



# Karolina Ptasiński

Unreservedly optimistic,  
unquestionably attached  
to all things beautiful.



# THUMBNAILING AND IDEAS

**SHOW & TELL**

These sketches I made in a little notebook, it is the beginning of exploring the lyrics and meanings. This was also the time I've listened throughout Amber's album I'm focusing on for the first time.

I didn't really had a paper plan or ideas for the album when I did my research, so this process of just listening to music and drawing the things that came to my mind was very inspirational and I had fun while doing so.

I started to incorporate the colour green that I noticed shows up throughout the album.

I began with sketching the first line of the lyrics, to represent the want of being able to share thoughts and emotions I thought "liquid" coming out of the character's mouth could be a good metaphor, and the fact it has which the artist is being hard hat thing which highlights the fact that speaking up is not easy.

With the design at the beginning I wanted to incorporate the themes of "grandmothers" as it is in the song, but when drawings you'll notice I drifted away from the idea.

I wanted to explore the idea at first so I drew some illustrations when I showed her I interpreted and associate grandmothers with.

**BORED AT MY GRANDMAS HOUSE**

**Kettle:** at my grandmothers there is always a kettle going off so I started to wonder how I could describe being stuck / dead off with a kettle. This could also have a connection to her, and with the isolation it could suggest the artist's struggles of opening up and getting the help they need and circling in circles.

Water cycle, continues movement

These two last drawings from my notebook were made for a different lyrics, I continued with the theme of "reportage" and also, I went back to the artist's name and decided to focus on the word "BORED". It complements the heavy head nicely.

sleepy, tired, depressed, bored.

Lyrics from a different song

checked red pattern as it shows throughout the album

green + white.

Too vertical for a square album

I would have to think about making or even removing the text as it design / print in the case of the album.

I continued on exploring the theme of tea but this time I continued on being more realistic to portray "reportage drawing".

# INHIBITIONS

Thumbnailing and visuals

trapped in thoughts

ANXIETY JUDGMENT

STOPPING (REST)

LIQUIFYING DISSAPPEARING

I have highlighted the images I wanted to research visually, the most important words from the song I tried to turn into images. I will be attempting to intergrate the themes and create some thumbnails representing the song.

STOPPING / FROM IN MOTION

FOCUS ON MOVEMENT

WIND

WATER ATTRACTS CRAWLING = ANXIETY, THOUGHTS TRAPPED IN A LEAD

TEA

KEY

SHUK

TUTRAP

SOMEONE ASKING QUESTIONS

"SHOW" WHEEL OF FORTUNE

WEAR BUBBLE

DISAPPEARING

TEA

SHADOW OF THE PERSON

Eye

SPARKLING

FEELING TRAPPED

STOPPING / ACHIEVING

CUTOUT

STIPPLING

## EMI North Emerging Artists Live Brief

For this project I produced one vinyl album cover artwork, and three pieces of merchandise for one of EMI North's exciting emerging artists/bands.

On the next pages you can see my idea development for one of the merchandise pieces I have made.

I have chosen Amber Strawbridge as the Artist I was to create an Album cover and merch for this project. Not only I resonated with the visuals that were already given to her music in general, but I just admire how much emotions she awakens in me and how many interpretations I made already in my head when I was looking through her overview as an artist.



