, and then went home and took a nap. After the nap, we hung out with some friends.

I enjoyed making comics as a diary; it's liberating to recount the day using only gestures and grids.

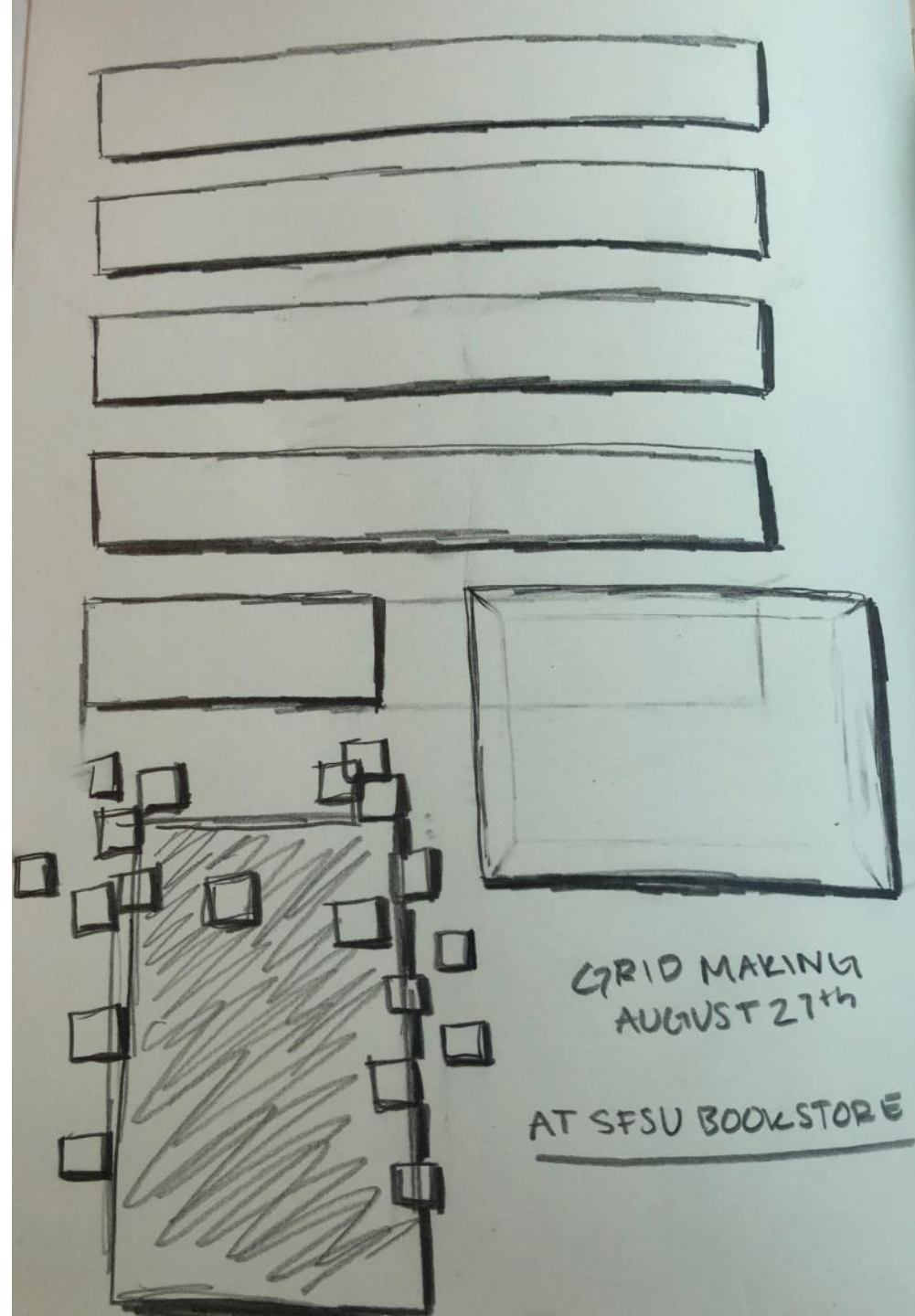




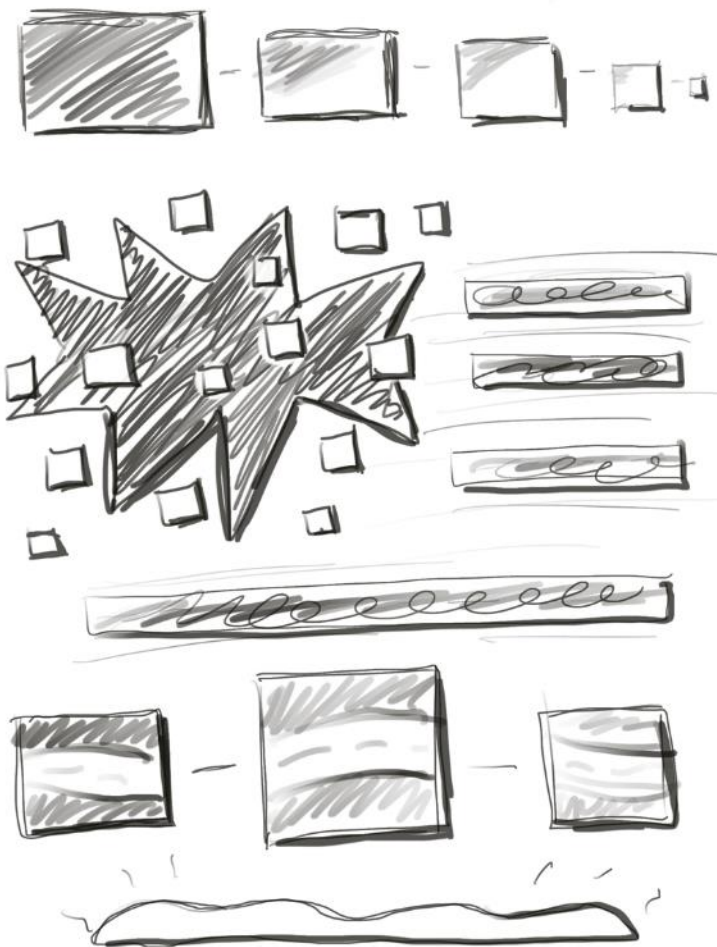
The more relaxed lines mean that I was either waking up, laying down or resting. The sporadic and crazy lines and gestures indicated my feelings of excitement, stress or exercise. These were the moments I was out and about. The reason I made the grids there sizes were based on the amount of time and importance of the activity. Bigger boxes meant I was doing something crazy or unusual and the smaller ones were the daily activities I usually do.

This activity was interesting because I was able to show my emotions of a Saturday night. It showed my ups and downs as well as the activities that I was doing in those certain moments. I liked how we were able to communicate a whole day by using visual elements rather than words.

I based my grid off a part of my first day of school. Like an idiot, I did not order my textbooks online and decided to wait in that long line in the SFSU bookstore. I was in a line for a about 45 minutes and when I got to the register, they said that I got in the wrong line to take out textbooks and I had to get in another line...you guessed it...for another 45 minutes. The first grids are just the same continuous grid over and over again, just as mundane as waiting in line for a long while. The one on the bottom left however with the multiple grids scattered represented my head exploding when I was told to go wait in another line after already waiting before hand.



