

Project Details

I. Project Vision

This project, which is tentatively titled “Matchwood”, will be a 52-page graphic novella about two best friends who realize they’re in love just before one of them has to fulfill his familial calling to become the sun. The story takes place in a land where giant hands hold houses high off the ground in protection from roaming wolf-creatures. The symbolism of this imagery calls to the feeling of trust and precariousness in love and longing. This comic is a continuation of my affection for stories that focus on relationships and personal interaction in the face of strange circumstances.

II. Audience

The audience for this project is anyone who enjoys emotionally driven short stories with a sprinkle of otherworldliness. In particular, people who enjoy art comics and/or bittersweet love stories. This is also a book for anyone who is looking for more gay & transgender characters, storylines, and themes in comics. This is basically a book that I want to read.

III. Methods & Materials

I’m making this entire project in Procreate with digital texture brushes. My original plan was to print 3 copies of the book in black & white for my thesis defense on the school’s production printer, as well as perfect binding them at the school. I would still like to print a larger run whenever that becomes possible, binding them myself. The cover will be eventually be a 3-color risograph image.

IV. Comparative Media

Some projects that are similar to this one include *Stonefruit* by Lee Lai, their other short comic *First Year*, and *Stunt* by Michael Deforge, among his other short comics. These books are all shorter narrative pieces that are a little bit weird, but in a way that’s very stylistically grounded. They all exist in a similar marketplace to where I see my project living.

V. Marketplace Application

This project will exist both digitally and physically. Post-grad, I plan on printing about a limited run of about ~100 copies and selling them online, at conventions, and at any and all comic/book stores that will have me. Online, this project will be available to read for free on my website as well as on a website like Gumroad or itch.io where people can download the comic for free, or shoot me a couple bucks if they feel so inclined. This project will also serve as proof to future publishers that I can create a longer narrative that is not only coherent, but looks pretty good too.