I WISH  
I  
LIKED  
YES



Stow  
& tell

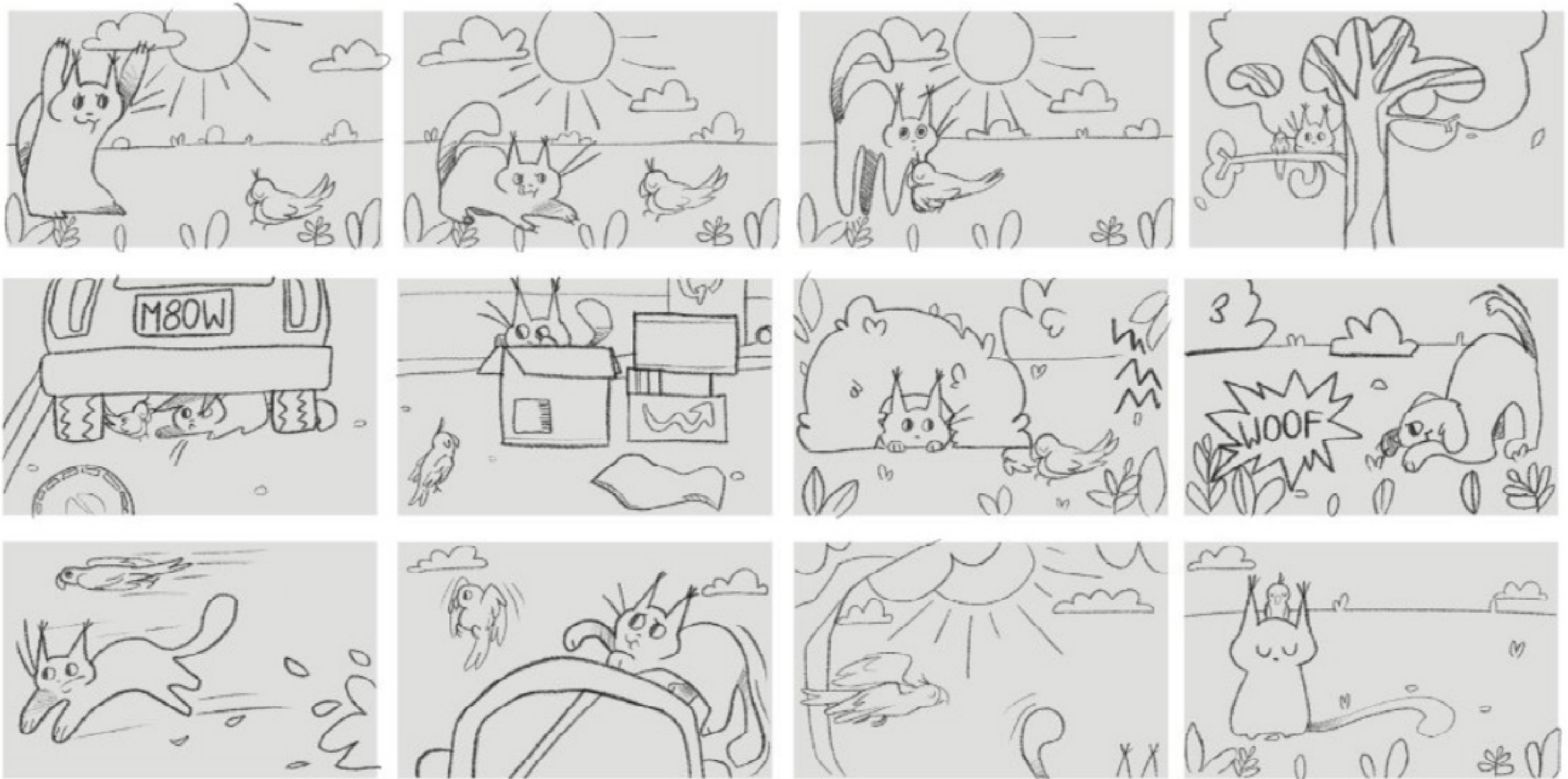
## EMI North Emerging Artists Live Brief

### The Album cover.

A lot of her visuals throughout the album called "show and tell" are these paintings that capture moments, still life, and reportage is definitely something I did enjoy in the first year of study in illustration. I think that in my own work when I create, I always tend to draw what I see or what I feel. It is also an interesting challenge to try and understand what somebody else is feeling and therefore to illustrate their thoughts. I love creating work with a little hint of myself, so I hope I can fit a little of myself in an album that is so dear to the artist and make it a little closer to myself as well.





