

PHANTOMS
IN THE DARK

a film by
Max Rubin

5/7/12

WHAT IS...

PHANTOMS IN THE DARK...?

It's a story of self-discovery among new friends.

...aligning with the weirdos.

...not going with what people say is right.

...overcoming bullying.

...sticking it to people who want you to change.

...truly knowing what is best for yourself.

...finding pride in who you are.

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It's a story of a boy who gives up having human friends, and instead decides to hang with **monsters**



PHANTOMS IN THE DARK

Eli just wants to make friends on his first day of middle school, but finds the kids there to be less than hospitable; they kick his favorite toy ball into a neighboring mansion they say is filled with monsters, and make him go inside. When Eli approaches and gets suddenly sucked into this haunted house, he finds that the monsters within are indeed real...

...and they love to party!

Though scared at first, our hero eventually finds friendship with these unconventional party monsters, and with these new friends he discovers his true self, and the ability to go back and tell those schoolyard kids to bug off.



THE MONSTERS' HOUSE



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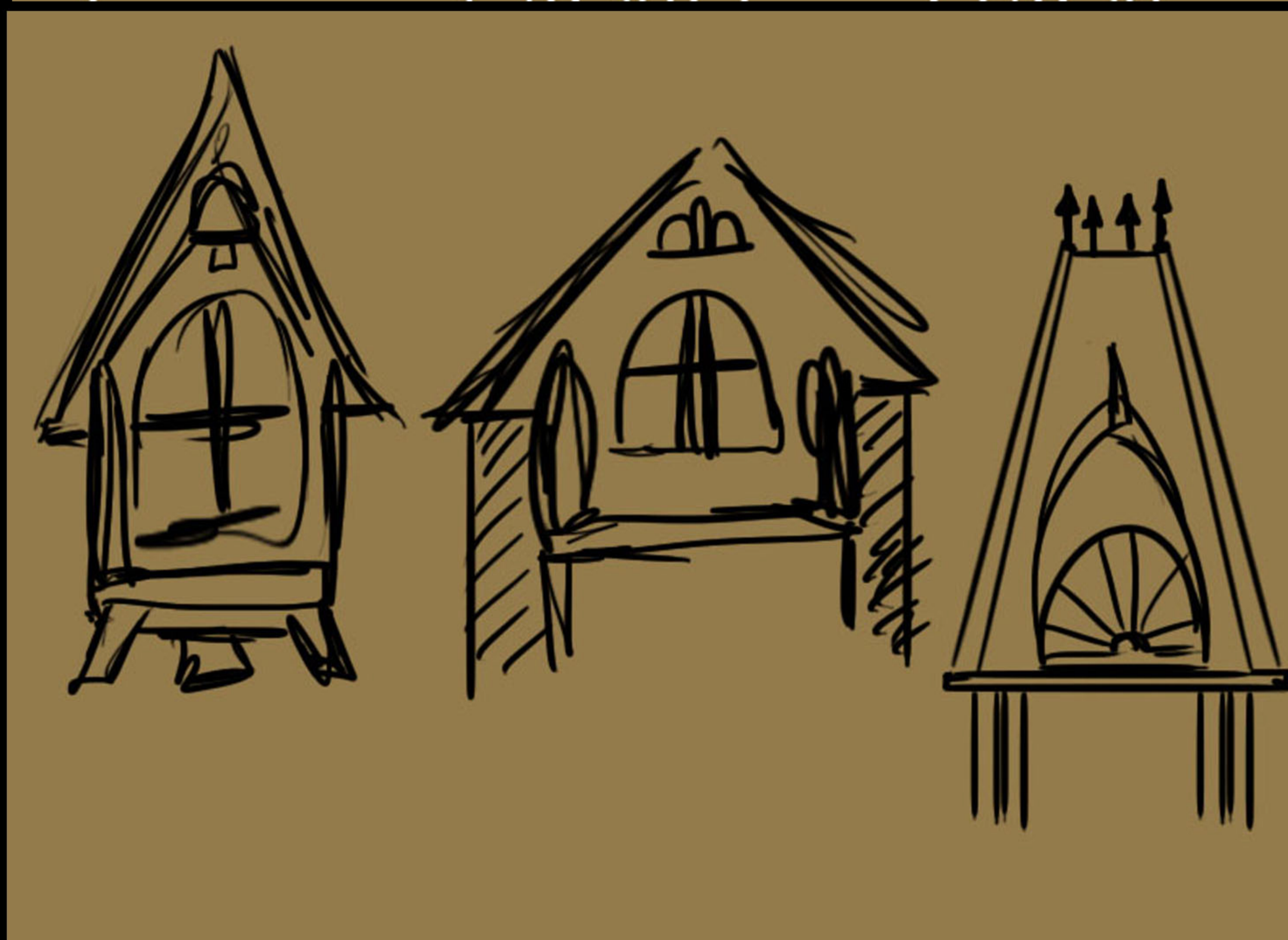
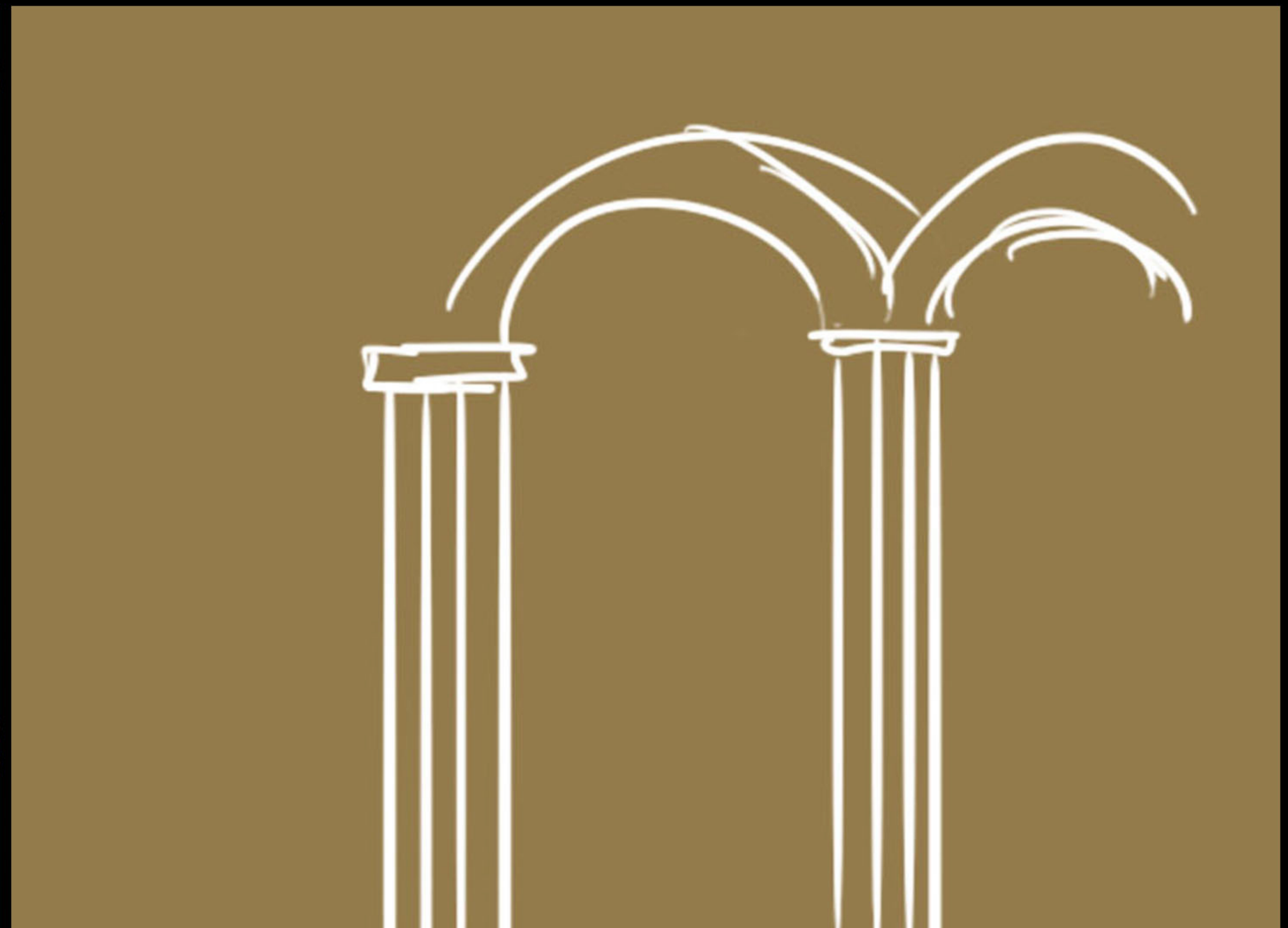
THE MONSTERS' HOUSE



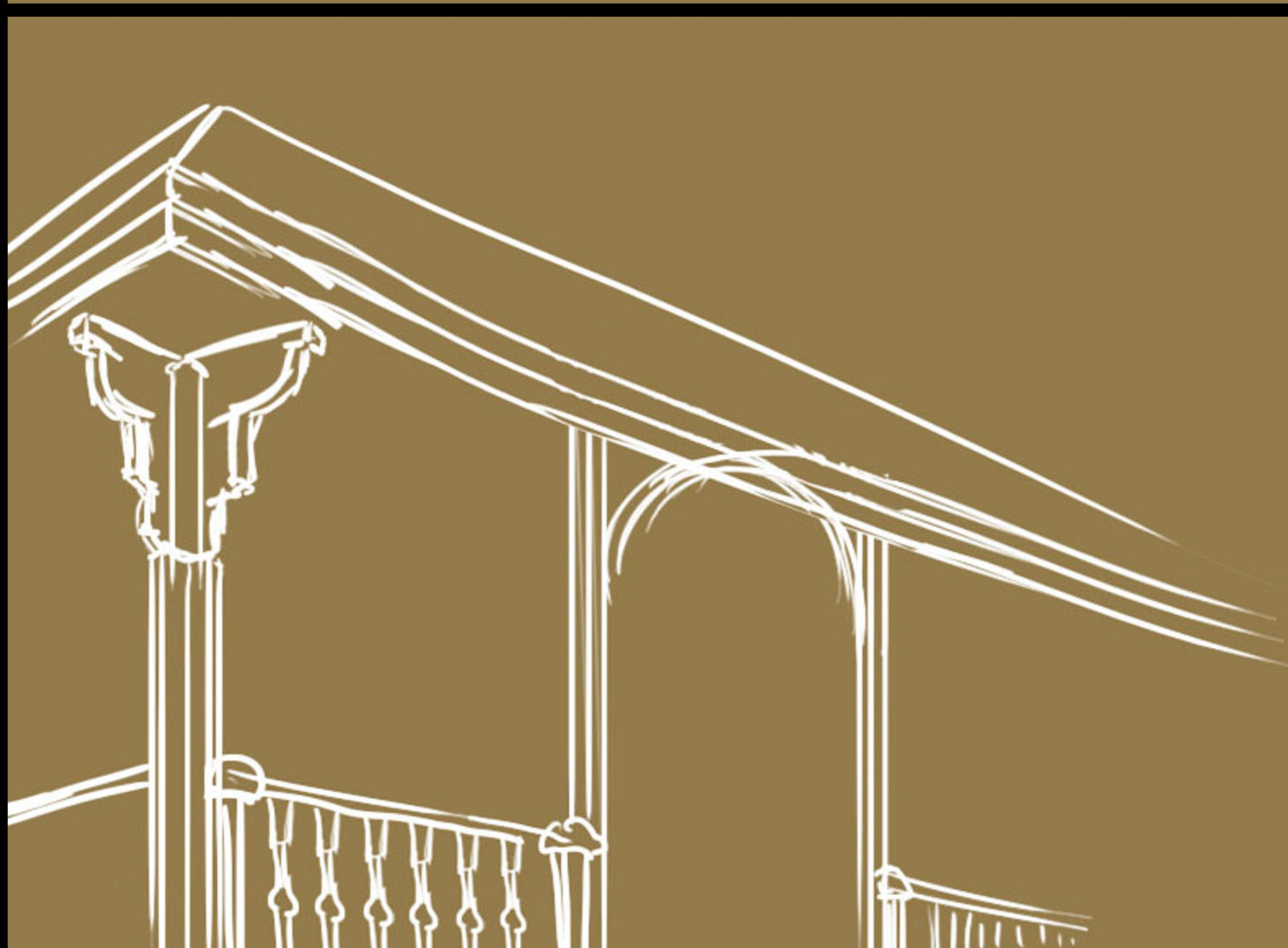
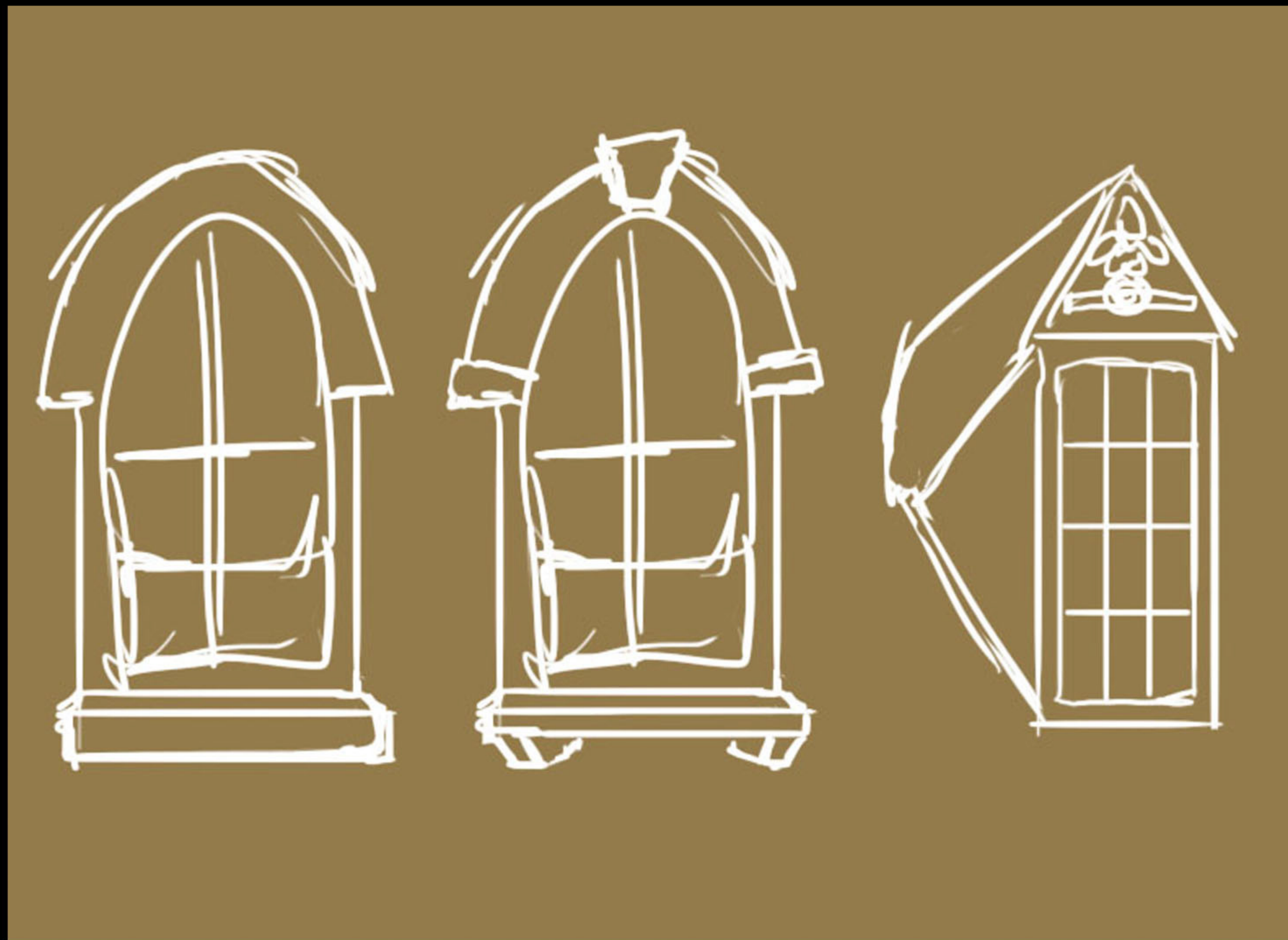
THE MONSTERS' HOUSE



