

A Butterfly Effect

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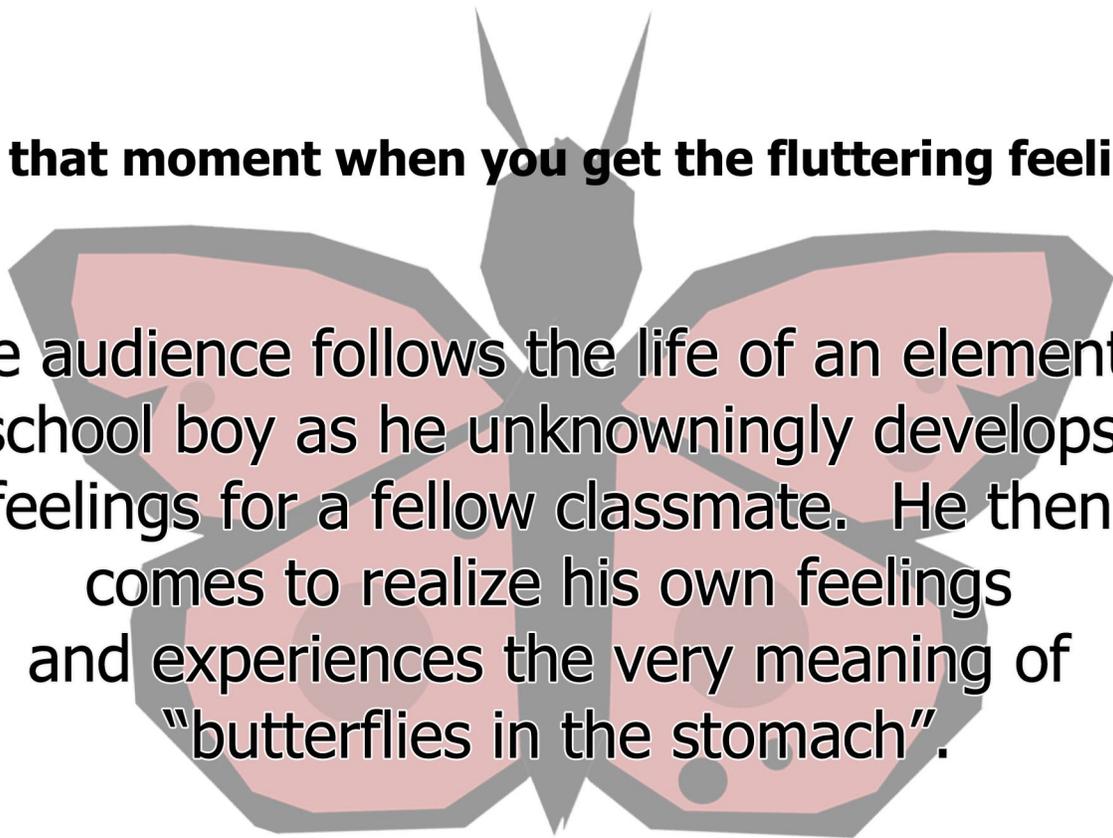
Final Thesis Pitch

Concept

Synopsis and overall description

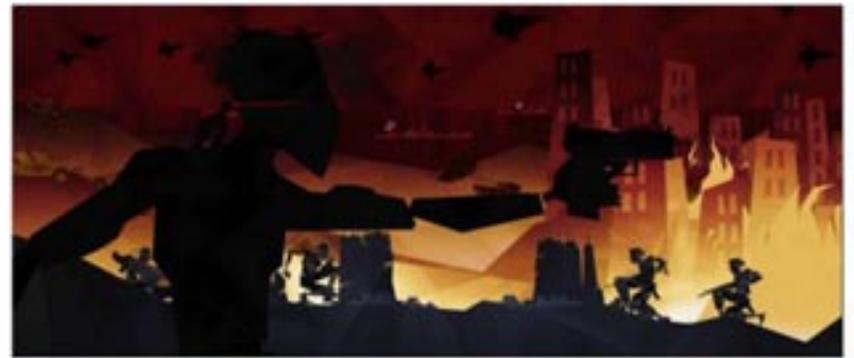
“It’s that moment when you get the fluttering feeling.”

The audience follows the life of an elementary school boy as he unknowingly develops feelings for a fellow classmate. He then comes to realize his own feelings and experiences the very meaning of “butterflies in the stomach”.