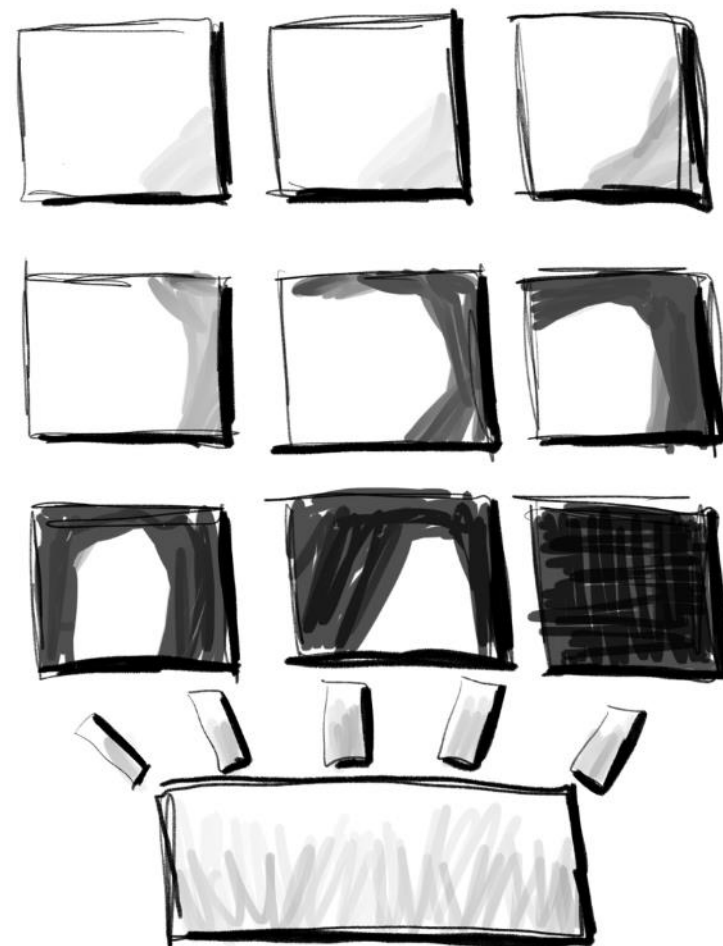
This day was my first day of work at my new job all the way in downtown San Francisco. This grid however, represents the morning of that day. I have to get up at around 5:50-6am to catch my first bus out of three buses to get there. I completely sleep through my alarm and it is almost 6:30. I have this huge anxiety about being late, especially since it's the first day. I was extremely lucky and all of my buses were on time and I actually got there a bit early...I had to skip breakfast though...



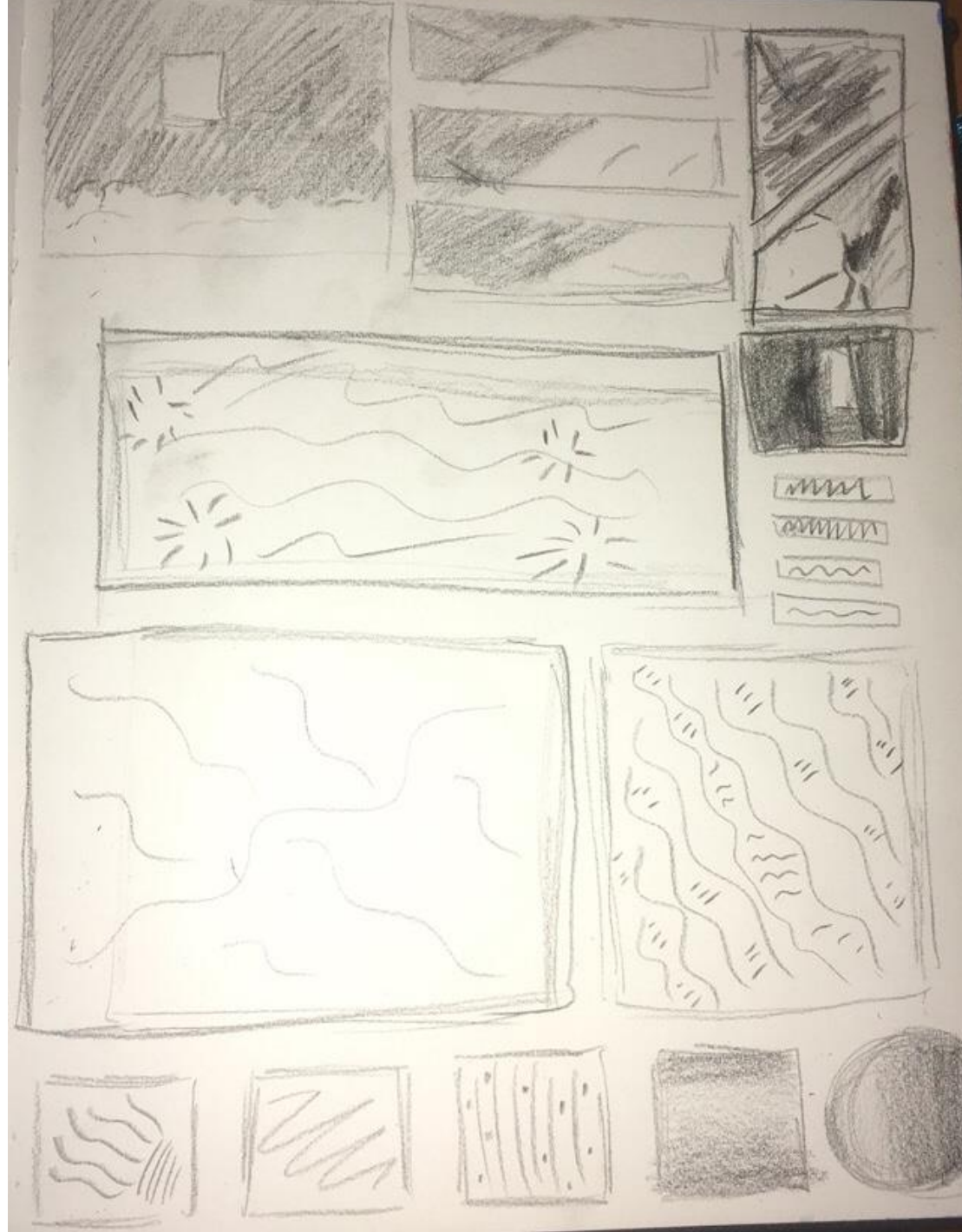
As one could see my week was a mess. I had no time of the day to myself. Everyday was a 7:30am-9:30pm. I am a part of a Greek organization on campus and I don't think a lot of people know how much work it is to try recruit new members. It was recruiting by day and events at night. Because I don't live anywhere near campus some days were filled with completing all my homework and spending all of my money on food on campus instead of using food that I have at home. It was extremely tiring with that on top of work and school. I'm proud of my work but I couldn't be happier that it is over.