MAKING: THE MONSTERS' HOUSE



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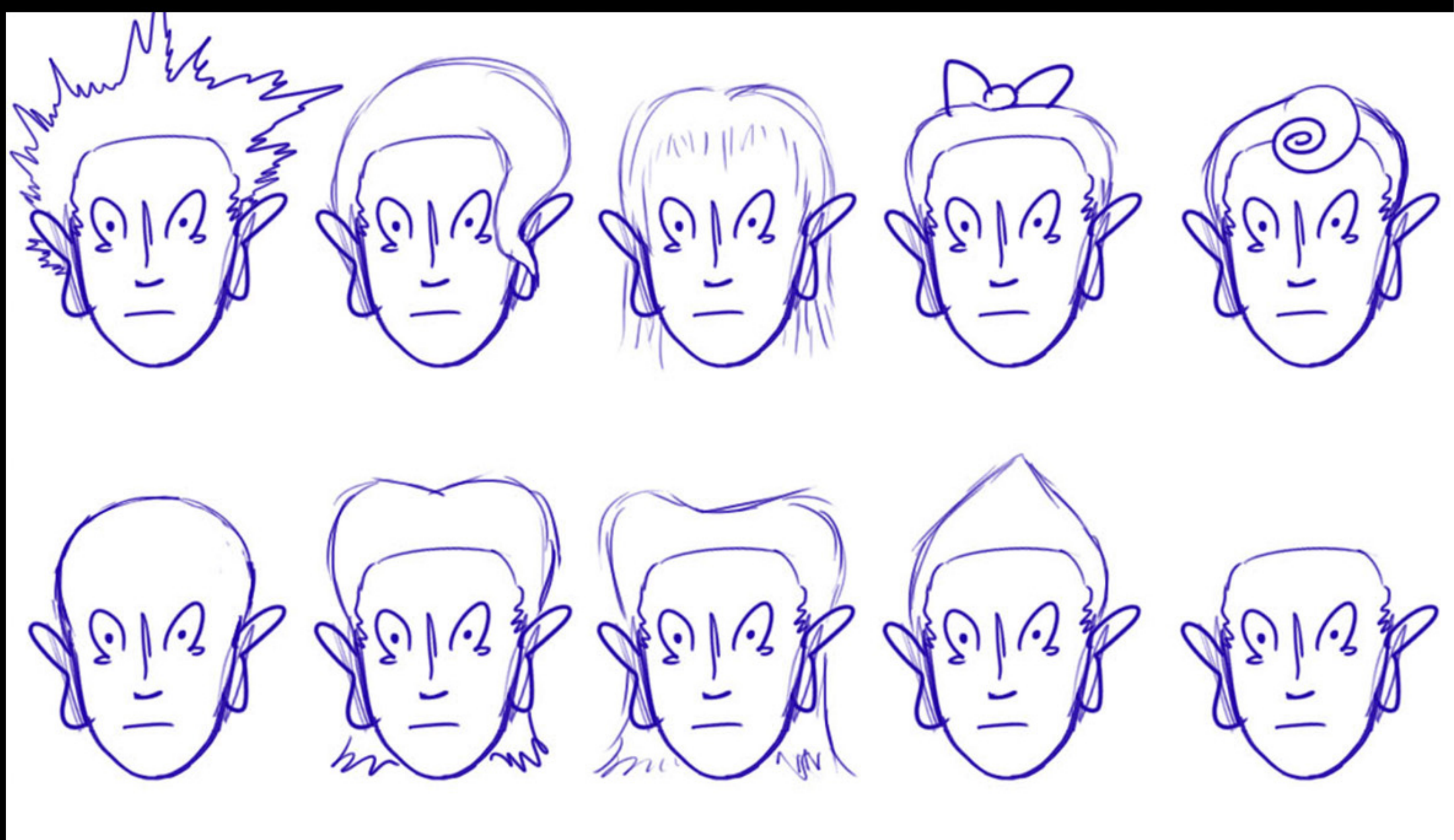
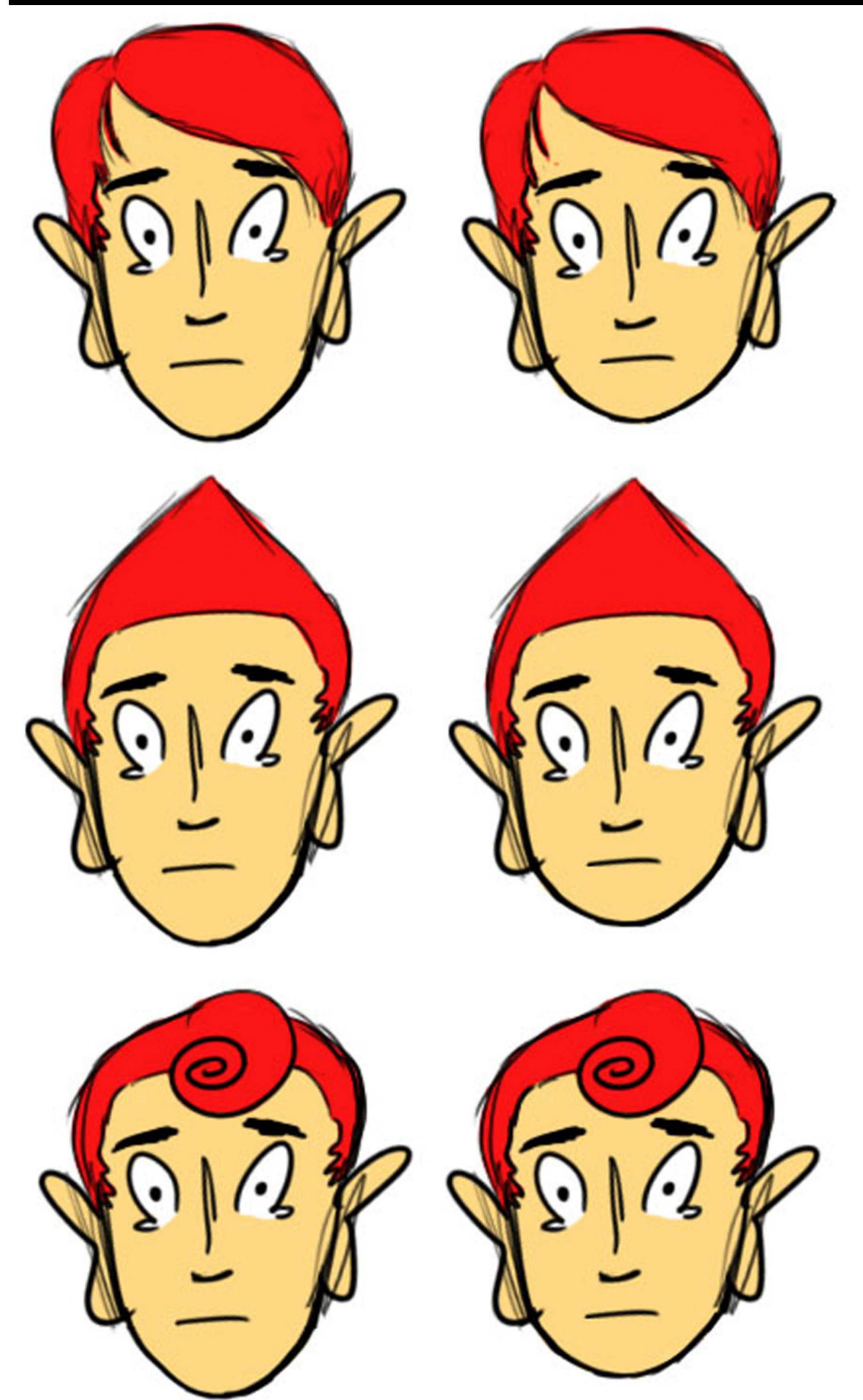
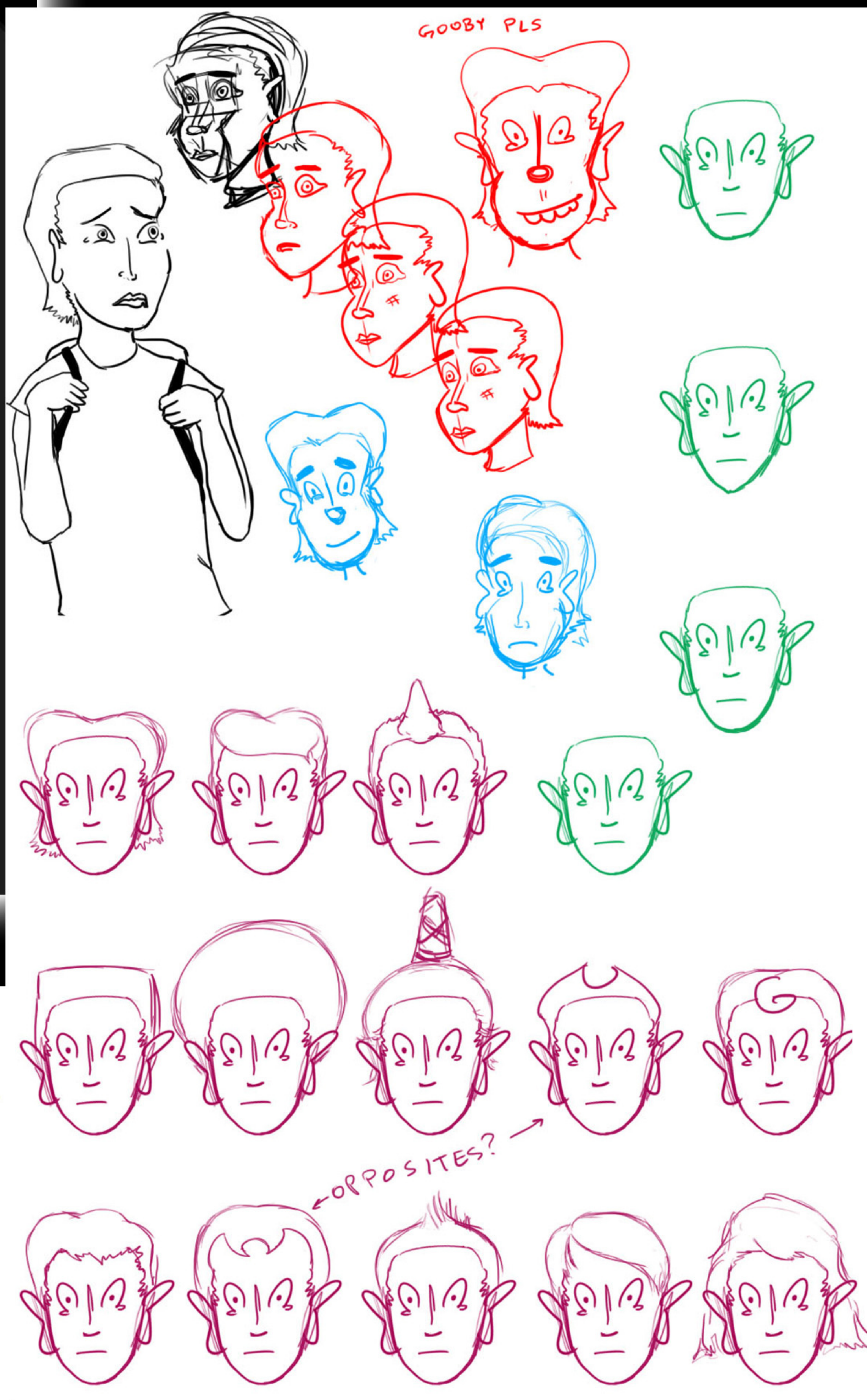
MAKING: THE MONSTERS' HOUSE



VISUAL RESEARCH: THE SCHOOLYARD



MAKING: THE HERO (ELI)