Reference Images 1

Bunraku : Opening Titles



Reference Images 2

We Hear Them Cutting



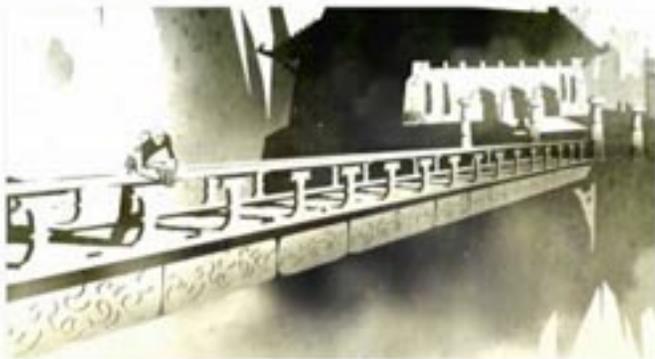
Reference Images 3

Tale Of Three Brothers



Reference Images 4

Heavenly Sword



Research

Animation and Technique

Graphic Design:

I intend to use a very "simple" graphic feel for this piece. I want to stray away from anything complicated, as the main concept of this story is at first glance simple. I would like to have the visuals to effectively reflect this aspect of the idea.

Multilayer Planes:

There will be the use of plans which have multilayers. This short will be animated with the attempt to have very limited camera views. Instead it will seem as though most of the animation is viewed through a single camera shot. In order to do this, I plan to have various different scenes on different layers of the viewing plane so that the camera can "push" itself into one scene and enter the next without the use of cutting.

Software:

The utilization of both Adobe Photoshop and Maya Autodesk will be used in order to achieve this goal of a "multilayer" animation.

Transitions

Animation and Technique

Reference video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dOBT3dXK5x4>

Transition 1:

When one scene moves “through” one scene and immediately enters another. This gives the camera the feeling of the entire two scenes being the result of a single camera shot.

Bunraku - First Battle

0:55 - 1:02

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_detailpage&v=dOBT3dXK5x4#t=57s

Transition 2:

This is when the camera focuses in on an object and moves along with it. This is another technique that can be used to move one scene to the other without the use of a camera cut.

Bunraku - First Battle

1:06 - 1:14

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_detailpage&v=dOBT3dXK5x4#t=66s

Transition 3:

The camera follows a single object as it falls “below” the frame and transitions to the next scene by using a downwards angle.

Bunraku - First Battle

1:35 - 1:40

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_detailpage&v=dOBT3dXK5x4#t=94s

Storyboard

Quick Summary

Part 1:

It's recess. We establish that the main boy (MainB) is somewhat of a school bully. He proceeds to bully other kids on the playground until he meets the main girl and love interest (MainG). He steals MainG's jar and dashes off with it.

Part 2:

In an attempt to run away, MainB trips and falls right before entering the classroom. He scrapes his arm. However, despite the fact that he had stole MainG's stuff, MainG still offers him a bandaid for his wound. This is where feeling begin to develop.

Part 3:

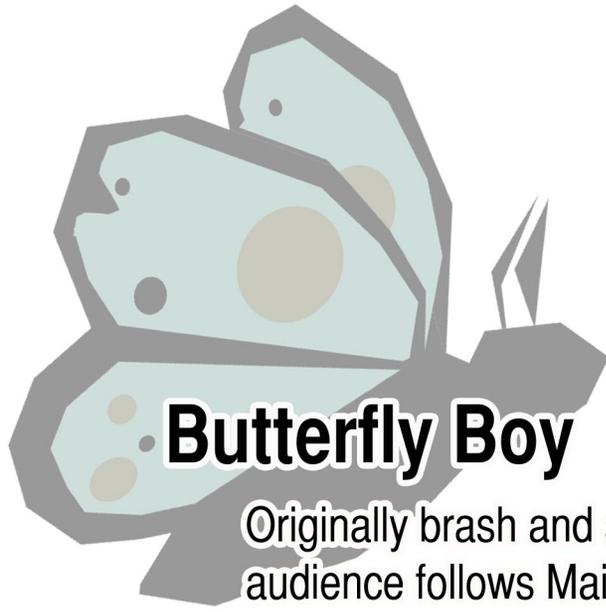
During the next two scenes, MainB begins getting an upset stomach, so much to the point that he can not go to school anymore. He continues to be plagued by these stomach aches and strange dreams involving MainG. He then realizes that there are "creatures" in his stomach each time he thinks about MainG. His butterfly are now fully grown.

Part 4:

Once returning to school, MainB has to fearfully face his love interest. Much to his dismay, the creatures in his stomach explode out and reveal to MainG herself the feelings that he feels for her. However, MainG then opens the jar she constantly brings with her, thus releasing her own butterfly indicating that she has feelings for him as well.