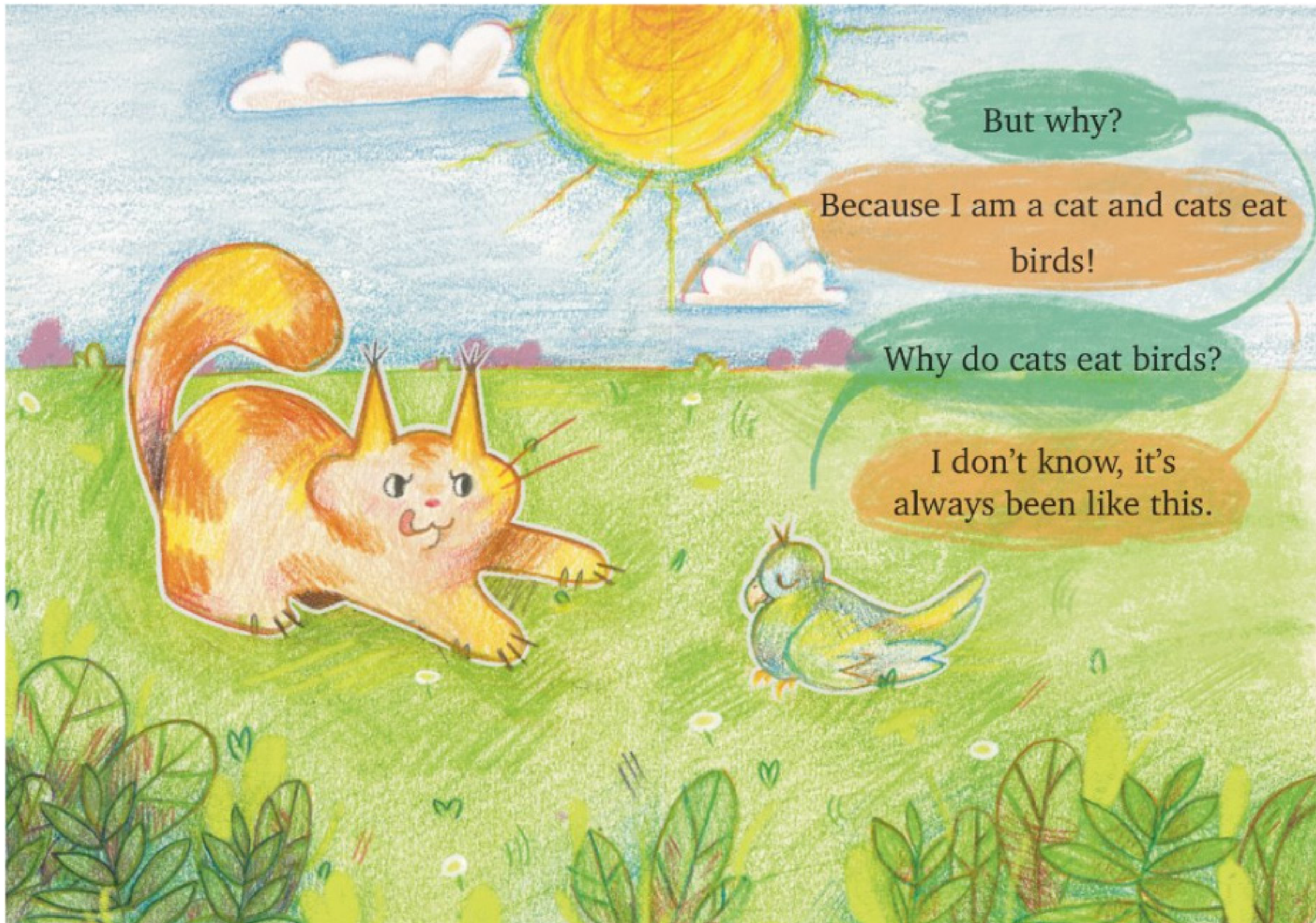


## Books and Storytelling

Picture books offer a great opportunity for illustrators to show off their work in a large format and over numerous pages.

In this project I was encouraged to create in a format I haven't before.

Picture books have the potential to be sophisticated, clever, profound and experimental. I challenged myself and in the portion of the project I used a medium I have not usually chose for my other projects, which are pencils. It allowed mwe to feel more comfortable with using mediums that are not only digital. This was a time where I discovered that I am drawn to textures.