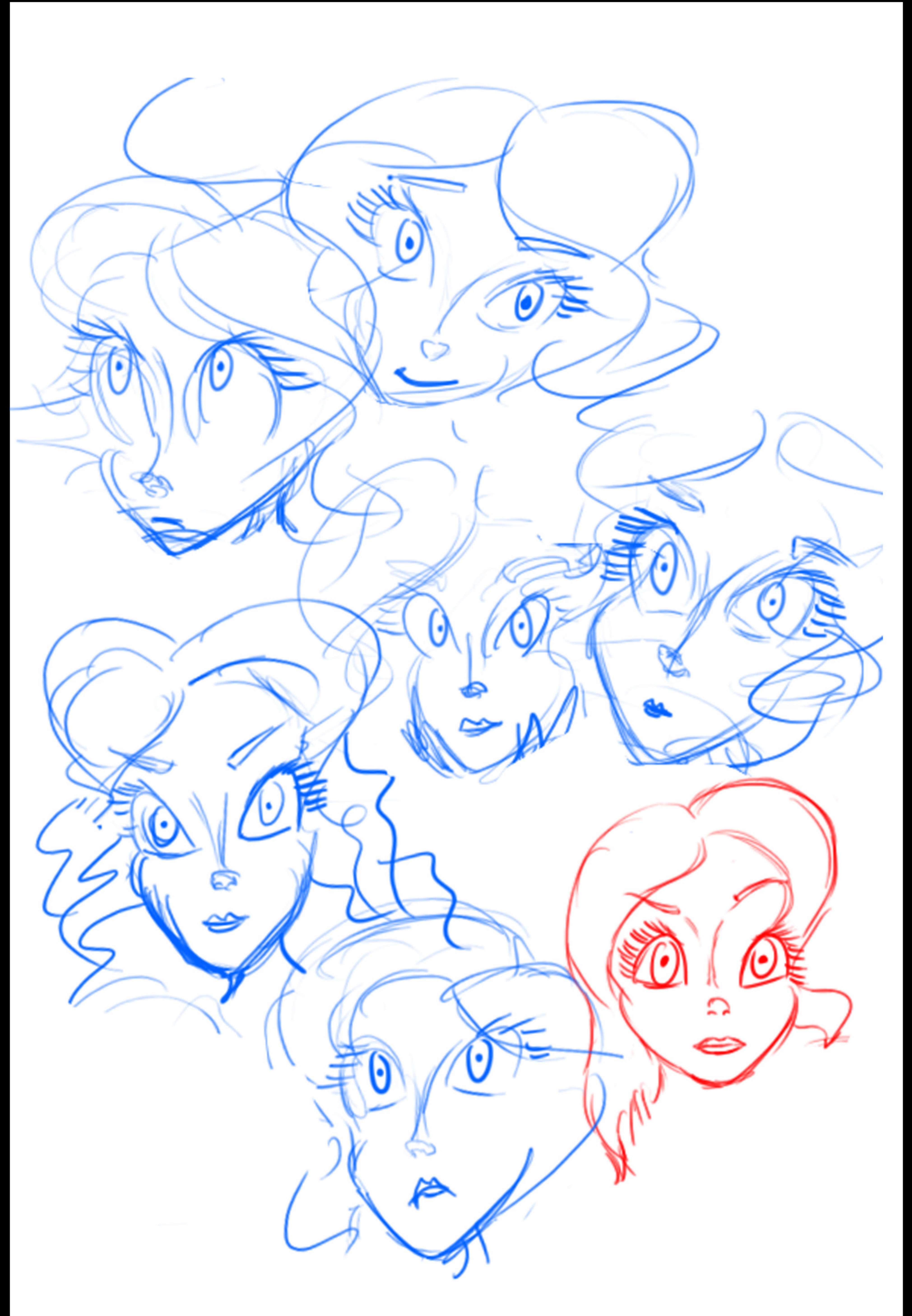
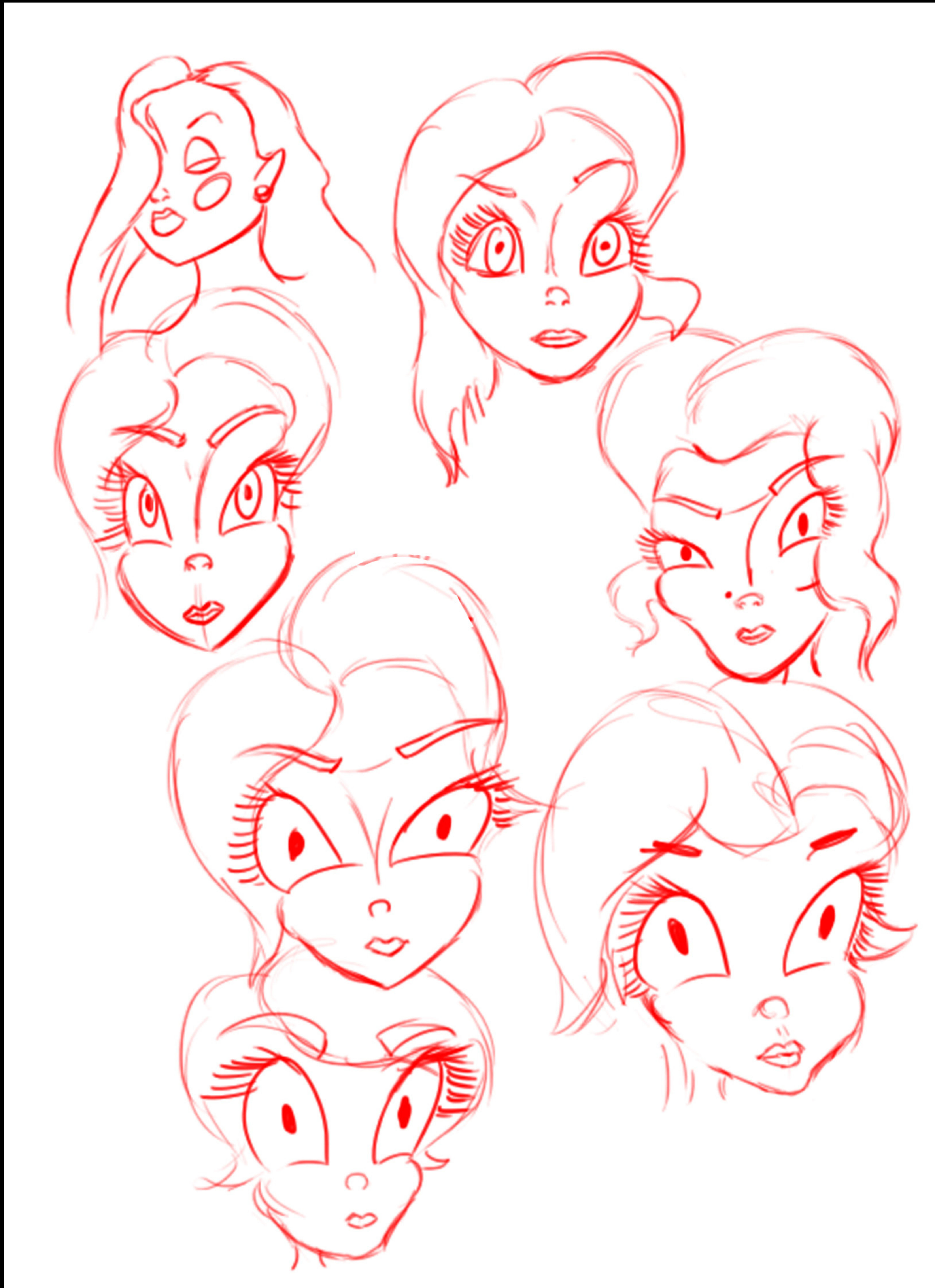
MAKING: THE HERO (ELI)



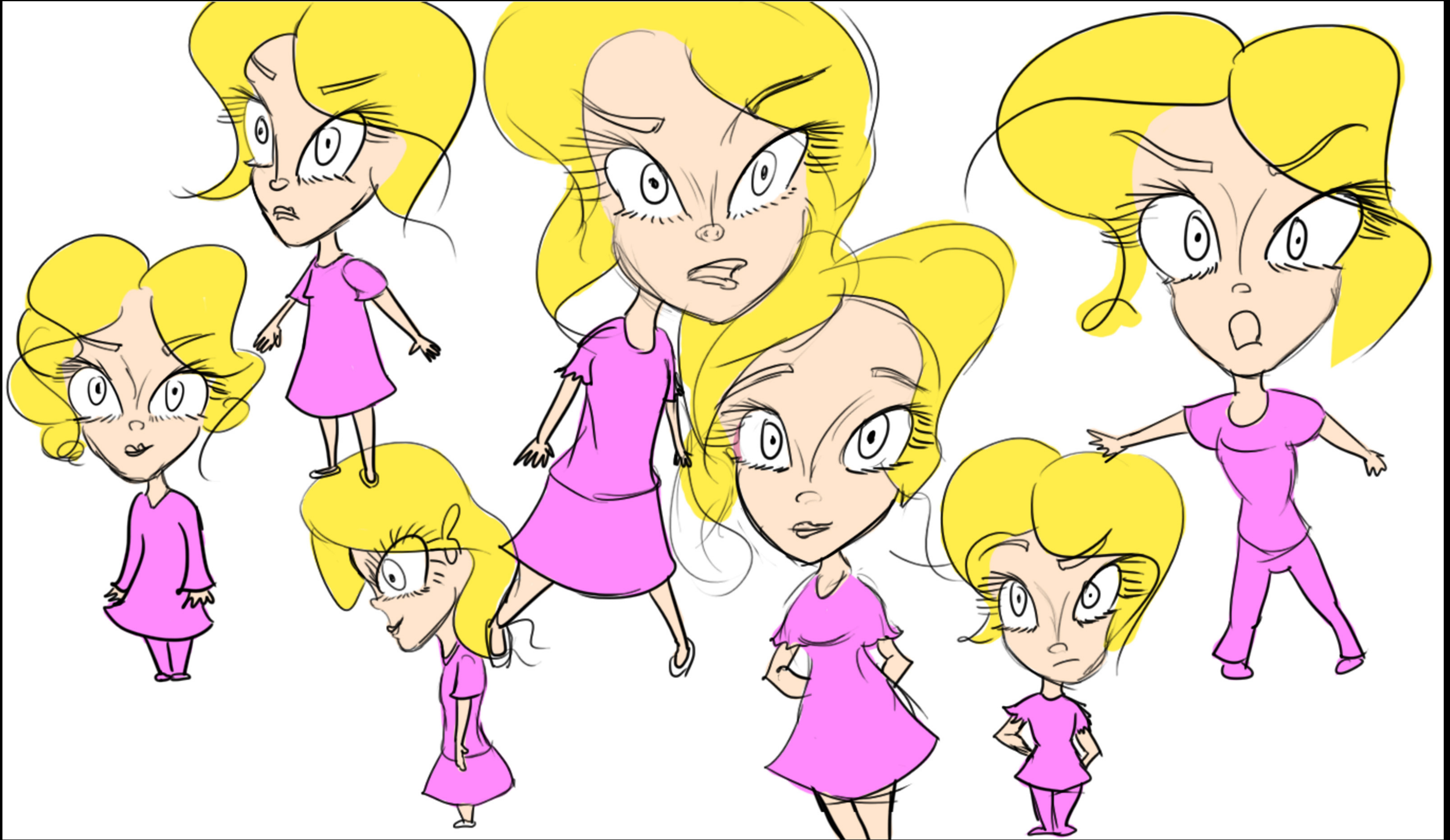
The hero is a somewhat quirky kid who, in spite of his shyness, is always looking to make new friends.

He is entering Middle School, and will soon learn that he has a powerful character of his own.

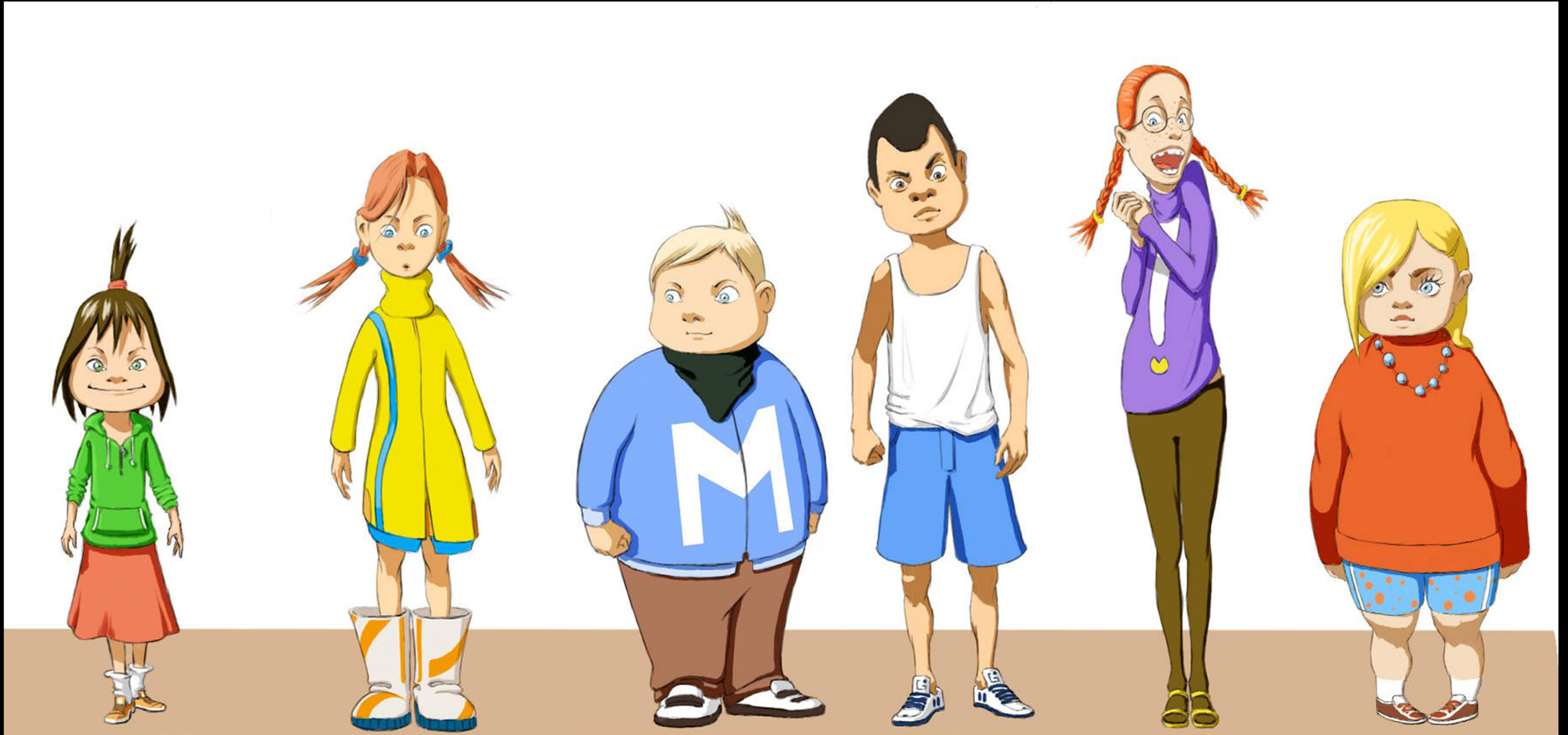
MAKING: THE MEAN GIRL



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VISUAL RESEARCH: OTHER KIDS



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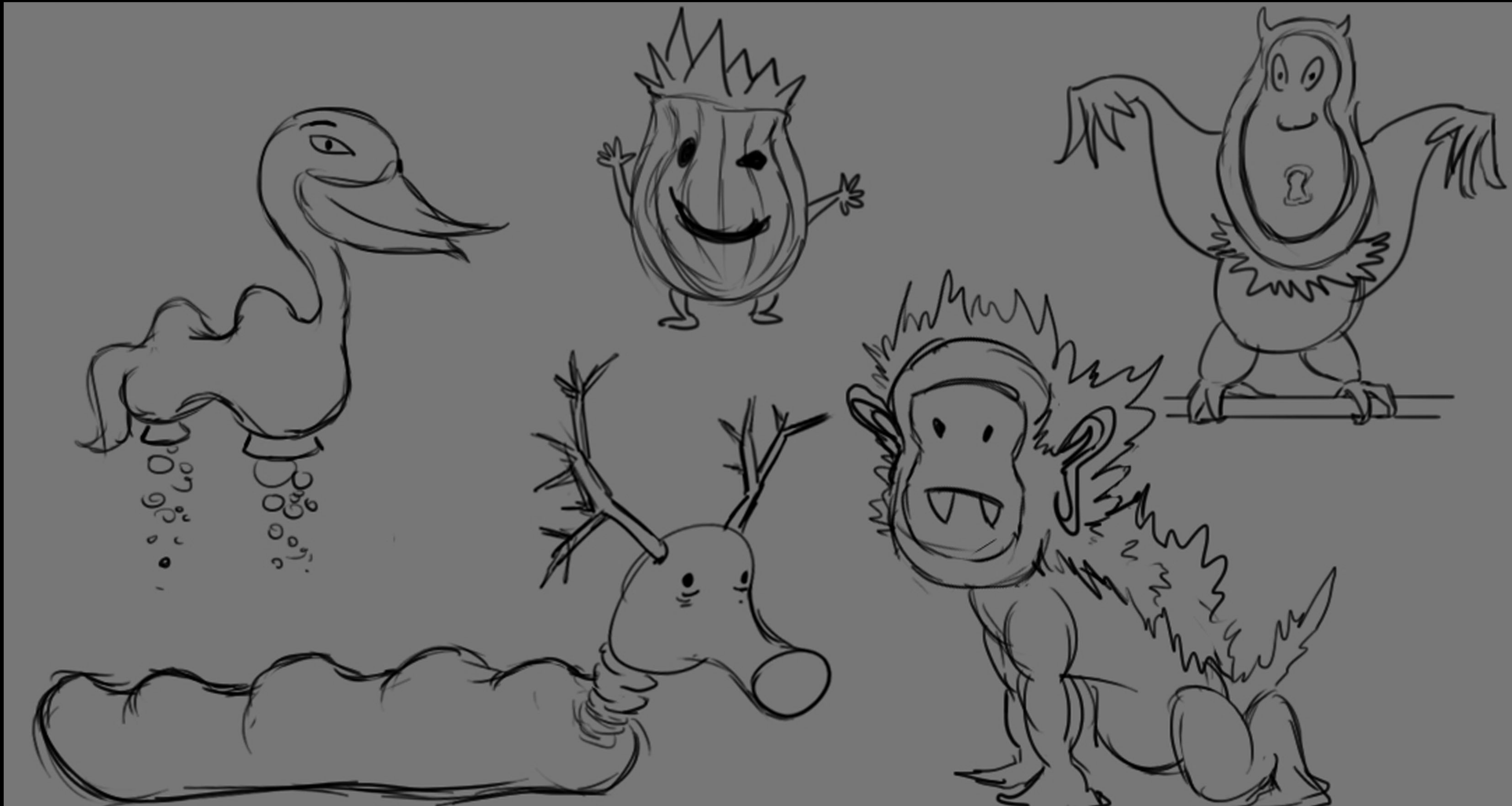
MAKING: THE MONSTERS