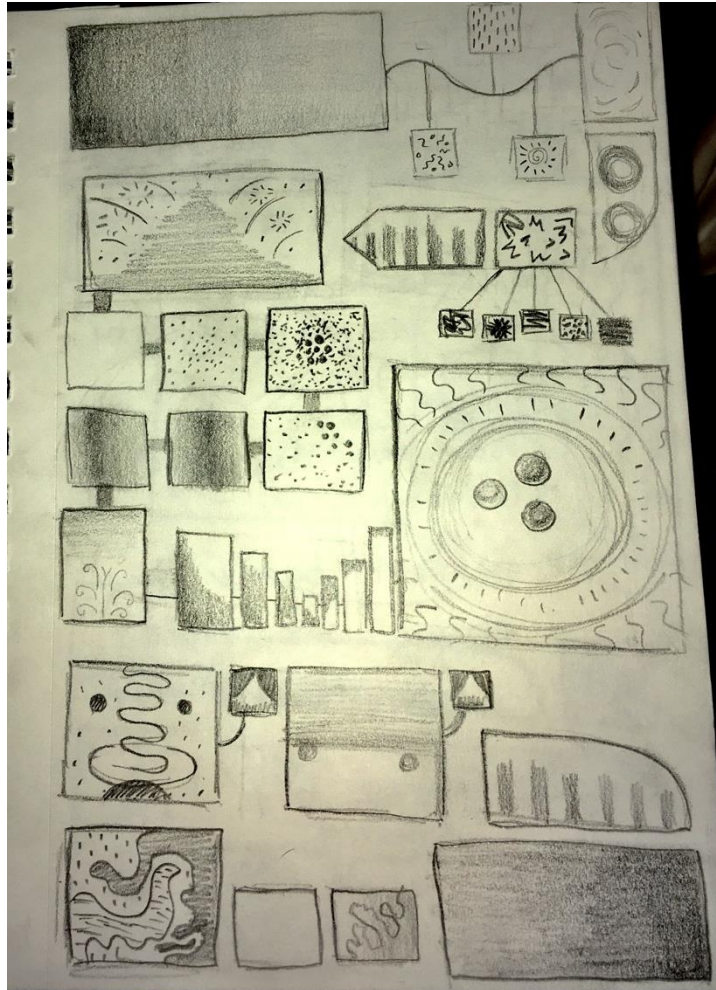
I am just starting in the animation program and it is just turning out how I thought it would at first...really really hard. I have been stuck on an animation project that I have been working on all week and I ended up deleting all of my work and it all became super frustrating. The day became worse and worse and I felt very uninspired and on the verge of tears (hence the darkness expanding). I eventually (on the 100th try) stuck with something I loved and I am very proud of how it turned out :)



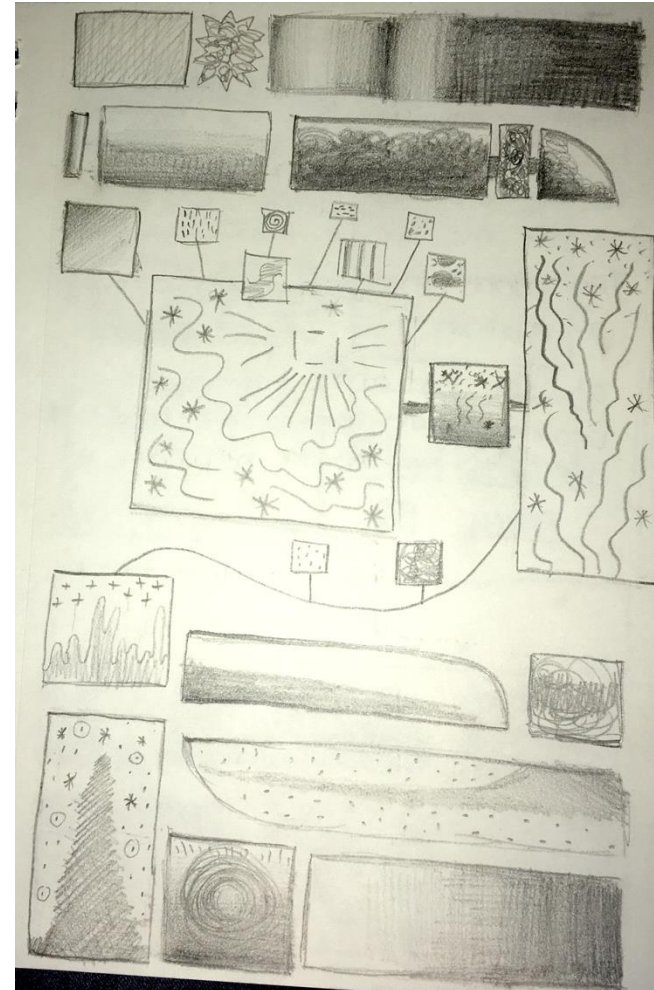
So this comic was about waking up exhausted and going through the day in a little bit of a daze. I was embarrassed that I still drew shapes when that was one of the only rules in this assignment not to break, oops. Erased that. I am excited to learn and to push myself to better understand a new way of thinking and creating art.



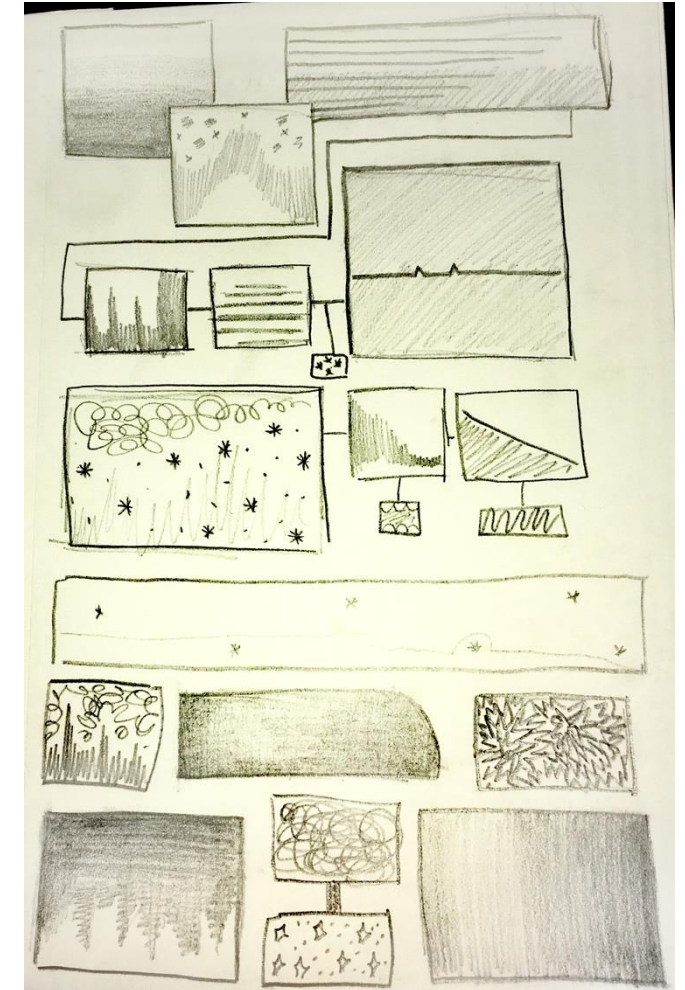
WED - Aug 29 Just a recording of my day. I was trying pretty hard to show the events of the day as well as my feelings abstractly. the top right was my commute to school in the morning. On my way to the bus stop I actually saw a swat team with a ton of police rush past me which made my mind spiral a bit. Seeing those kinds of things today spark a lot of anxiety for me & im sure for others. The highlights later in the day were of me getting to spend the day with two of my close highschool friends who I hadn't seen in ages.