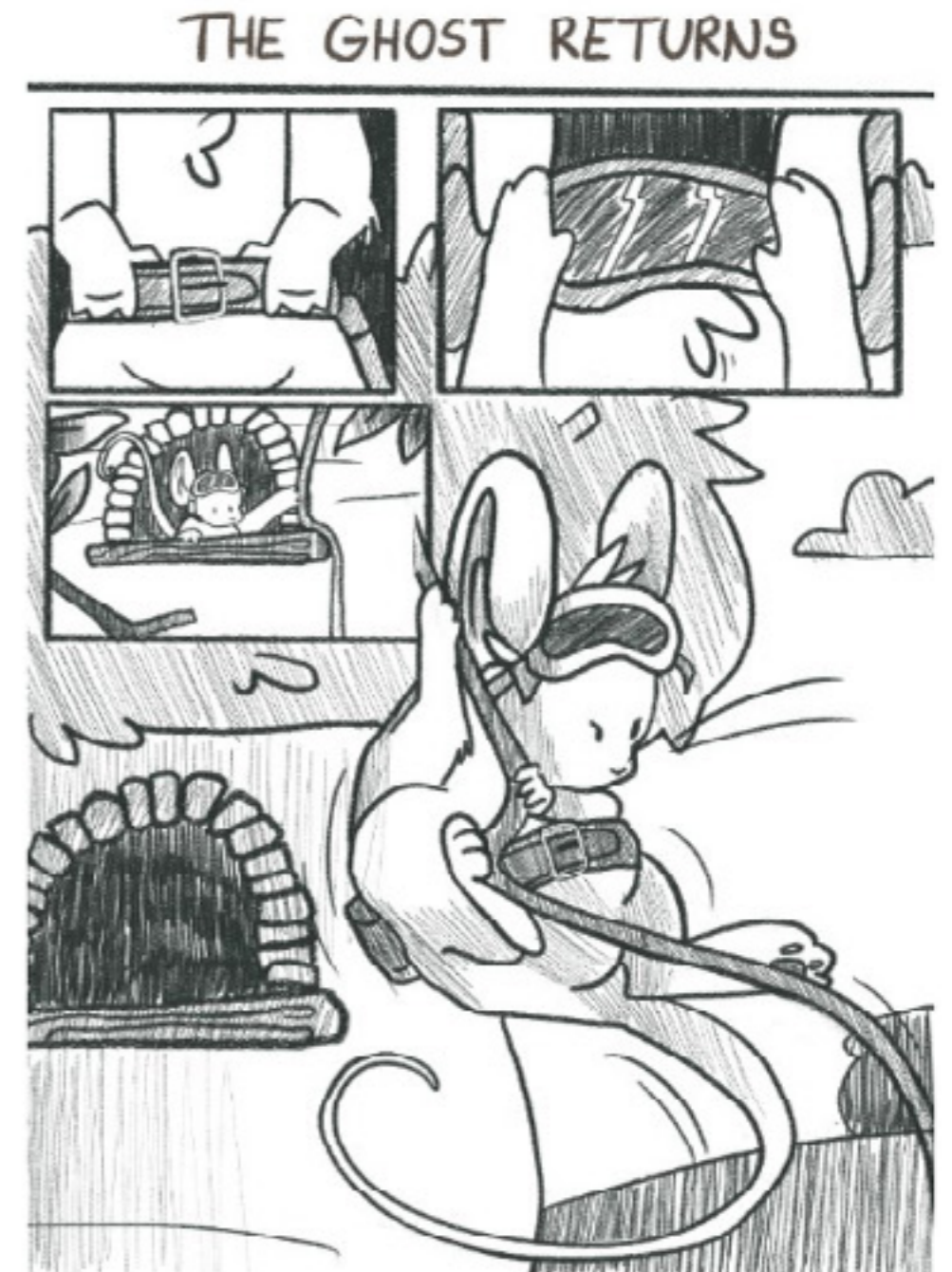
But why?

Because I am a cat and cats eat birds!

Why do cats eat birds?

I don't know, it's always been like this.