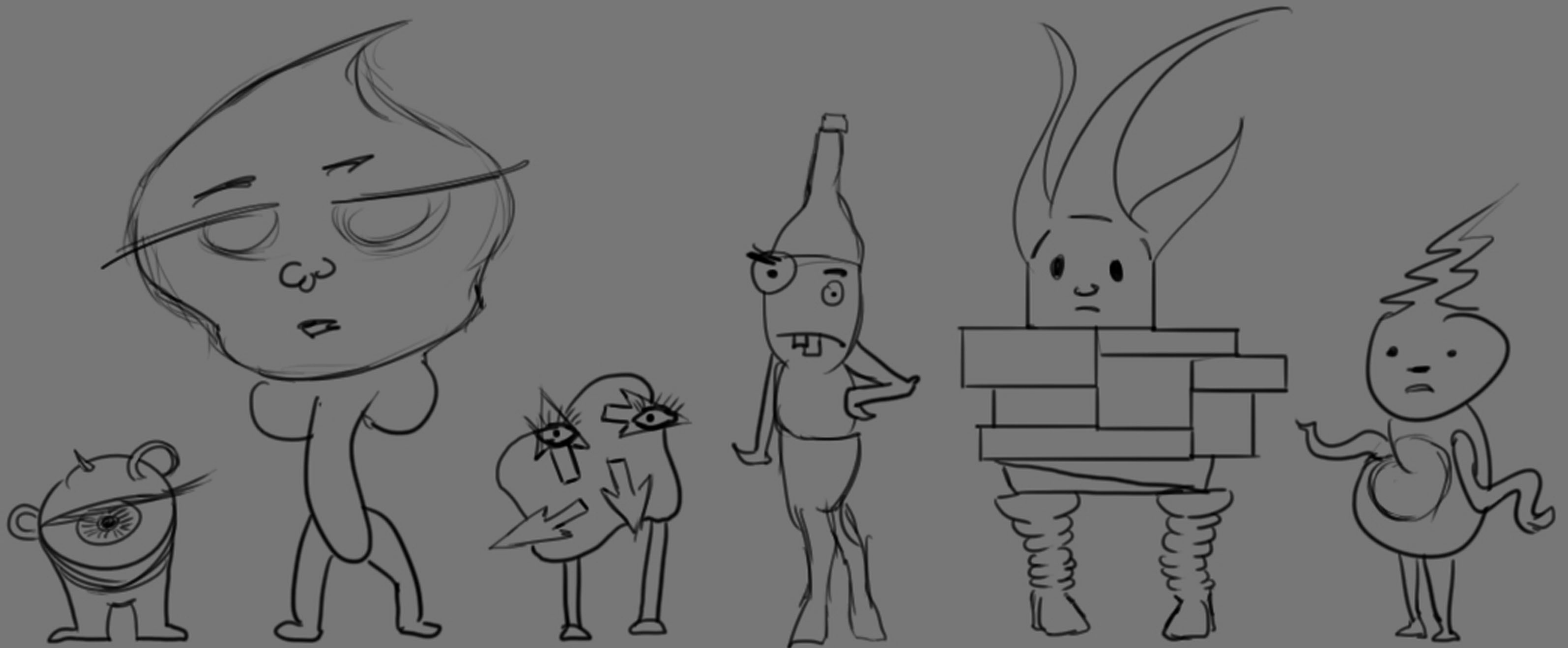
MAKING: THE MONSTERS



MAKING: THE MONSTERS



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STORYBOARD

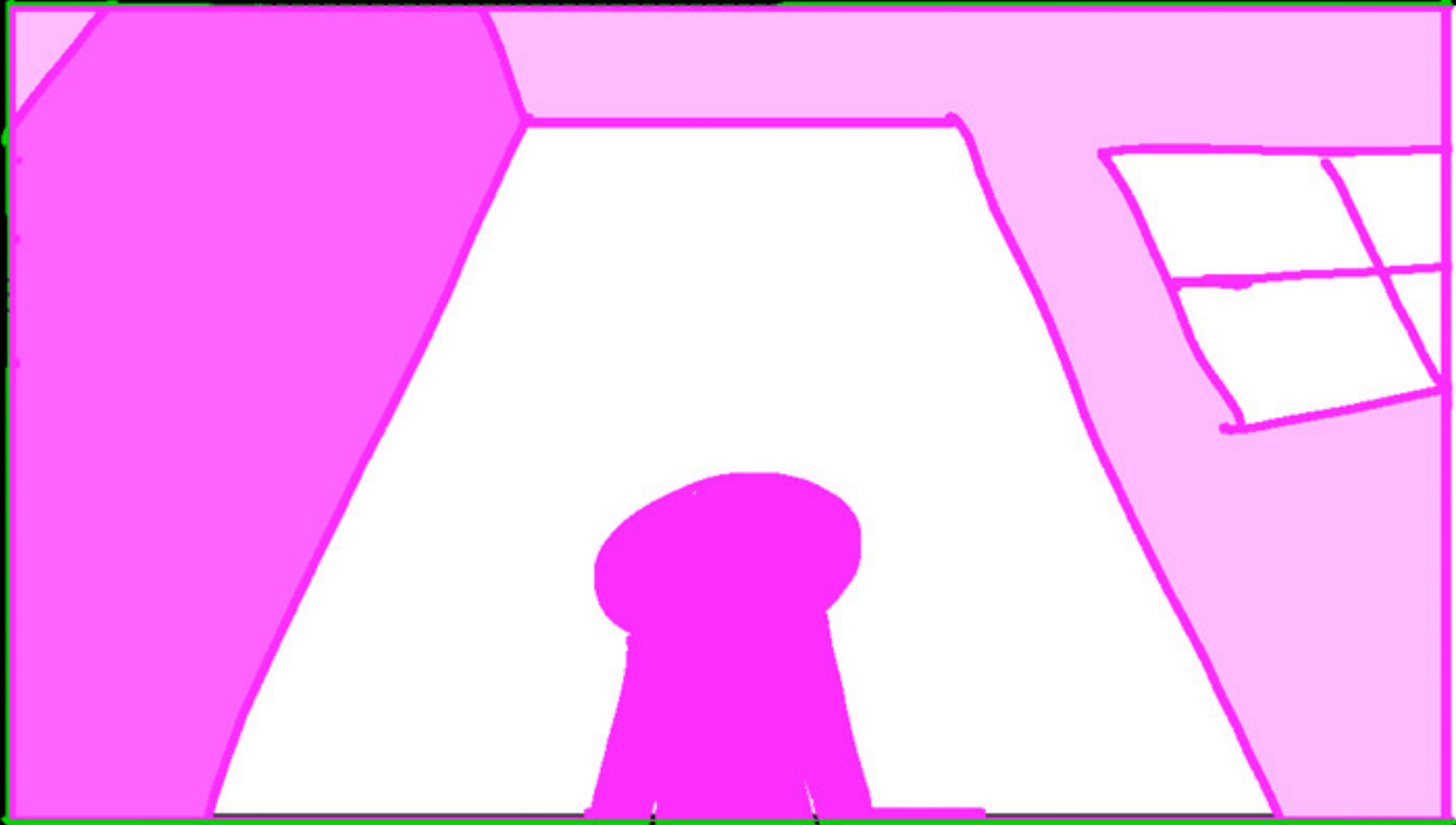


1



Opening title-card
Spooky, menacing, looming
music/ghost sounds

2



Open on HERO standing before the
front door to his house. We hear
outdoors-y sounds, like birds
chirping, a light wind passing by,
etc. It's a pleasant day.

3



Cut to facing him, we see
that he looks terrified.

4



A hand comes down from above
and lays itself on his shoulder.
He jerks back nervously but then
looks up as his mother's voice
cuts in

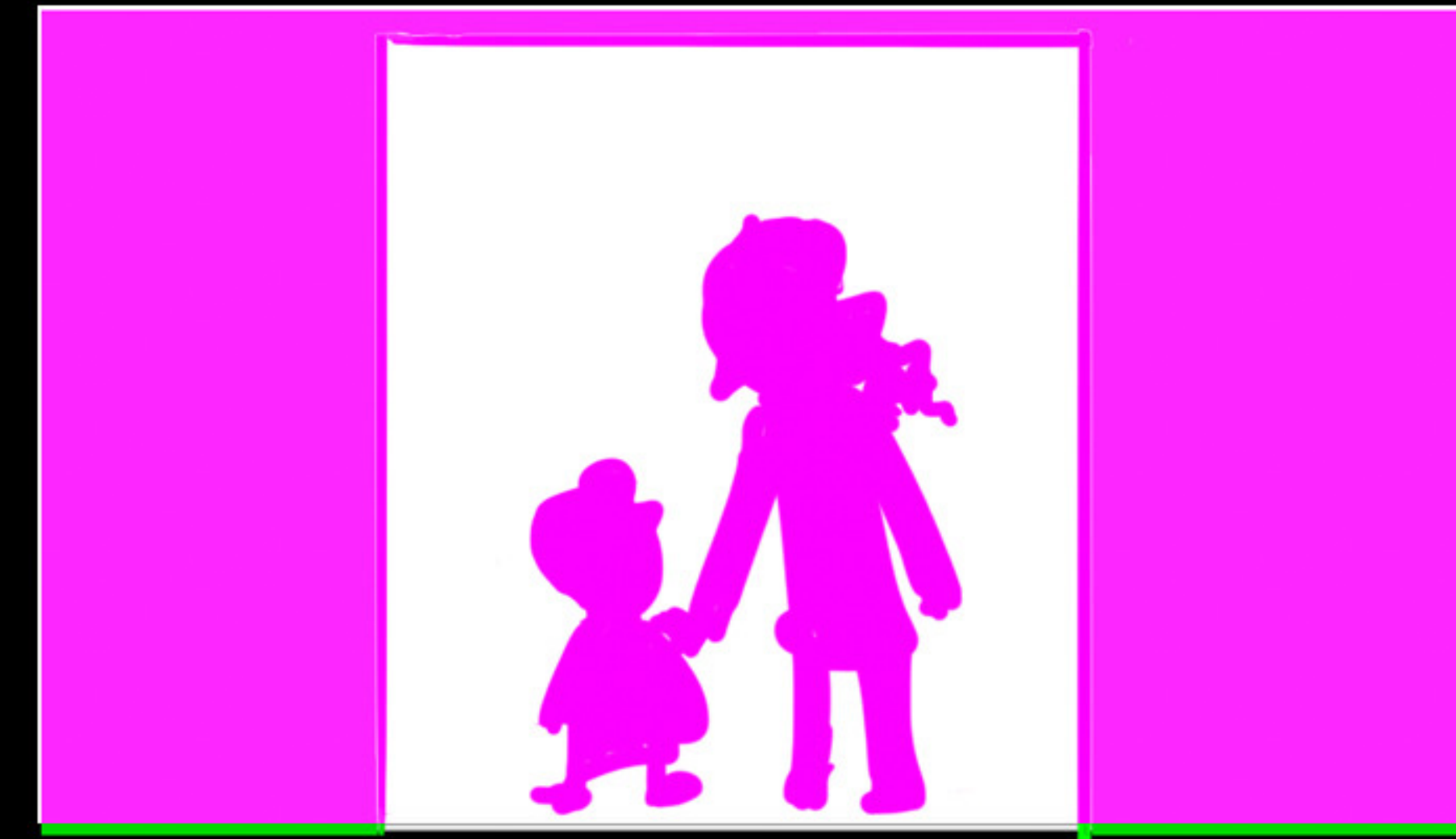
5



The camera shifts to focus on
mom's face.

MOM: "Don't worry about your
first day of school! Just be nice
to the kids and..."