Character Design

Main Protagonist (MainB)



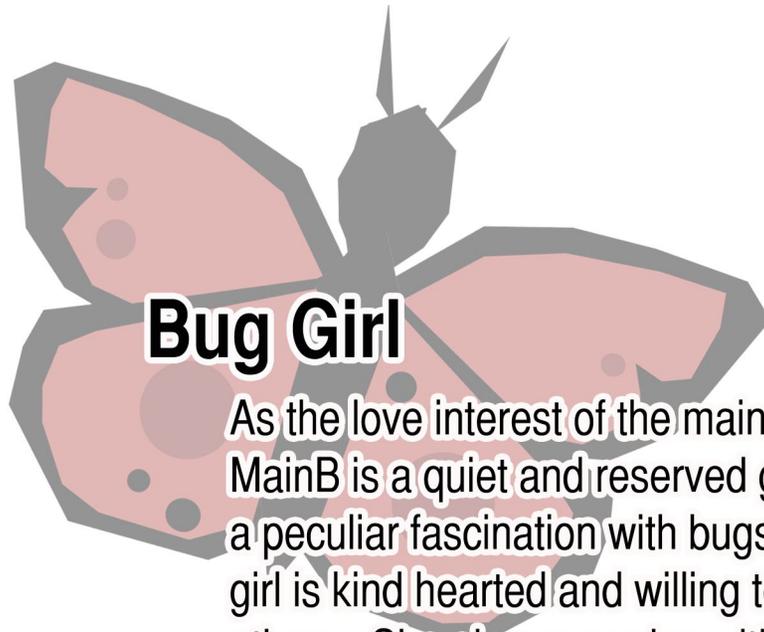
Butterfly Boy

Originally brash and somewhat of a bully, the audience follows MainB on his journey of self discovery. He will realize and attempt to deal with his feelings which begin to develop after meeting that special someone.



Character Design

Secondary Protagonist (MainG)



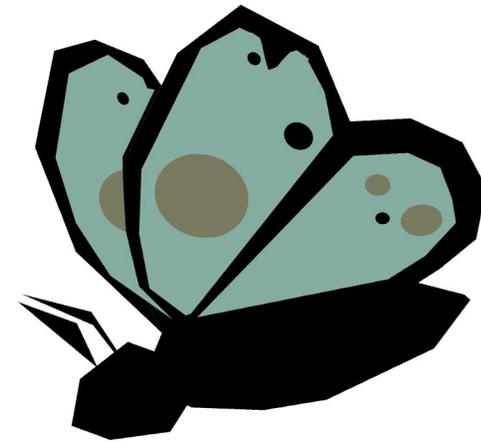
Bug Girl

As the love interest of the main character, MainB is a quiet and reserved girl who has a peculiar fascination with bugs. The young girl is kind hearted and willing to help others. She always carries with her a jar containing her most prized possession.



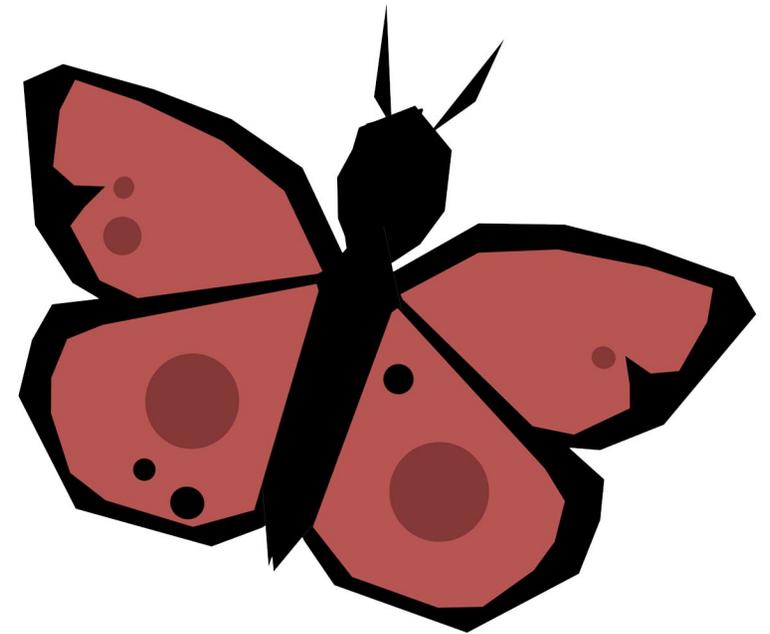
Character Design

Butterflies



Butterflies

These are main theme as well as metaphor of the short. Each butterfly represents the two main characters and their developed feelings for one another. They are a physical manifestation of the phrase “butterflies in the stomach”.



Style Frames

Multilayer Plane/Graphic Style



Multiple layers

Cut-out/Graphic
Style