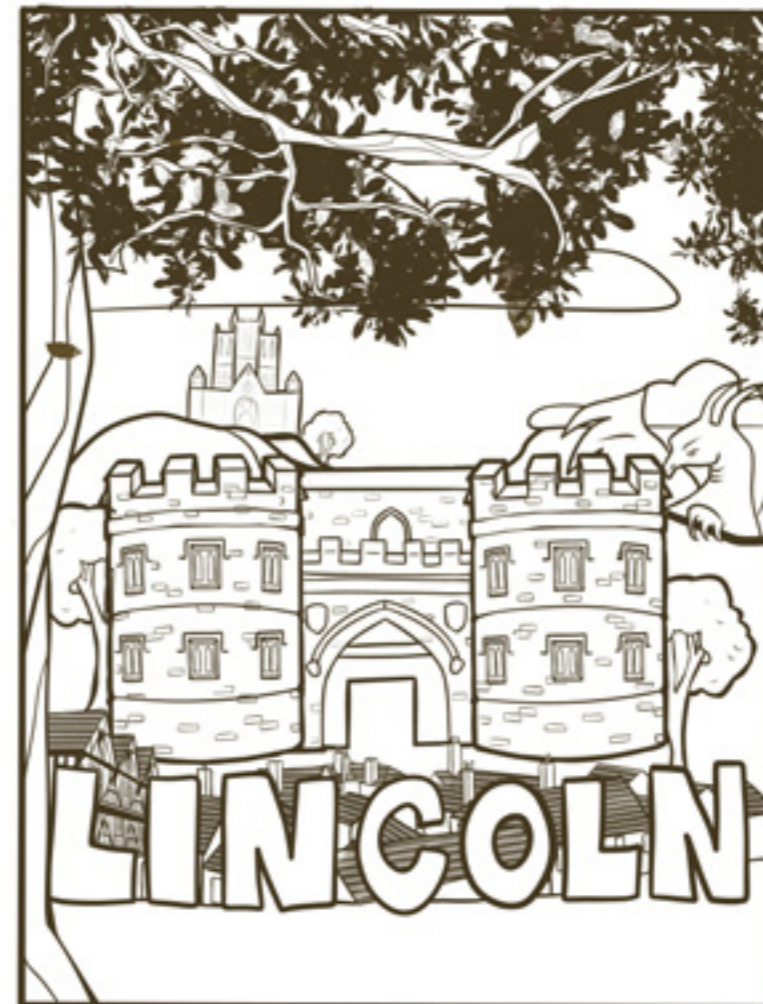
Graphic novel

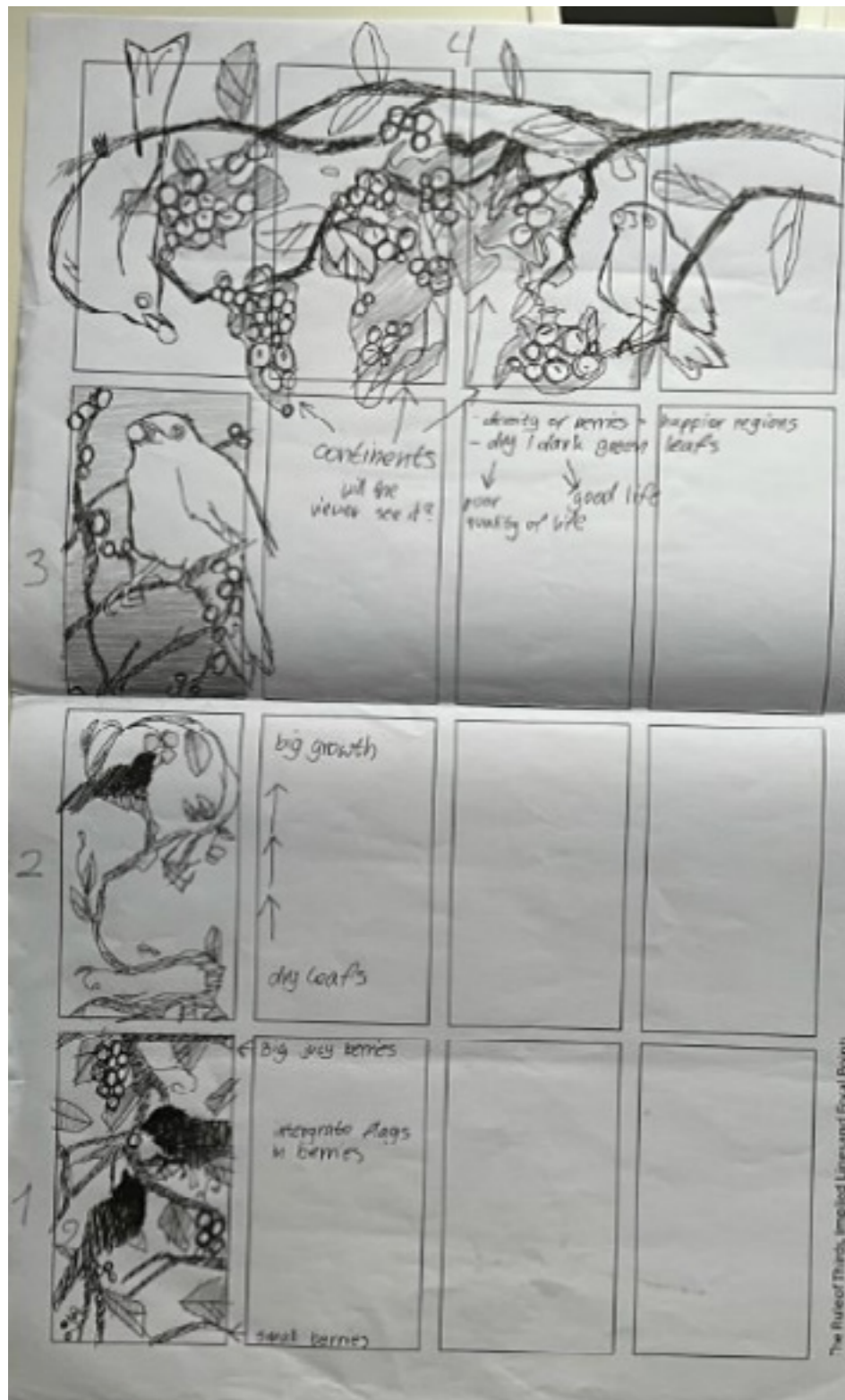


# Lincoln Castle Brief

This projects goal was to capture the essence of Lincoln and the castle's rich history, while also introducing fresh, modern design elements that will appeal to a broad audience. The designs were made to resonate to a younger, fresh audience with locals and castle visitors from further afield. These sketches represent how I work toward idea development.