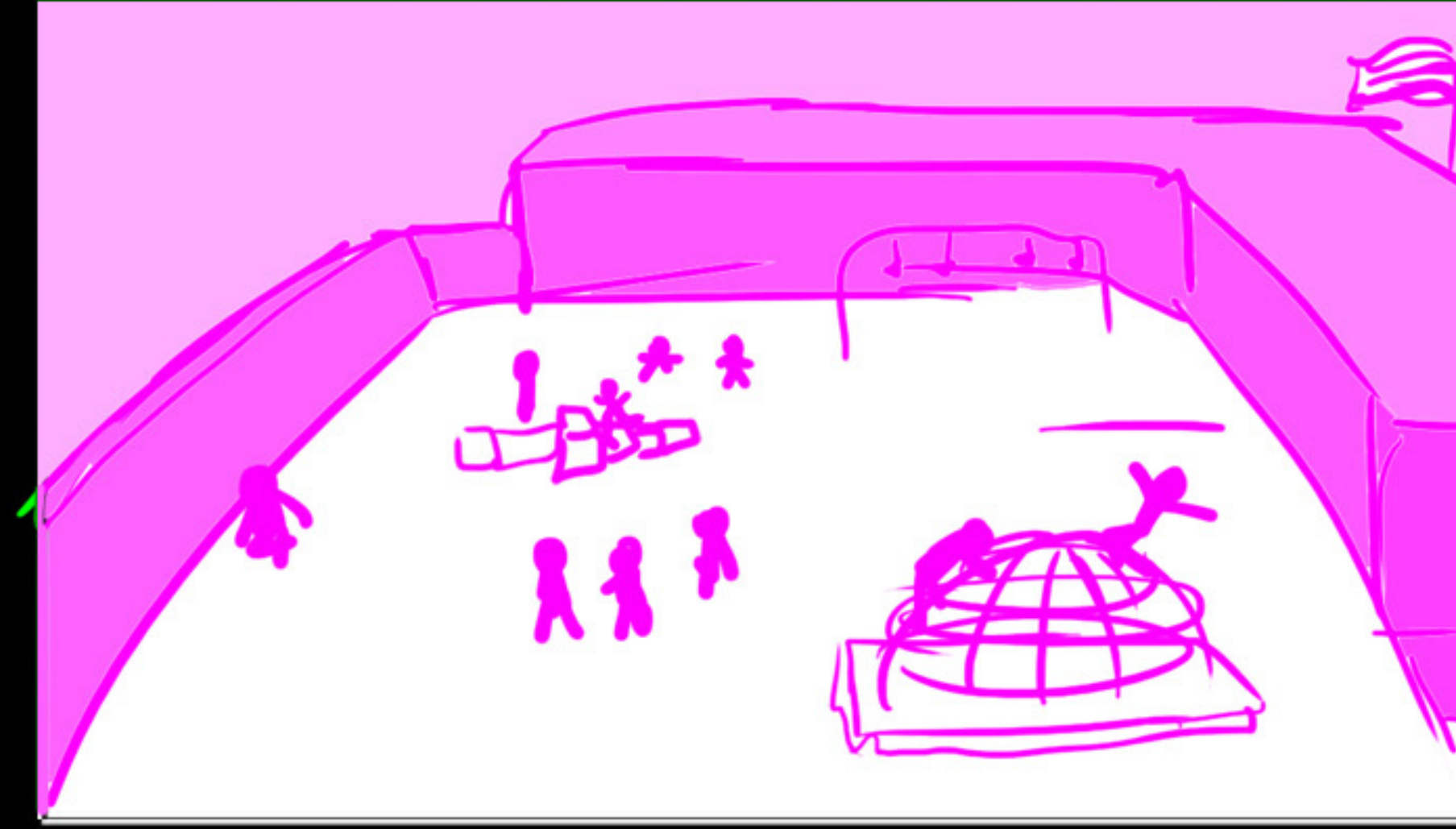
6



Cut to facing MOM and HERO in
the doorway. MOM continues speaking

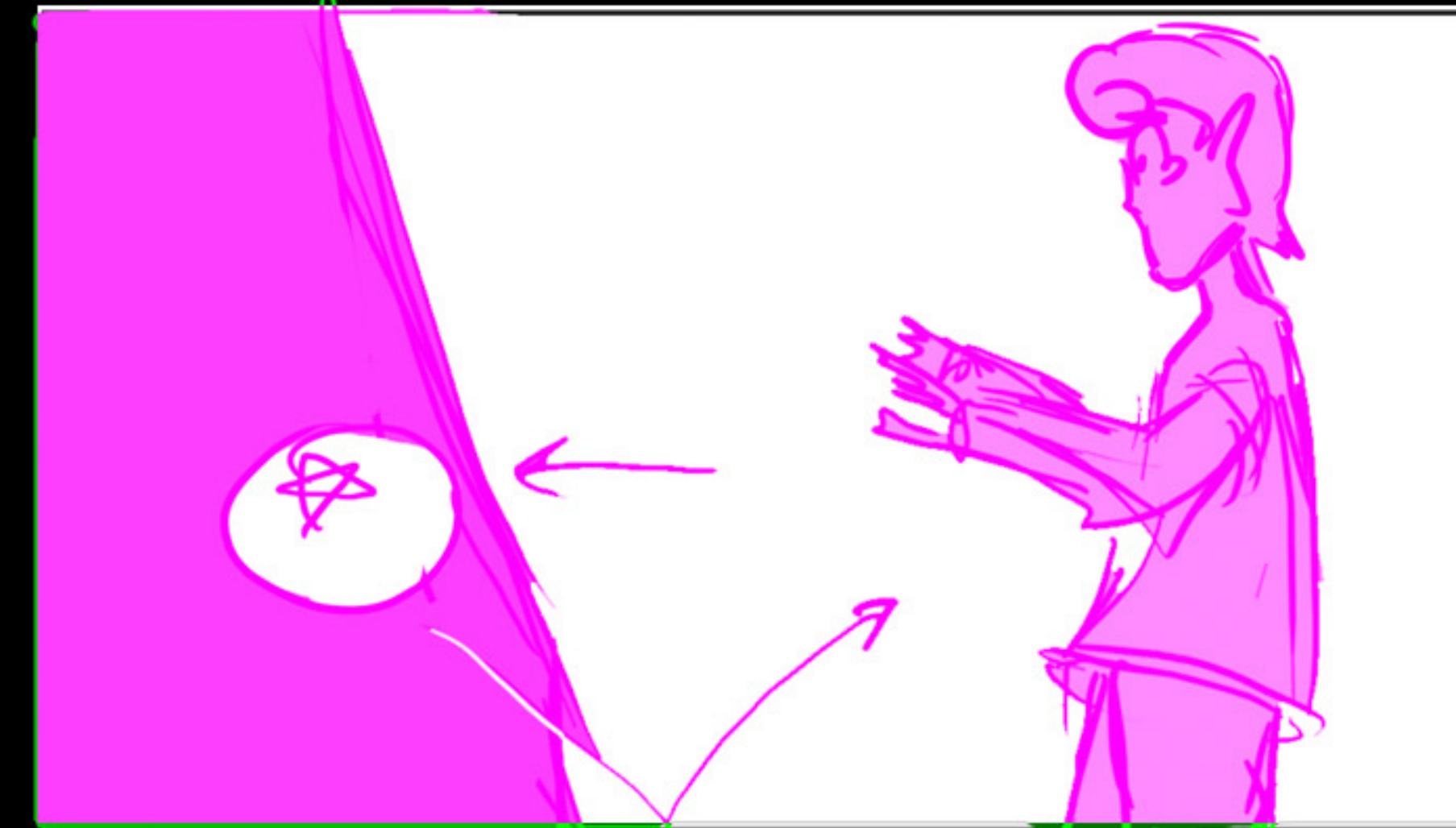
MOM: ... just don't act too weird
with them. And try to make
friends!

7



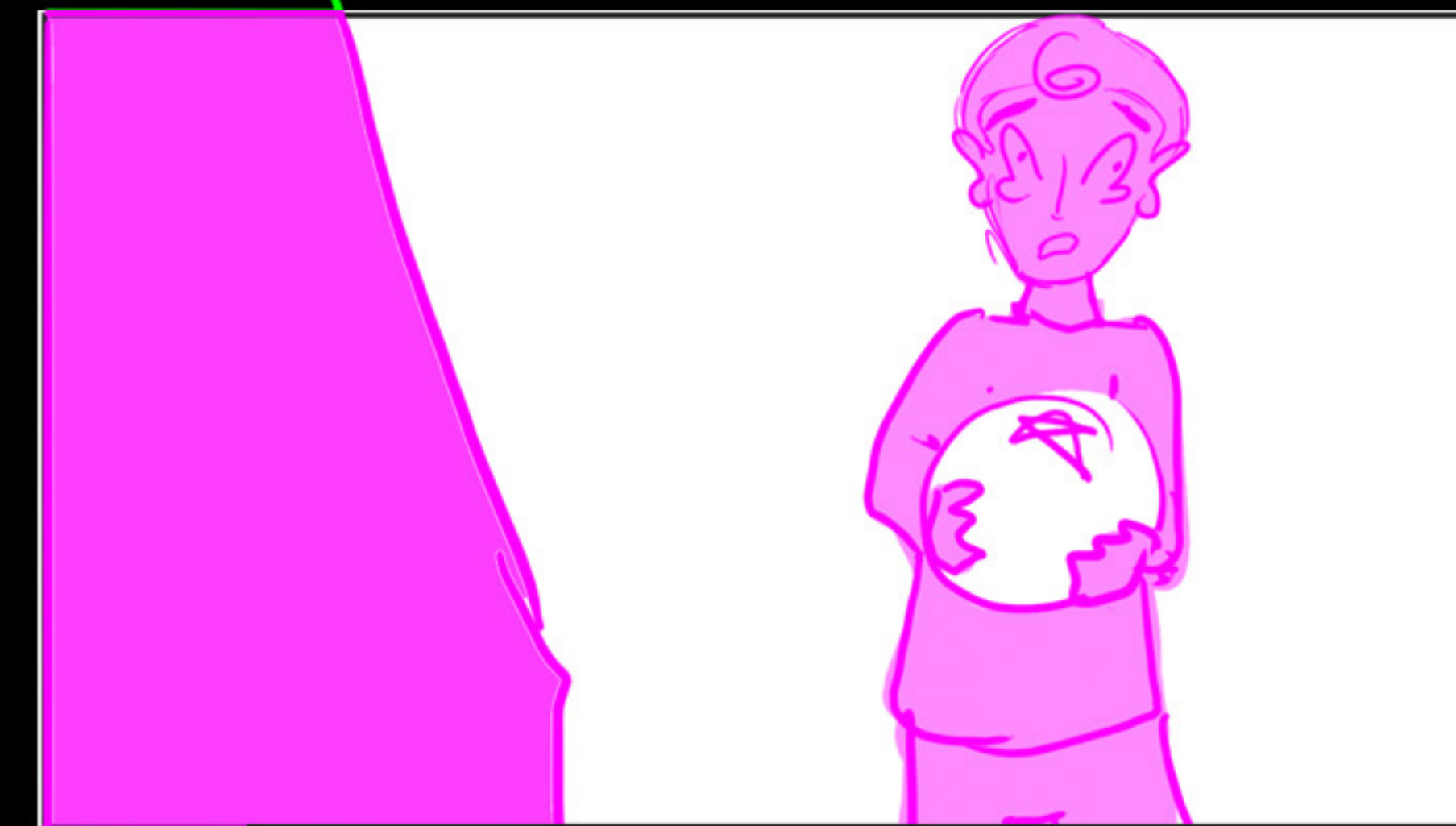
Fade to an establishing shot of
the school playground, kids are
playing and running around.
Sounds: Birds tweeting, kids
running around/playing in a sunny
day setting.

8



Cut to HERO, who is sitting by
himself playing with a ball.

9



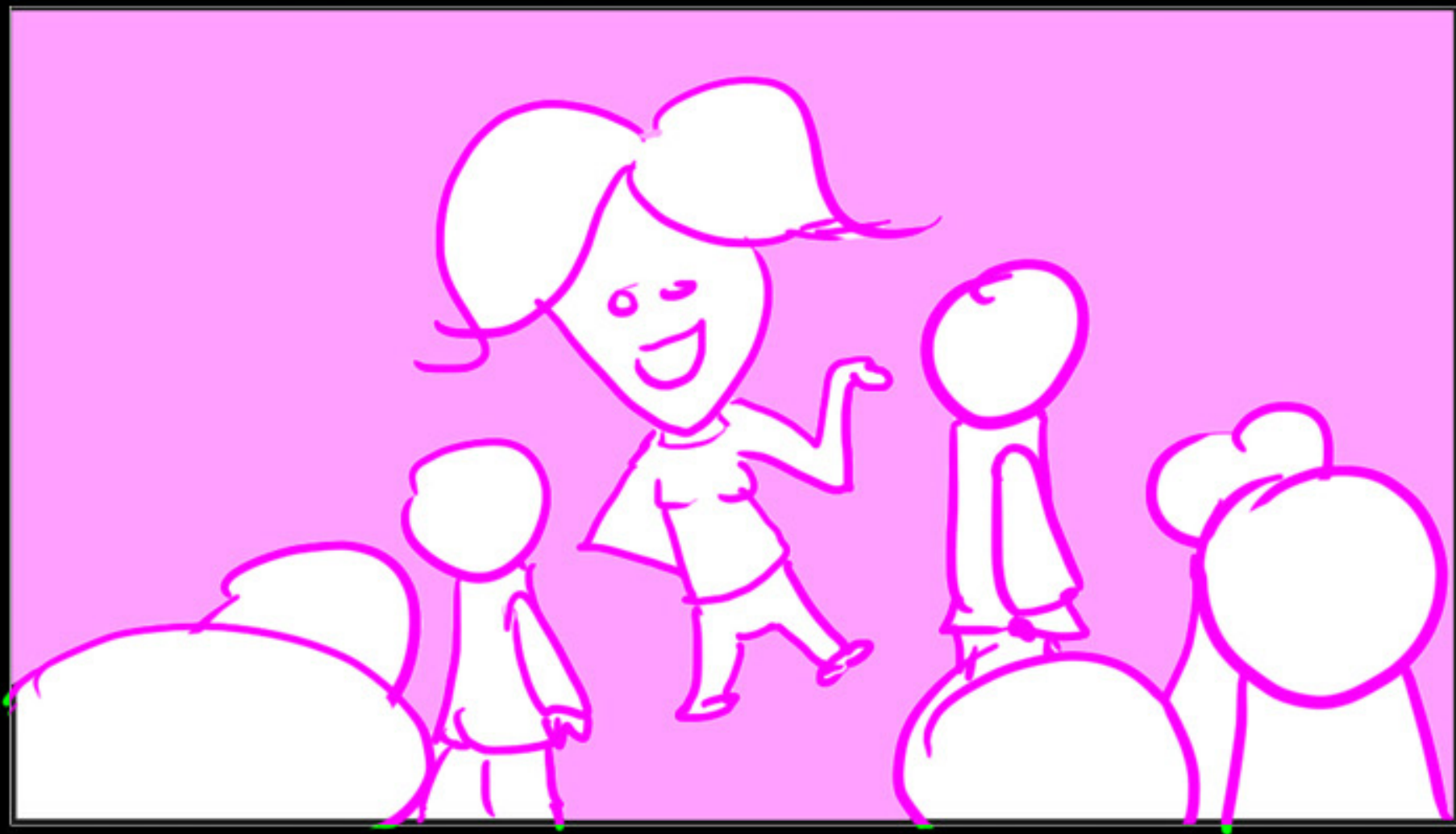
HERO looks up at something

10



Cut to looking over HERO's
shoulder, we see that he's looking
at a group of people somewhere
else in the playground

11



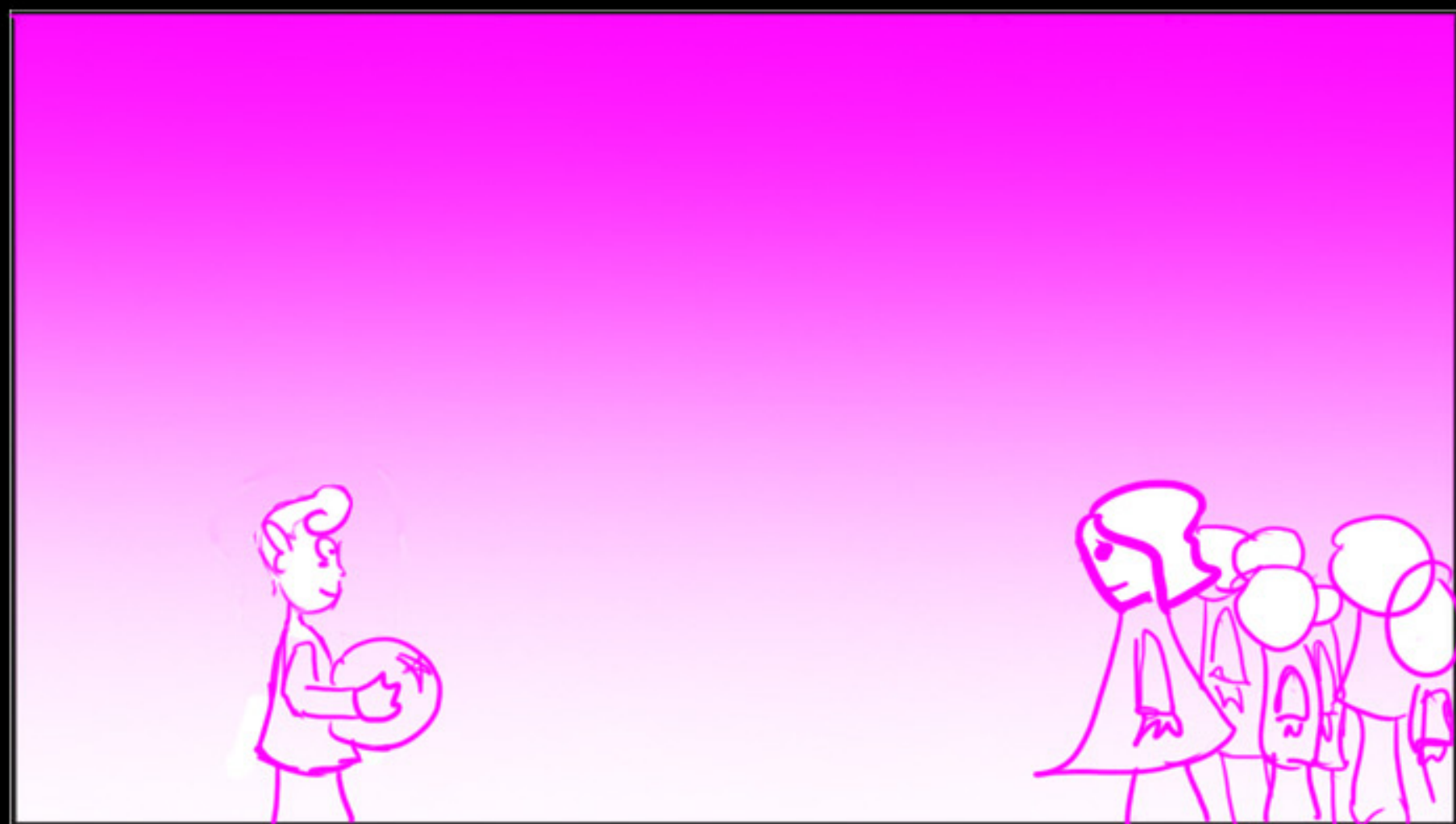
Quickly zoom in to the group of people, we see it's a MEAN GIRL talking with her friends, we hear a bit of their conversation.
MEAN GIRL: "And then I was like oh my god!..."