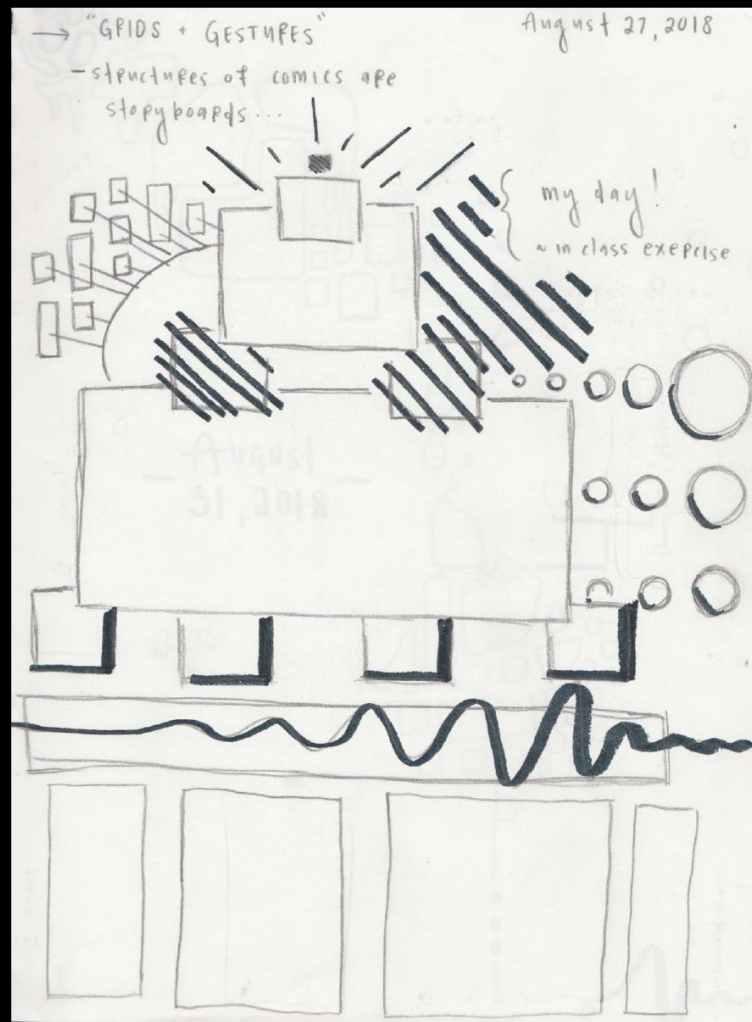
THUR - Aug 30 I had a lot of nightmares and sounds waking me up throughout the night, which is what's going on at the top of this comic. The more vibrant part of the comic was during my first Animation 3 class of the semester and I was feeling really inspired. The rest is mostly the experience on my commute home.



FRI - Aug 31 This day was the last day of my internship and there wasn't a lot for me to do so it was pretty monotonous. I ended up feeling really ill and having a bad migraine the whole second half of the day, so that sucked. That's what I tried to represent towards the bottom.



Grids & Gestures — *in class*



I really enjoyed this exercise -- being limited to lines & having to express my day in shapes was challenging but geared me to approach/think of storytelling differently.

the tiny black box at the top is morning/waking up, which i always imagined its like turning on a really old tube television (where there's a second of darkness just before the static comes in). the sporadic use of boxes to the left represents the presence of anxiety, with line linkages to highlight its regularity. the darkened lines that spill out to the right are disconnected thoughts that linger. the circles & their variations are the monotonous norms of the day -- class/syllabi/introduction/repeat. the wavy line symbolizes the ride home, somehow my favorite part of the day usually, where i always catch glimpses of the ocean. this time, its waves mimicked the motion of a first day of school. the bottom mismatched panels introduce this concept where certain fragments of time + parts of the day drag on. for instance, I'll feel like its been 7pm for 3 hours **BUT THEN** its suddenly 3am! (i always feel bamboozled. where does time go?)

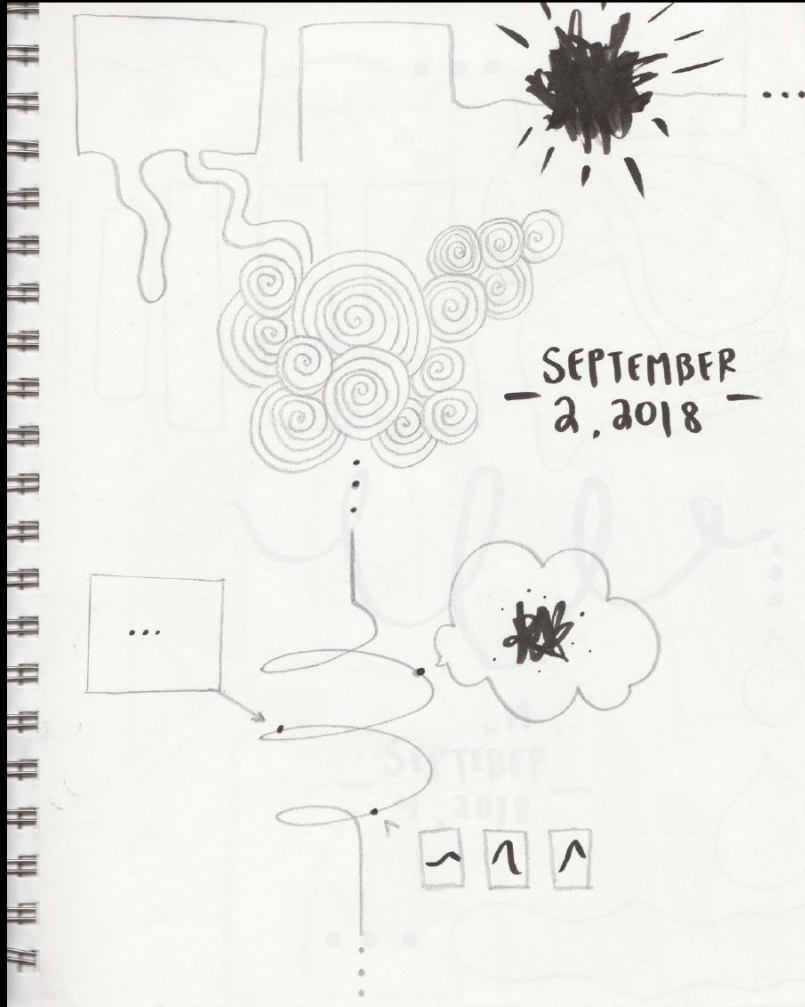
Grids & Gestures — *as diary*



8/31, friday: **adjusting & settling**

after the first full week of school & getting back into the motions of being a full-time student. had a few homework assignments that i forced myself to get through so i wouldn't fall behind -- hence the "sludges" of laziness & procrastination being refined into productivity. went out with housemates, a mix of good company and bad things (the cluster below) then home again, unwinding...