My designs were focused on packaging and merch like stickers, posters, and graphics, that could go on fabrics ect.





## Data Visualisation

For this brief i got to visually translate data from the Cantril Ladder Happiness Dataset into an engaging and accessible illustration.

This was not about graphs or infographics in the traditional sense—but about imaginative, intelligent, and communicative visual storytelling using data as a starting point.

At first I wasn't satisfied with the first sketches, nothing about it was screaming "countries", so I wondered, what could make the illustration scream "global population"? Leaf shaped continents?

I am using plants as a metaphor for growth, every country has a chance to do so and everything changes with time and the right resources. I distributed the berries more and added flowers/blooms to demonstrate the growth of the countries as well.



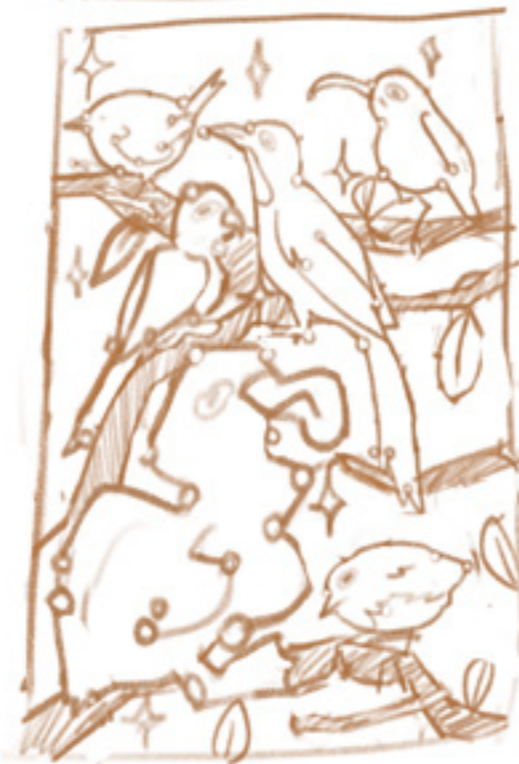
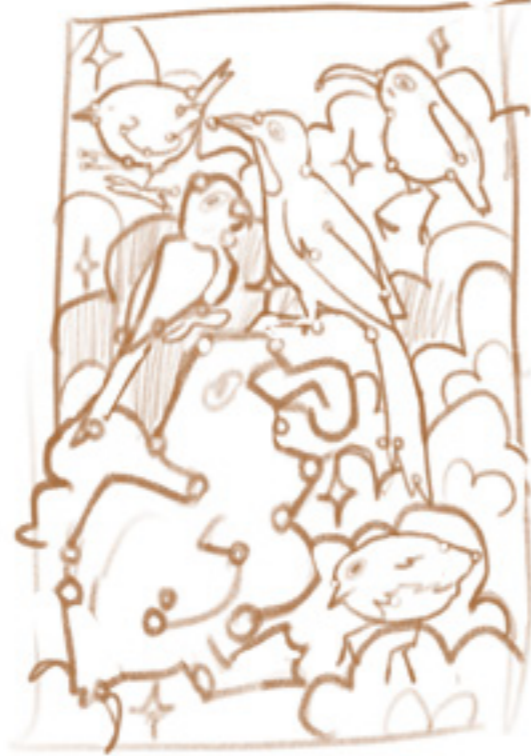
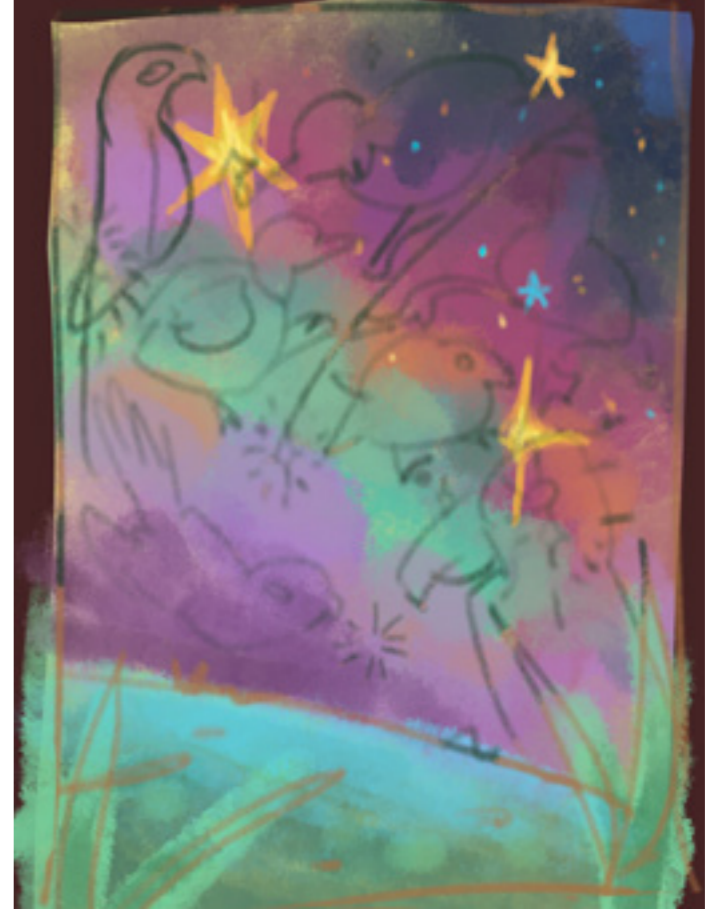
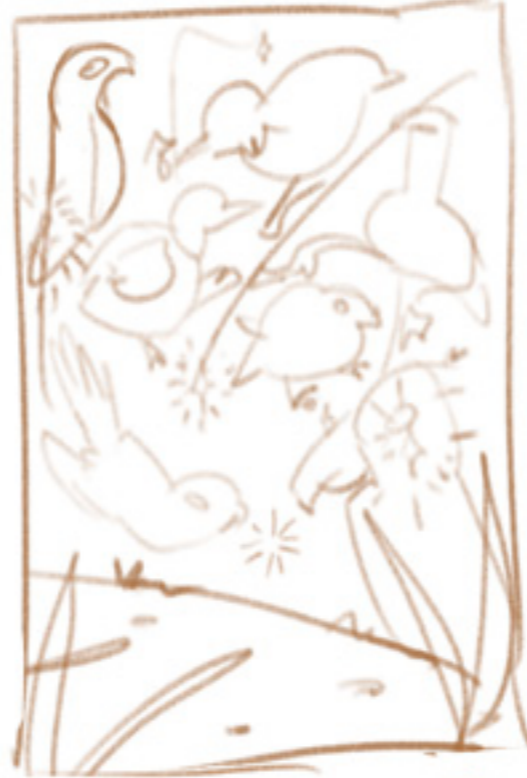
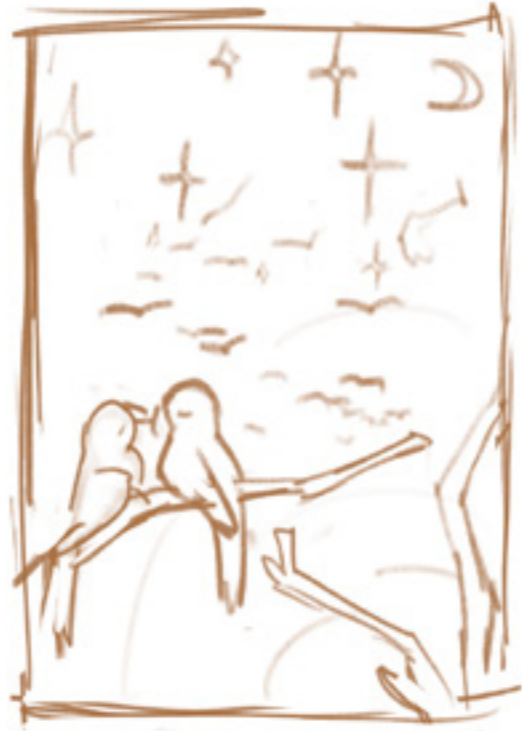