12



Cut to a closer shot of the boy with his ball. He perks up

13



Cut back to the MEAN GIRL and her FRIENDS. The HERO then walks into frame.
HERO (nervously):
Want to play catch?

14



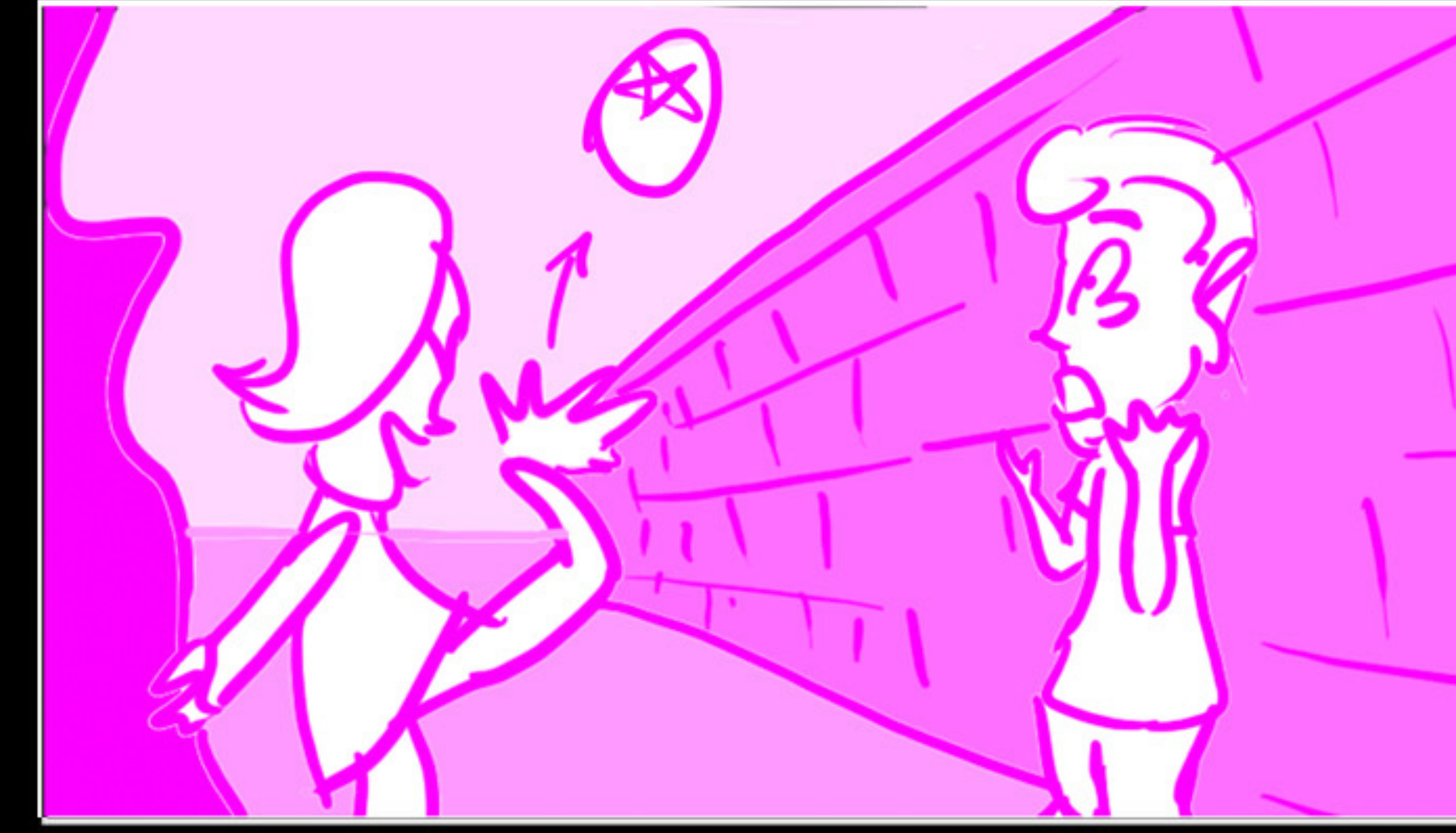
Suddenly, the MEAN GIRL's FRIENDS all crowd in on the HERO. The HERO looks scared. He drops his ball too

15



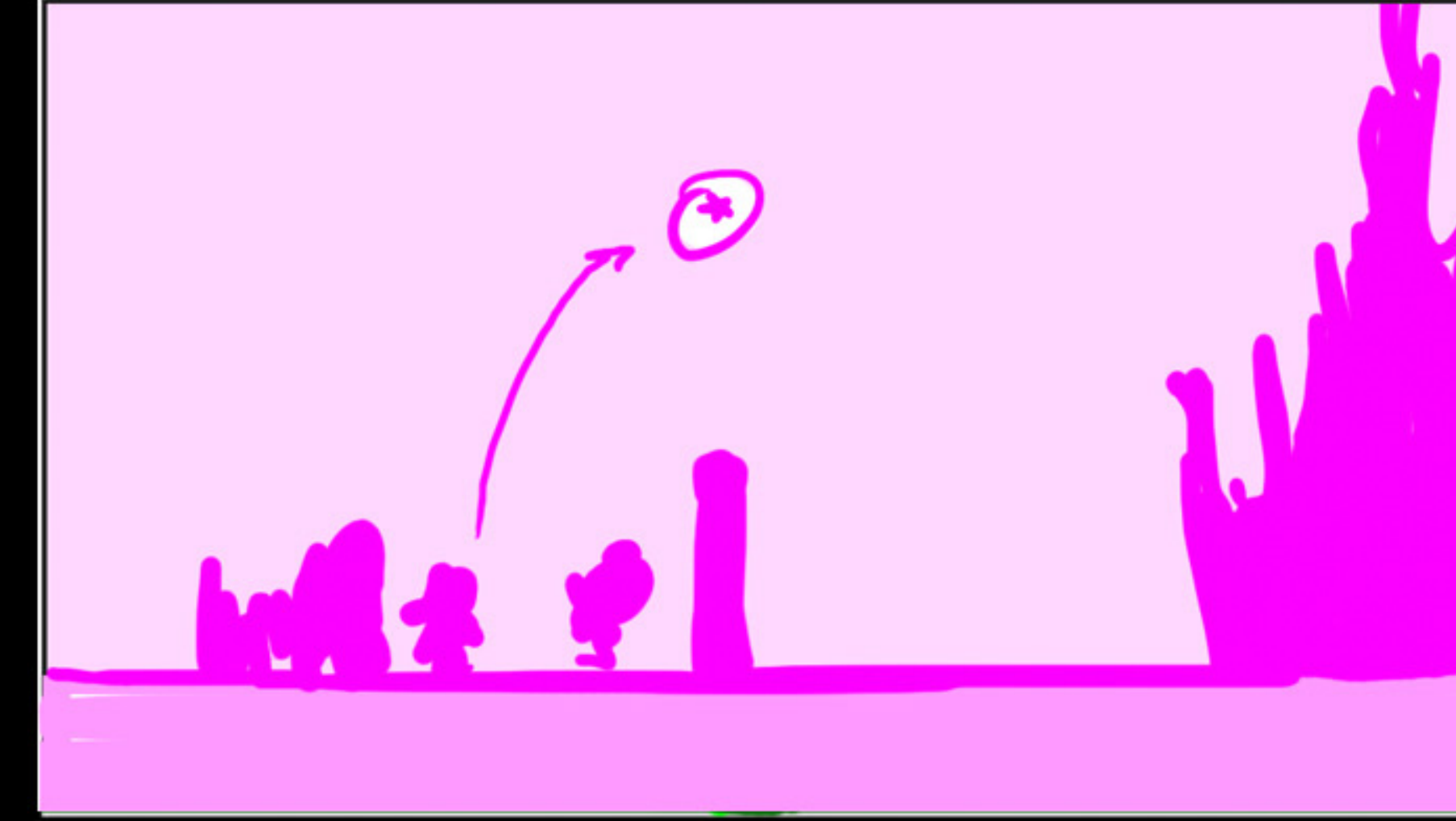
We cut to a shot of what HERO sees: the MEAN GIRL holding his ball with all her FRIENDS.
MEAN GIRL: If you wanna play with us, you gotta go by our rules!

16



Cut to a side-shot of her kicking HERO's ball over the brick wall behind him. HERO follows the ball with his eyes and tilts his head up

17



Cut to an shot from above showing HERO continuing to tilt his head up as he looks with terror as his ball flies away

18



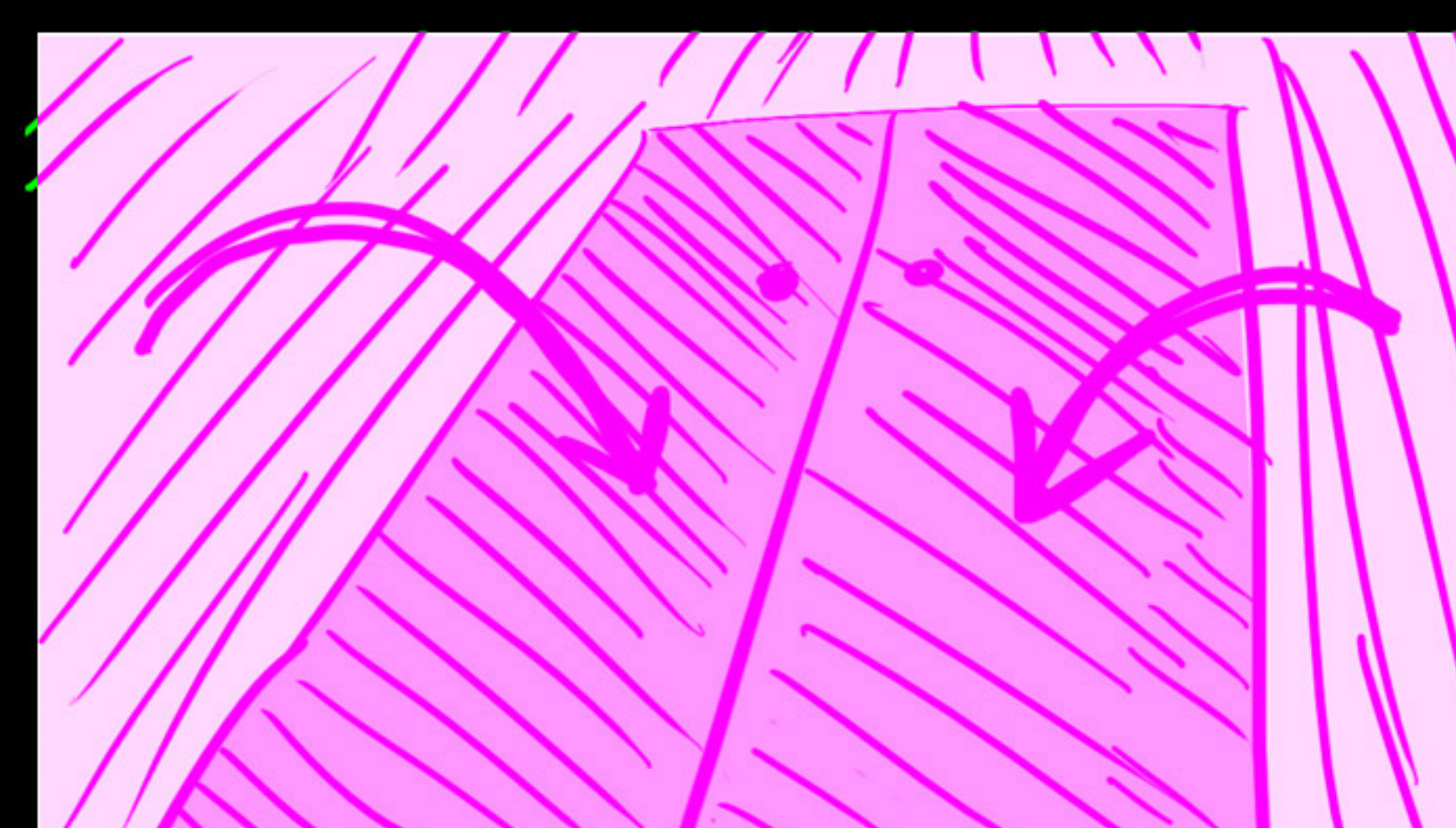
Camera Pans to the other side of the brick wall as the ball falls into the property of a mysterious mansion