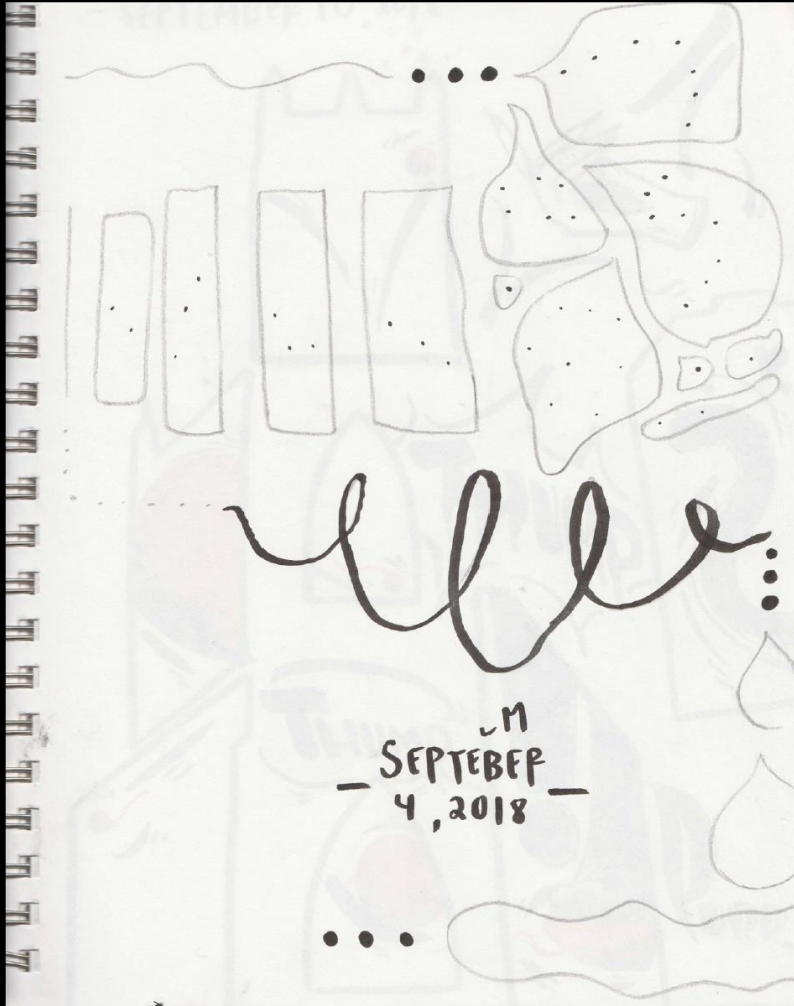
Grids & Gestures — *as diary*



9/2, saturday: **ebb & flow**

an odd day, so i started it from the bottom instead of the top. i woke up with too much in mind, missed my family & dog extra back home, & overall I have been having a difficult time finding my center (spirals). i explored the city a bit & it helped refine my thoughts. after midnight or so, one of my roommate's many boyfriends came over unexpectedly & casually rang our doorbell over and over and over. when i went outside to get him, i tripped over a rug in the dark and collided with our trashcans (black mass).

Grids & Gestures — *as diary*



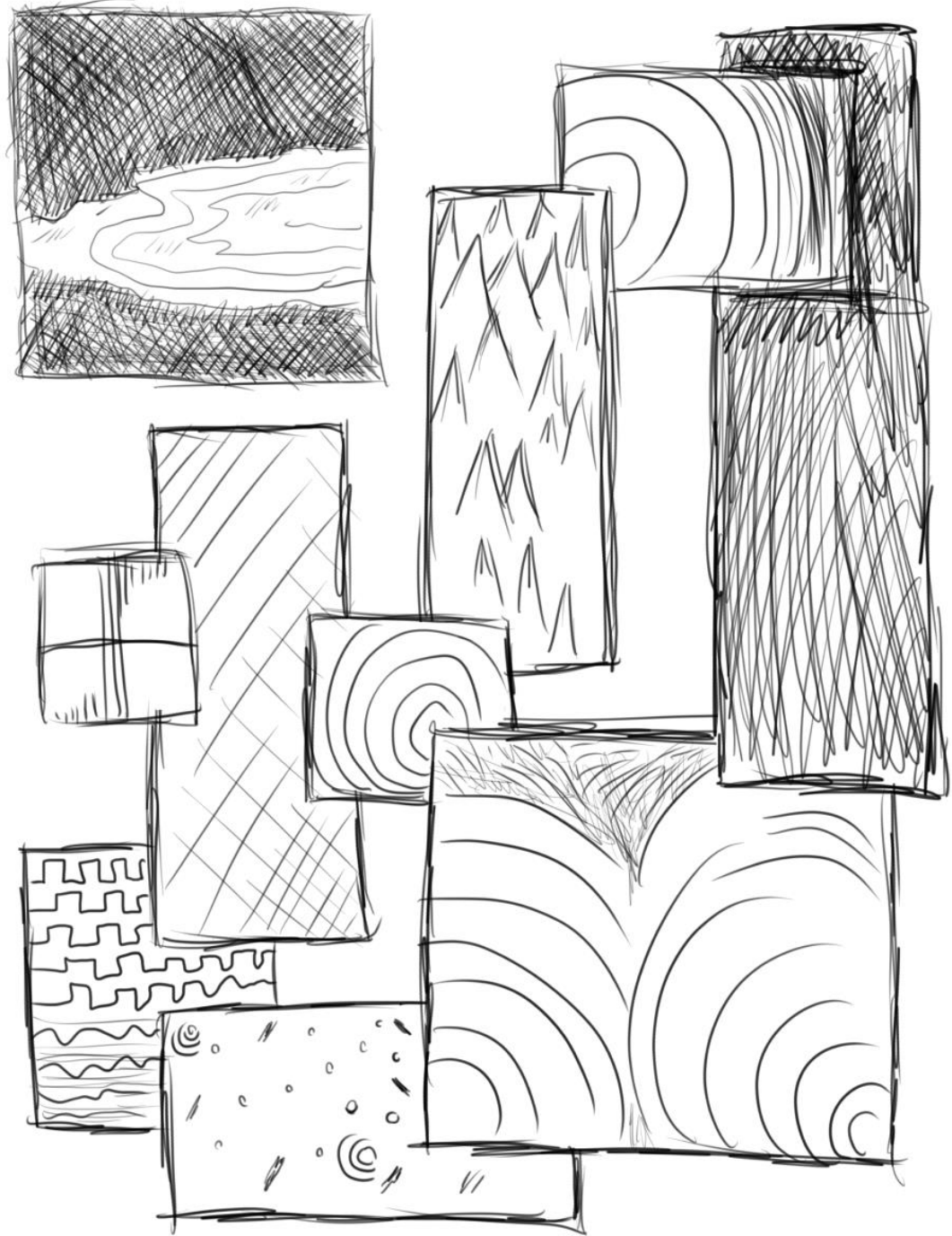
9/4, tuesday: **extroverted invert**

a better day. my housemates & i are never home at the same time, so it was nice being in a full, noisy, & bustling house. caught up with old friends, ran into new ones on the bus and at their jobs, then got phonecalls from my parents (the continuous connection of dots represents communication). ran errands afterward & got lost inside a whole foods (blocks to the left). came home & found out our unintentional pet spider* laid out an egg sack... a heavy debate in the household pursued -- either we set fire to it (my idea) or incubate it further (my roommate's). the tears below are mine.

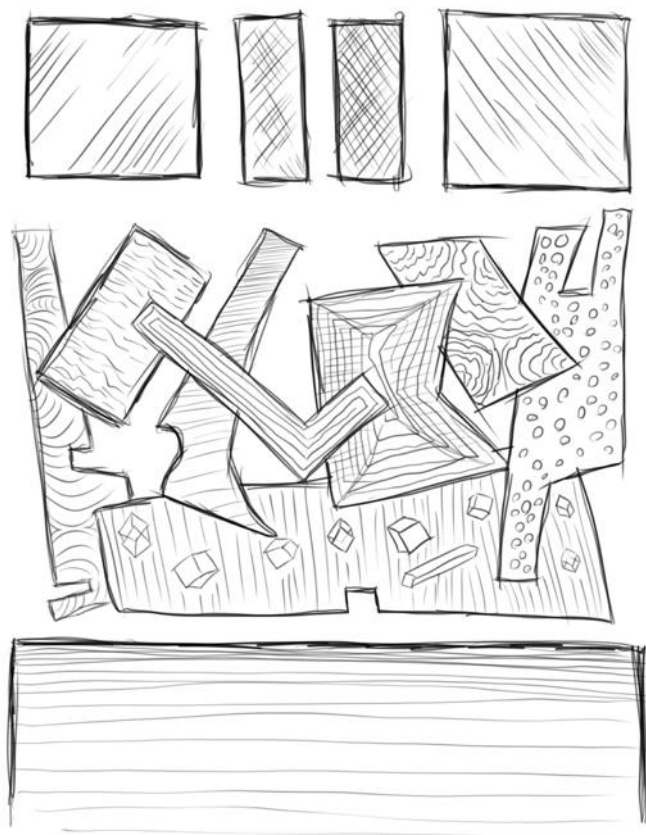
* the spider was found by myself & another roommate, who ironically, is just as scared of spiders as i am AND we were the only ones home. it was easier to catch it inside a jar cause we didn't want to come into contact with it directly. so we left it in there. we thought it would die eventually, didn't question why it got bigger, until we found out our other roommate had been feeding it this whole time...