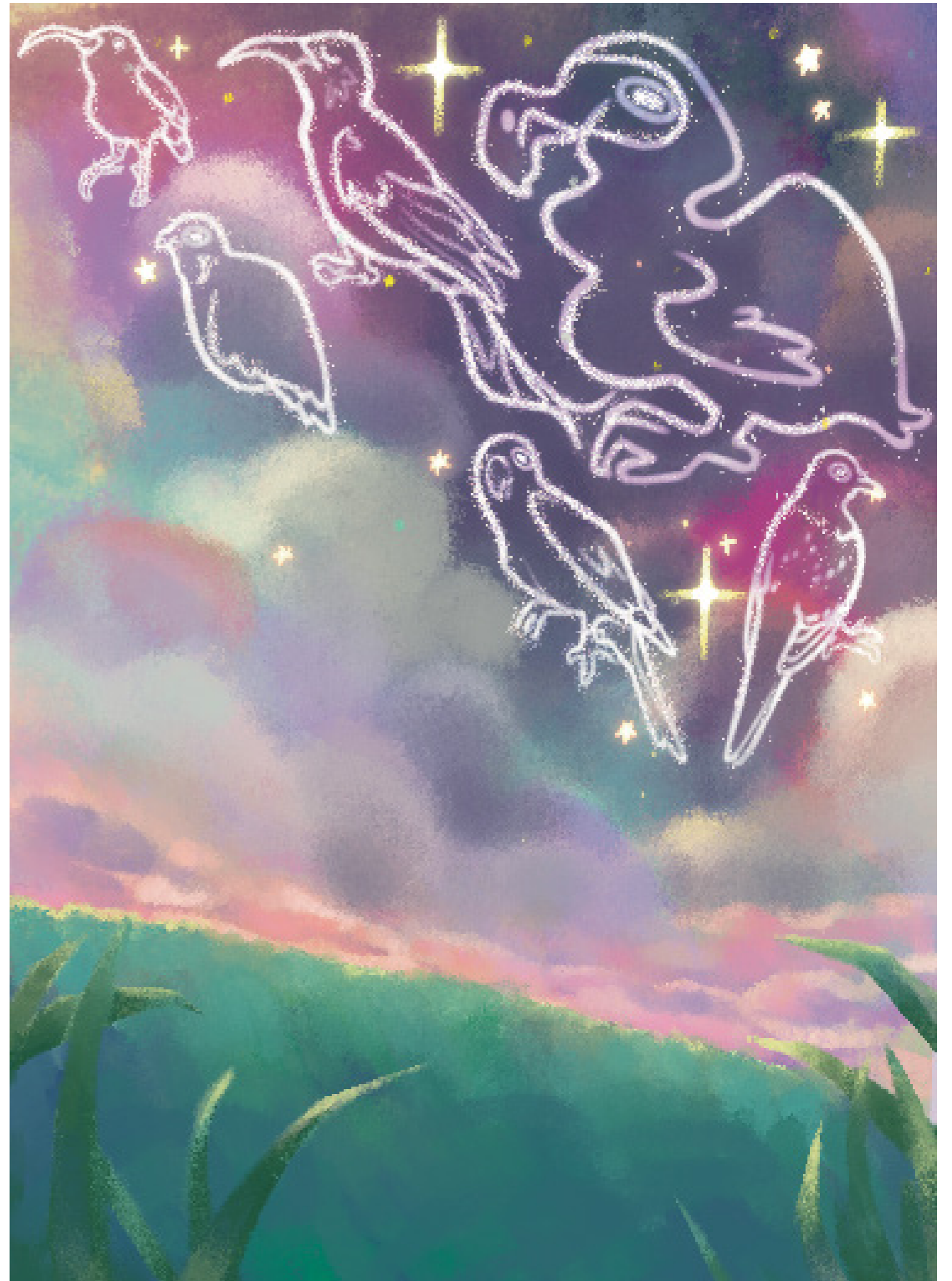
## Self-Promotion

Self-promotion is a powerful skill for any illustrator — whether you're heading into freelance work or applying your creativity in other professional settings.

This brief gave me the chance to create a bold, innovative set of promotional materials that showcase your strengths and support your next steps.

In the next pages I showcase my early attempts to create an illustration that reflects extinction, as a fan of birds, I wanted my work to reflect the love I have for them. I was heavily experimenting with the types of styles I can draw with.







## The World Illustration Awards

I decided to make this project about everyday icons, “the hidden beauty of the mundane”. It introduces intimacy and ritual into the project, which is something Art Nouveau often emphasized and was my heavy inspiration for this piece. Many Art Nouveau works transformed women, muses, and natural elements into symbolic, almost spiritual figures surrounded by ornament and flowing organic forms. By placing Myself with your parrots, I can create a personal mythology rather than simply depicting animals decoratively.

My parrots are a part of my ordinary daily life, but through composition, symbolism, and ornament, I can present that bond as emotionally significant and visually monumental. This directly connects to the brief’s idea of uncovering hidden beauty within the mundane.





AND

THE

FEELING

IS

STILL

PRETTY

KVAETH





[https://www.instagram.com/](https://www.instagram.com/xnuusax/)

[xnuusax/](https://www.instagram.com/xnuusax/)



[https://nuusax.wixsite.com/](https://nuusax.wixsite.com/portfolio/home)

[portfolio/home](https://nuusax.wixsite.com/portfolio/home)



[Nuusaxart@gmail.com](mailto:Nuusaxart@gmail.com)



# Nuusax