19



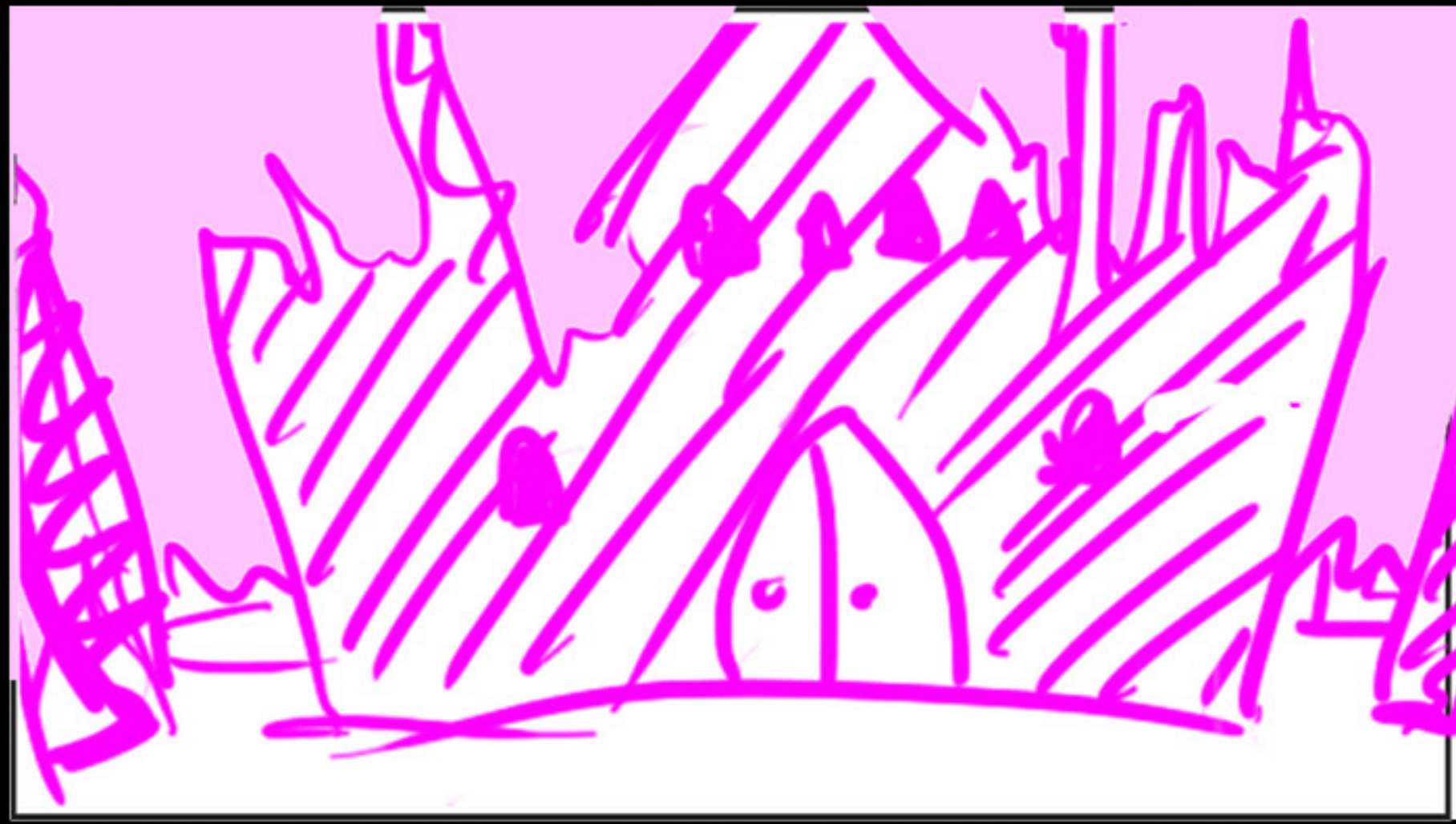
The ball bounces into the house

20



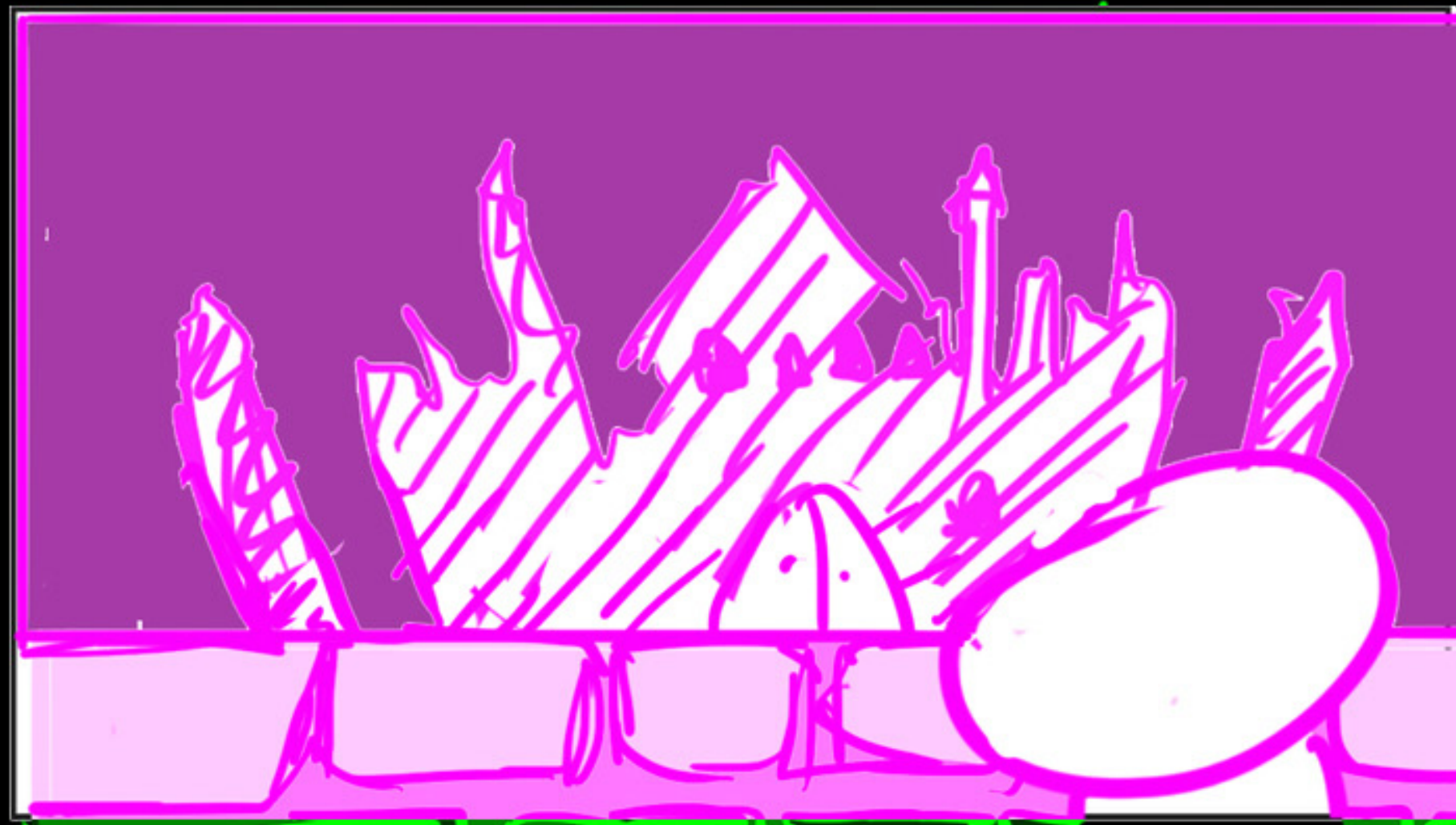
The doors then slams shut on its own accord (mysteriously)

21



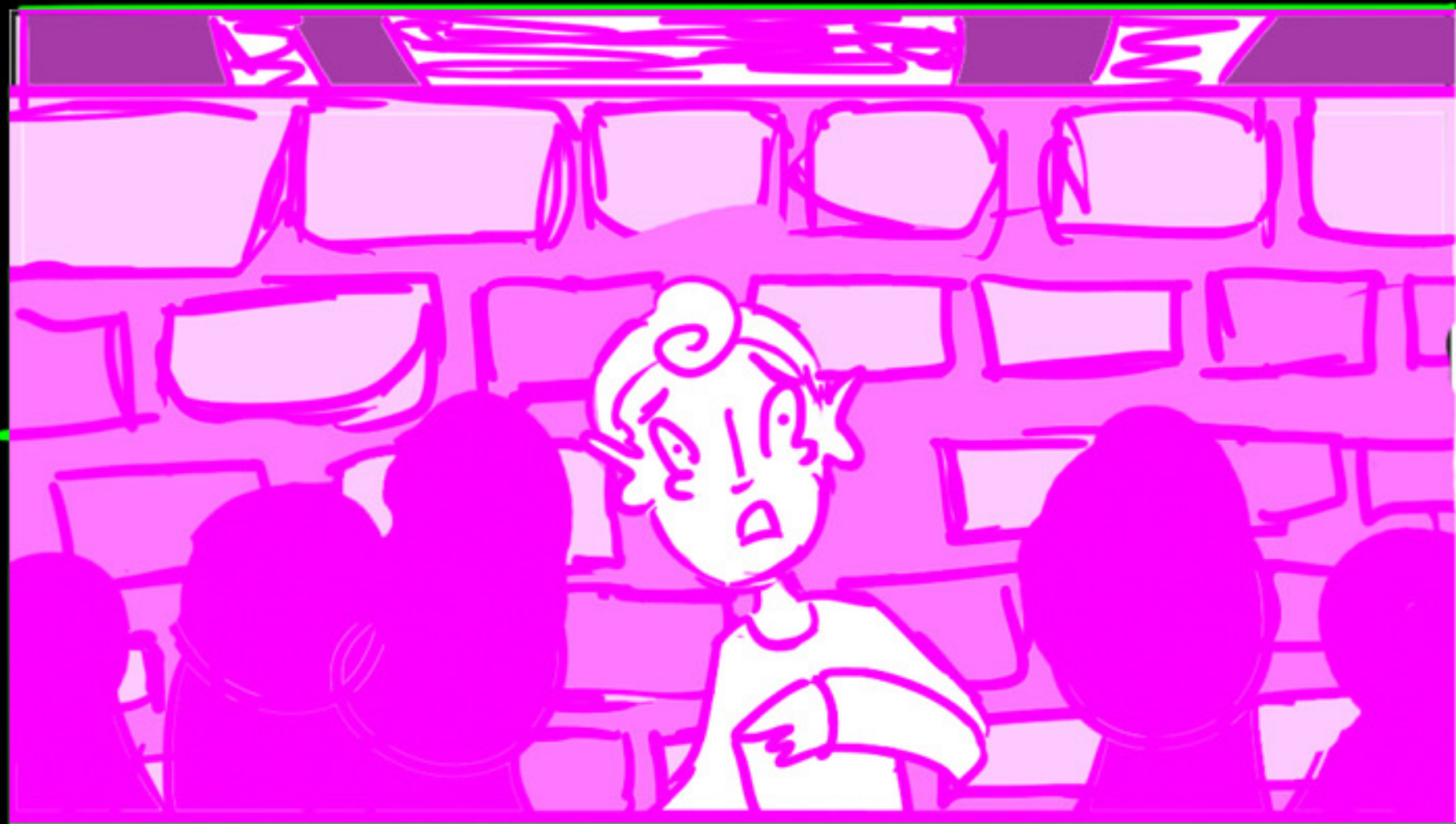
Camera slowly zooms backwards

22



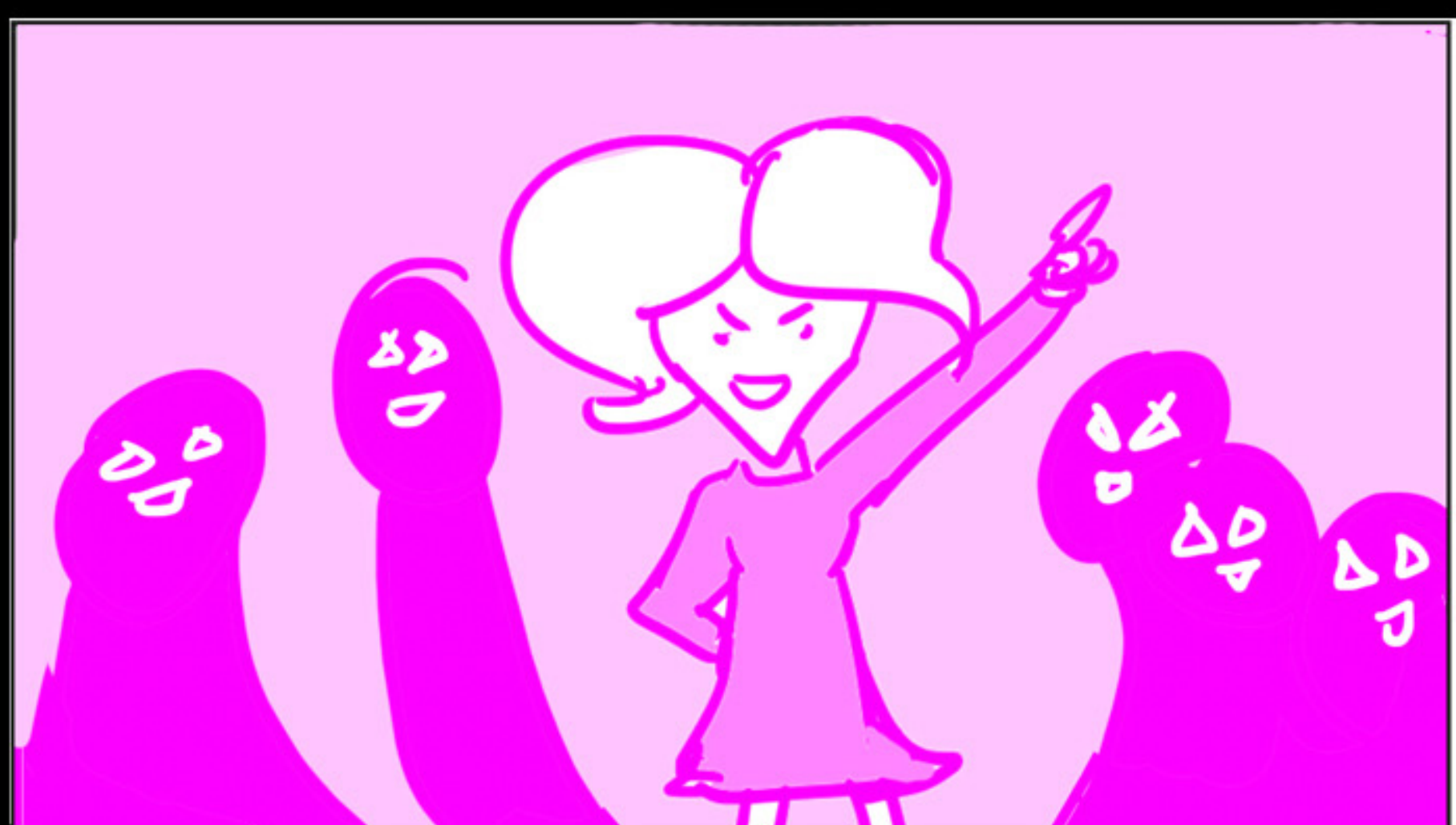
Camera zooms backwards more to reveal the HERO behind the brick wall, watching all of this happen.