I've renamed this exercise—I will hereby refer to these as "gridstures." This gridsture is pretty simple—the topmost panel, the only one not connected to any other panel, represents a growing pool of water. My neighbors' hot water heater was leaking into my courtyard that morning, and I emailed my property manager about it before I stepped out for the day.

The rest of the panels represent my somewhat frenetic workday. Of course, the leaking water heater was in the back of my mind. Would the property manager send someone to fix it that day? Would they have to shut off the water for an extended period? The answer to those questions, fortunately, was yes and no, respectively.

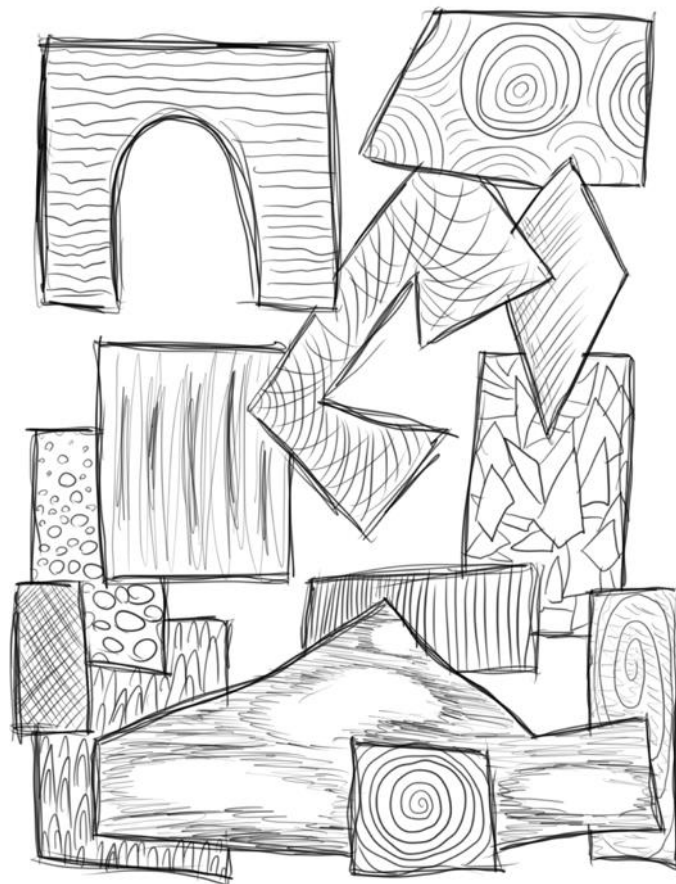


8/29: On this fine Wednesday, I worked. The four orderly panels at top represent some unstructured time I had during the morning, completing mundane tasks on my to-do list. The chaotic panels in the middle represent a tense and unnecessary meeting that I attended in the afternoon. The gradual fading at the bottom represents quiet relaxation as the day faded into the night.



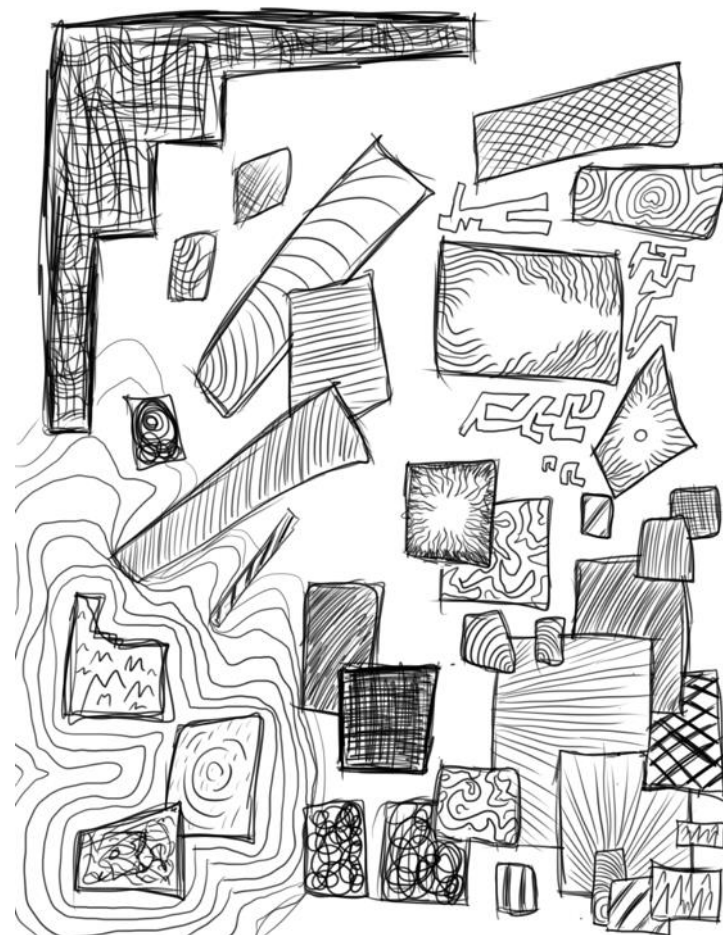
8/30

Another work day. The panel at top left is meant to evoke the Arc De Triomphe, as my day began at City Hall and I was (as always) entranced by that building's neoclassicism. The colliding circles and jumbled frames represent some criticism that I received early in the day that I wasn't able to let go of.



9/2

SF Zine Fest! It was a great time. The smaller panels here represent all the thousand little things that had to be attended to by us organizers. They also represent the little zines that people had for sale. I only bought zines that could fit in my back pocket, because I travelled to the Fest without a bag.

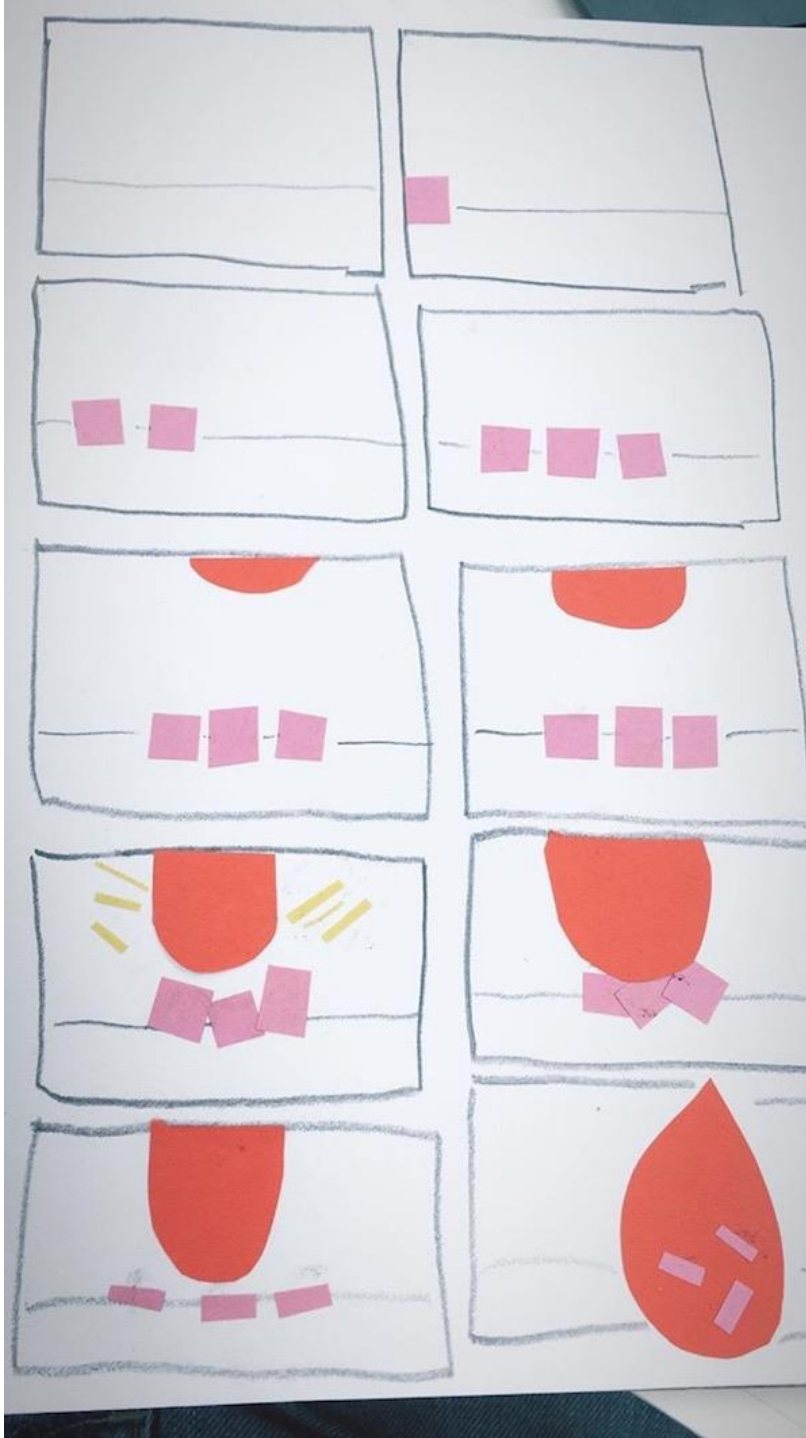


Cutouts & Cutout Comics

Using cutout shapes as you choose – present a relationship that is of some significance to you through the shapes, color, and relationships you've arranged with the different elements... Post your relationship cutout from class here - along with a brief description of what you did and what choices you made...



This comic is a representation of our political problems in the us and the relationship between the two party system - major parties, money, & Trump, and the people who are effected by these relationships.





The relationship that I decided to focus on is the between the institution and students (specifically me). I believe that students try and grow, blossom in other words, into their self their own uniqueness (what makes them themselves). However, I believe that the institution (more specifically high schools) trap us in a box having us follow what they want us to follow and be. We can't blossom in a dark box! We need sunlight and freedom!

One side of a heart (but you don't know that yet) feels lonely, feels like its missing something in life possibly a significant other. ? The pink side travels to find what she is looking for and sees a blue thing that looks similar to her (he (blue) was also feeling that he was missing something in life), she realizes it's her other half! They come together and realize that they are the perfect fit for each other! They love each other and their heart is stronger together than apart!

I enjoy love and love stories, especially the cheesy ones.



I wanted to try and represent the relationship between me and a number of things that have weighed me down and made me feel trapped recently. They are all things that are generally accepted or celebrated, so I wanted to represent them with colorful, conventional shapes... But in a manner where they are clearly overwhelming in scale compared to the figure of me beneath them (which I made with two different colored layers, symbolizing the duality of the way I feel about the situation). They are also casting bars, further trapping the representation of me. These were purposefully made to look crooked and brittle, as I do believe this is something I can “escape” from in time.



Tried to represent some sort of blob observing a shining star floating seamlessly far away/above them, who then is able to reach that height by exerting a bit of extra effort (aka jumping upwadts).



Relationship Cutouts

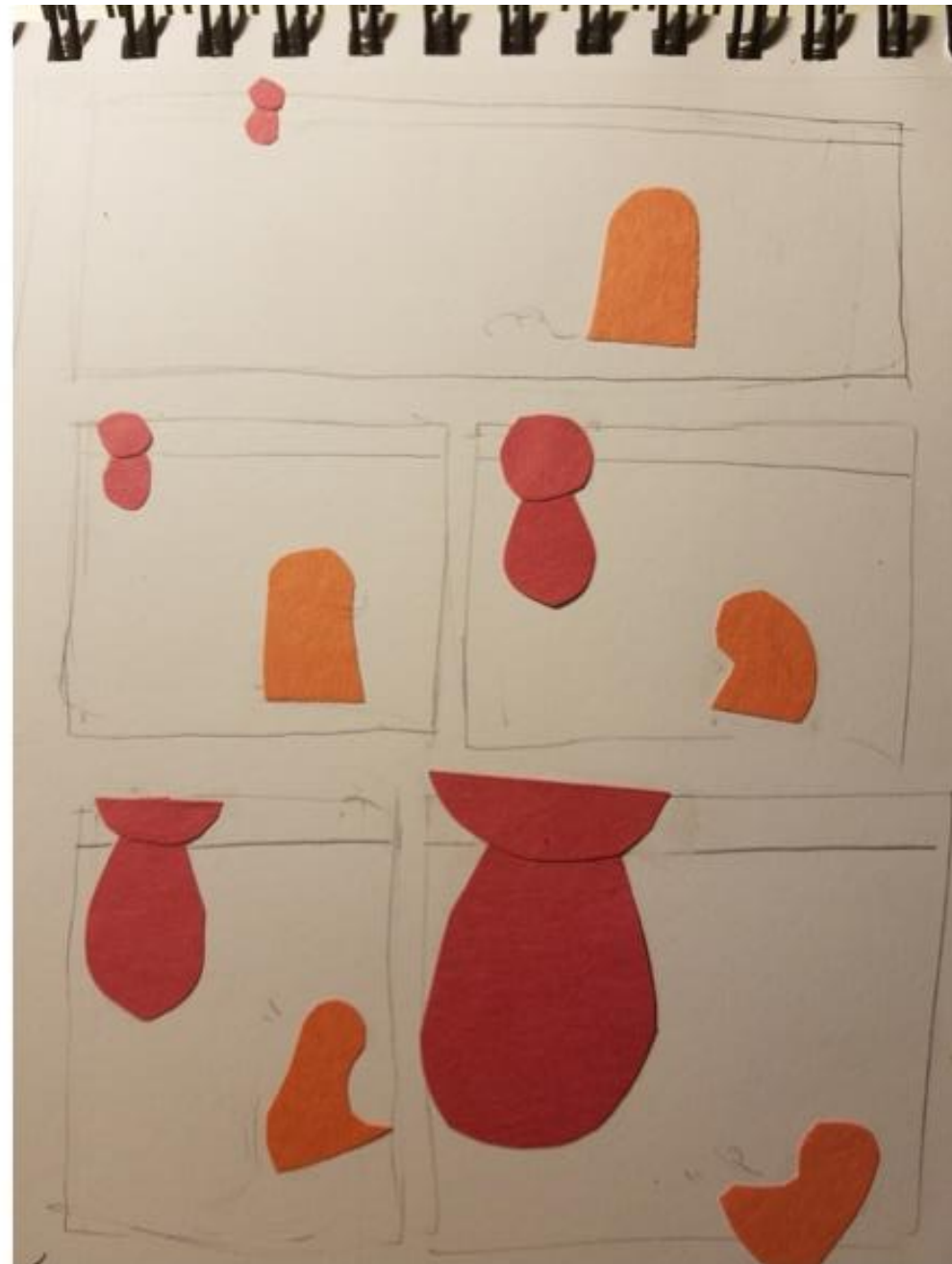


my dog, maddox (right) & i (left). unfortunately, he lives back home but even through endless face-time calls it still feels like nothing around us matters. i miss him everyday.



My partner and I are in a long-distance relationship. We try to pull each other close, but the distance can be straining as well.

Was going for a simple perspective gag. I tried to keep it as minimal as possible while still being understandable.



This is my relationship with sleep. I can manage maybe four to five hours on a school day which makes me really exhausted and sleep late into the weekend to catch up on all my lost sleep. Sleeping pills don't affect me at all. I think the last time I got decent sleep was when I was shot up with anesthetic during my wisdom teeth removal.





Real Architecture Grid to Comic

Observe some architectural composition in your world - a building, windows, a street layout, floor tilings, the dashboard of a car, whatever - find one you are inspired by, take a picture of it, then make a single comics page based on the composition of the actual architecture. Post both the image of the architectural element and your comic here.



THE FOOD SERVICE EXPERIENCE

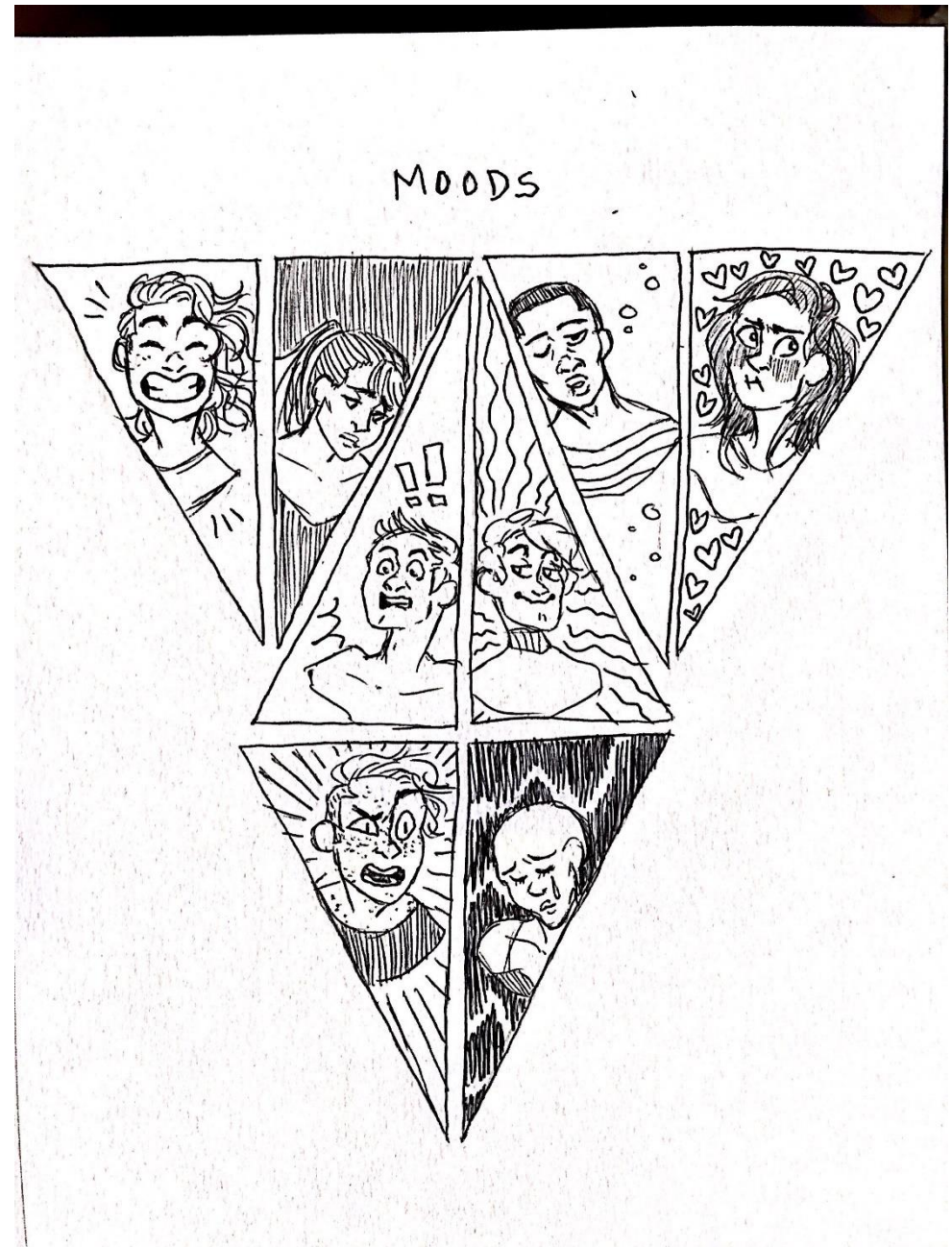


9-7-18

WINSTON SCHULTZ

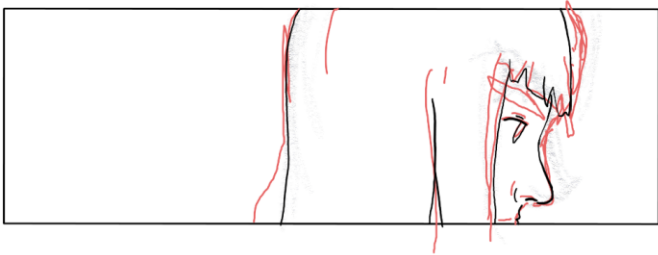
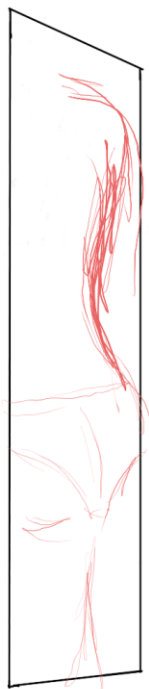




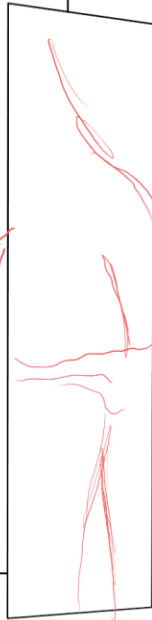
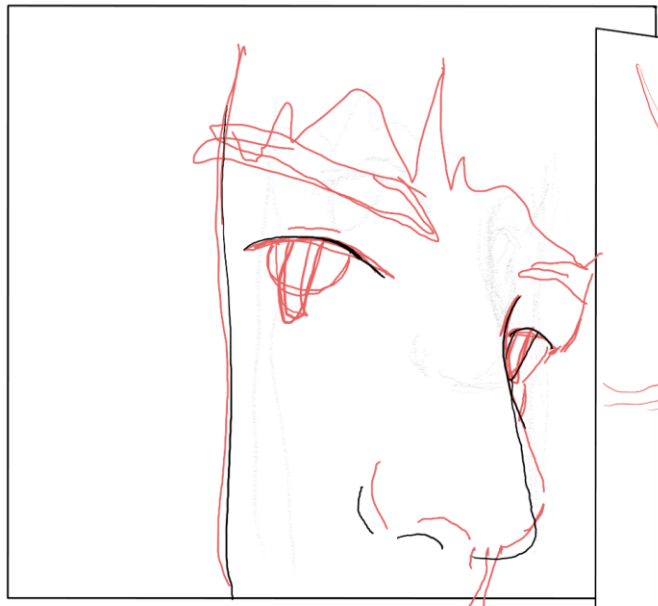








What am I
even doing?





Real Grid to Comic