23



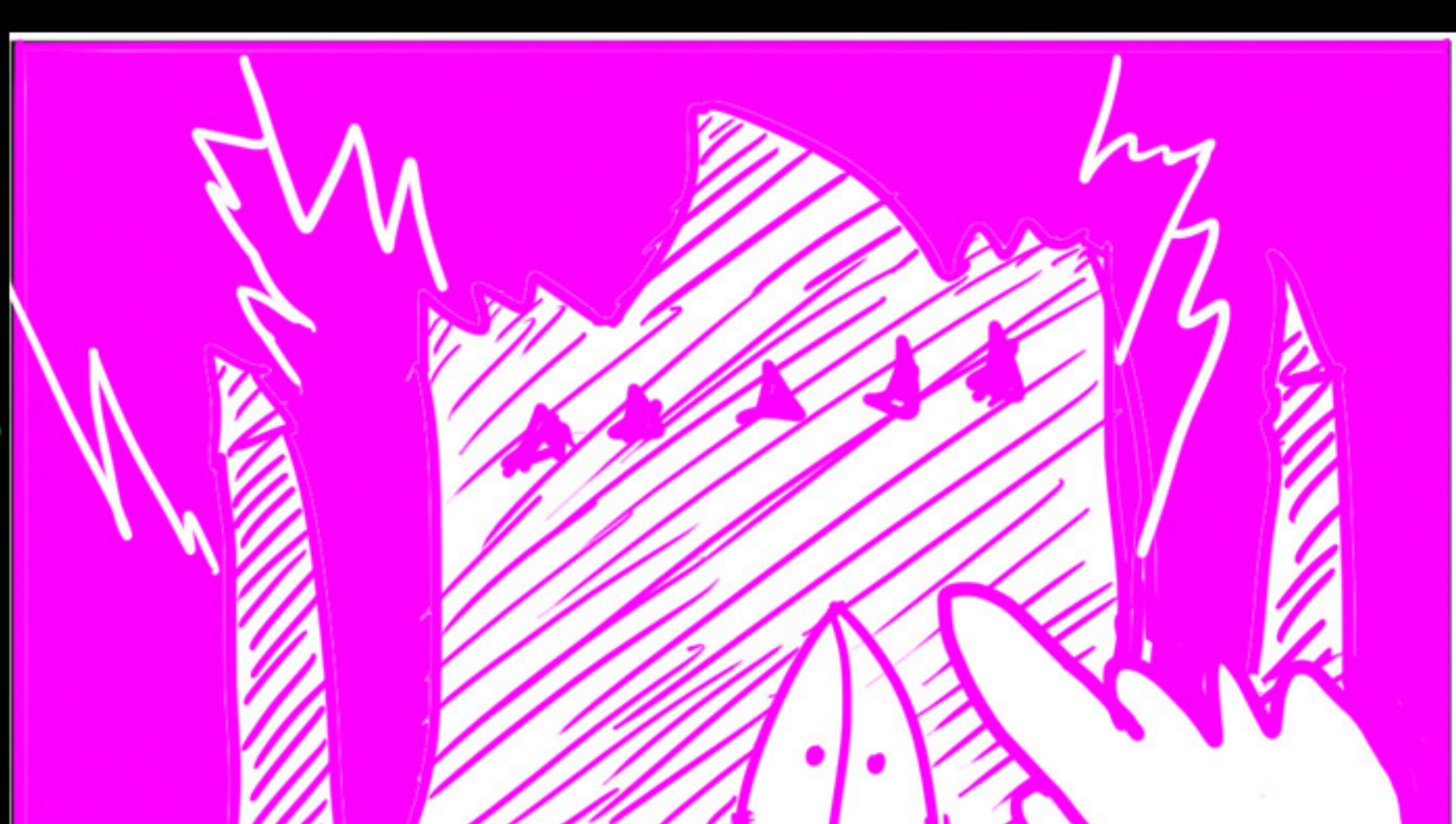
The camera finishes zooming backwards and HERO then whips around in fright as the MEAN GIRL makes a menacing laugh that startles him

24



Cut to the MEAN GIRL with her FRIENDS.
MEAN GIRL: Hahaha! Now you gotta go into the haunted house!

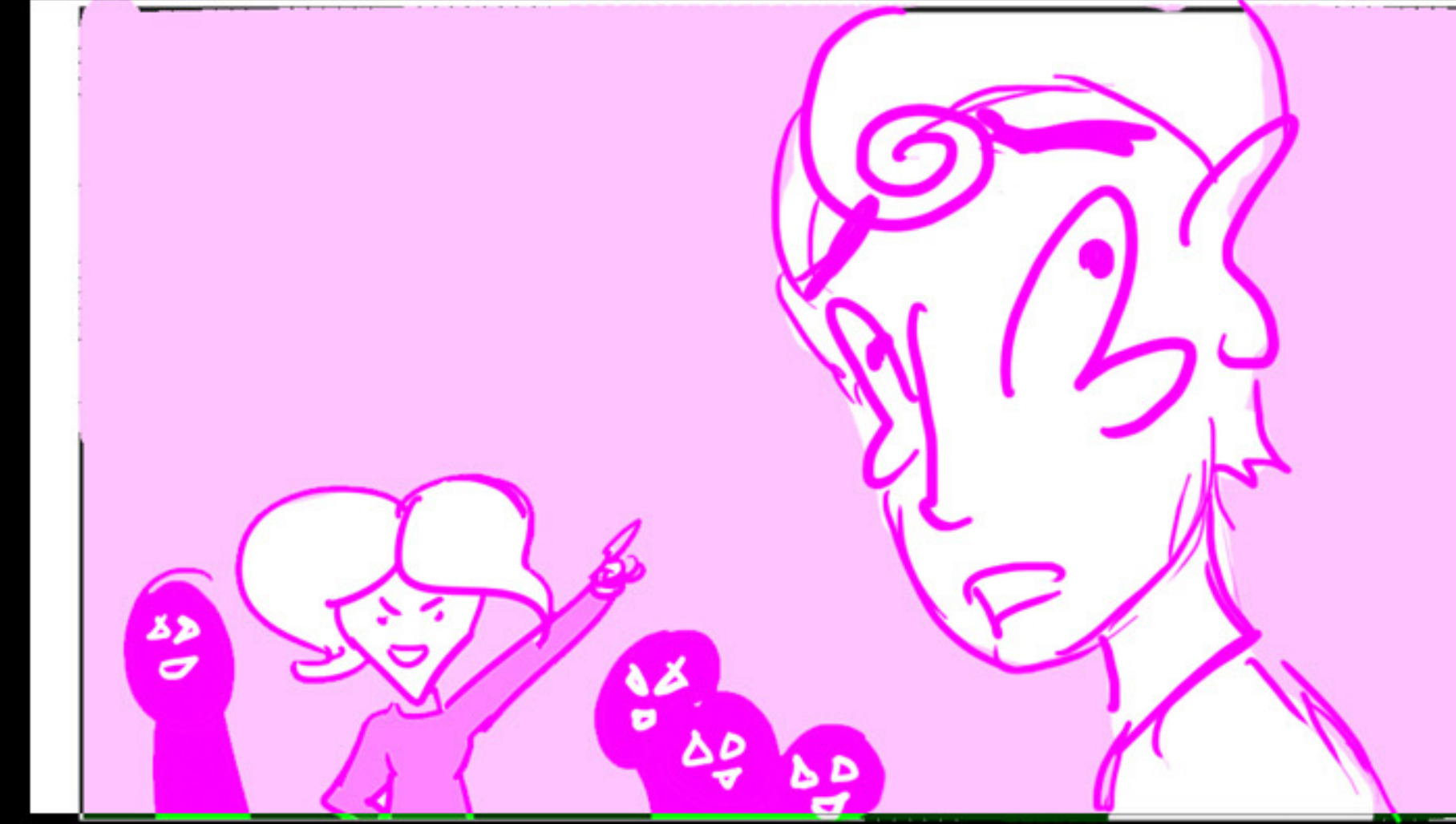
25



Cut to facing the house and we see MEAN GIRL's hand as she points at it. Lightning strikes

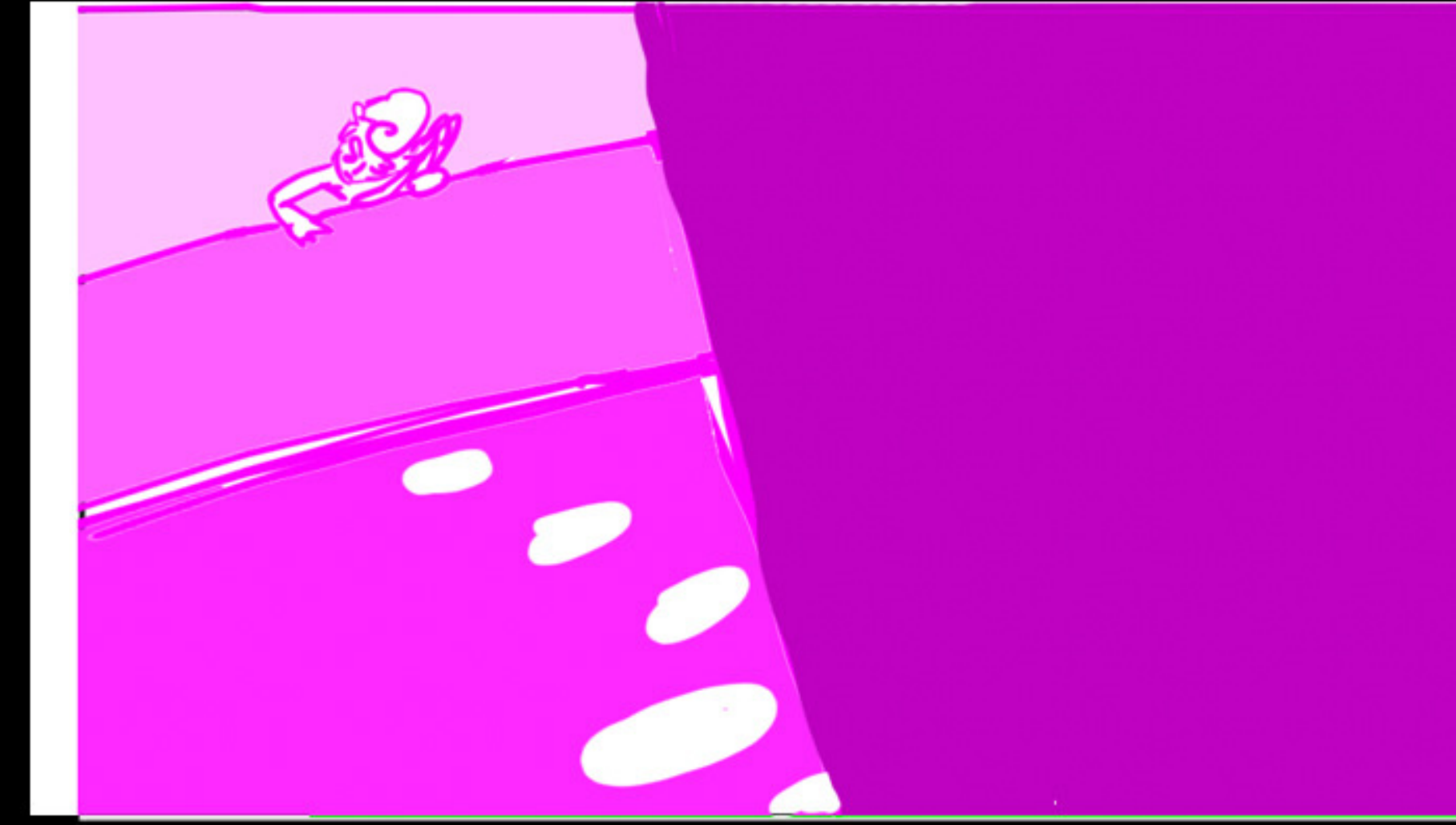
MEAN GIRL: It's full of ghosts and scary dangerous stuff!! No one's ever come out alive!

26



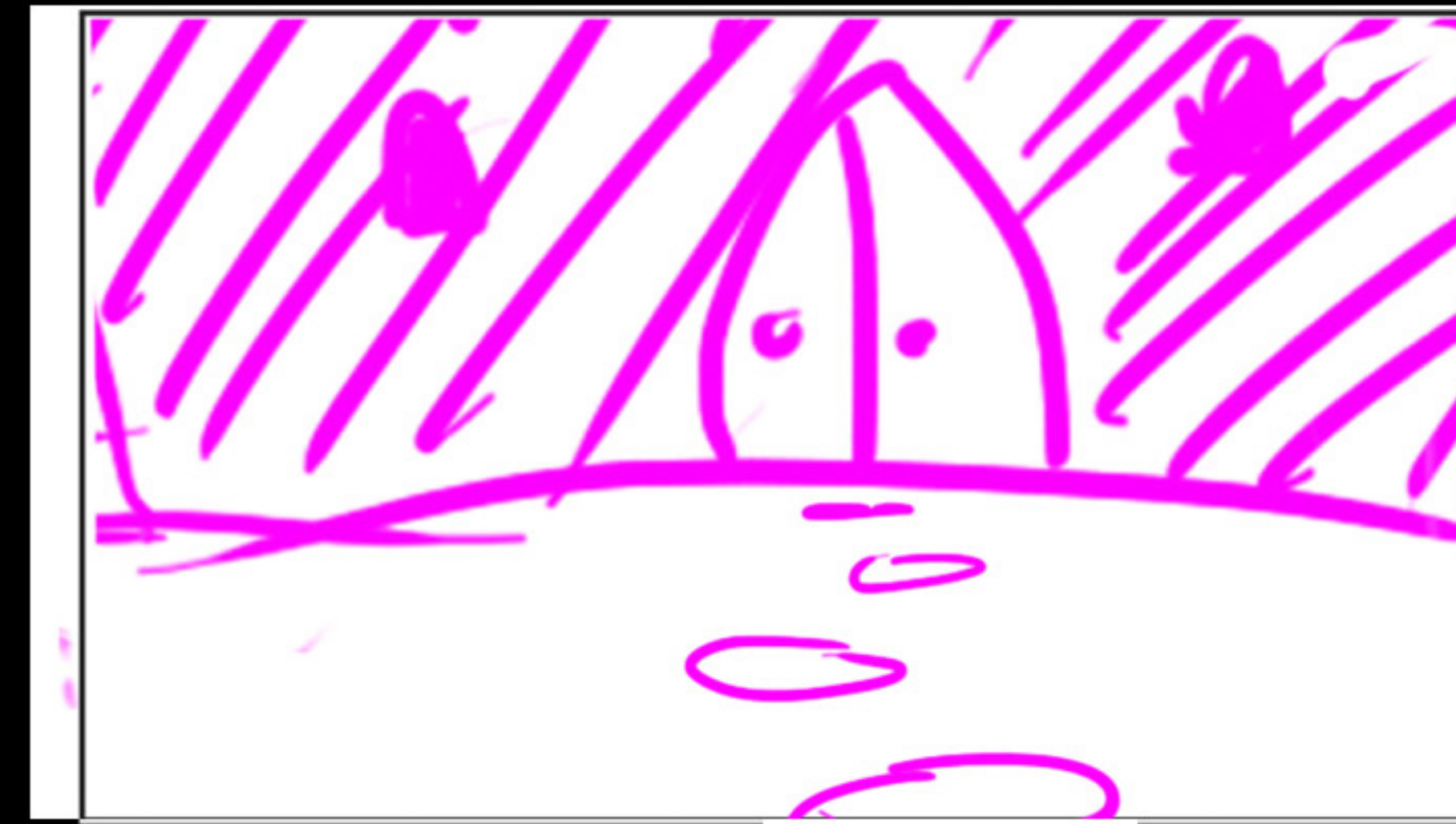
Close-up shot of HERO simply sighing to himself, as he realizes that he must now do this to get his ball back.

27



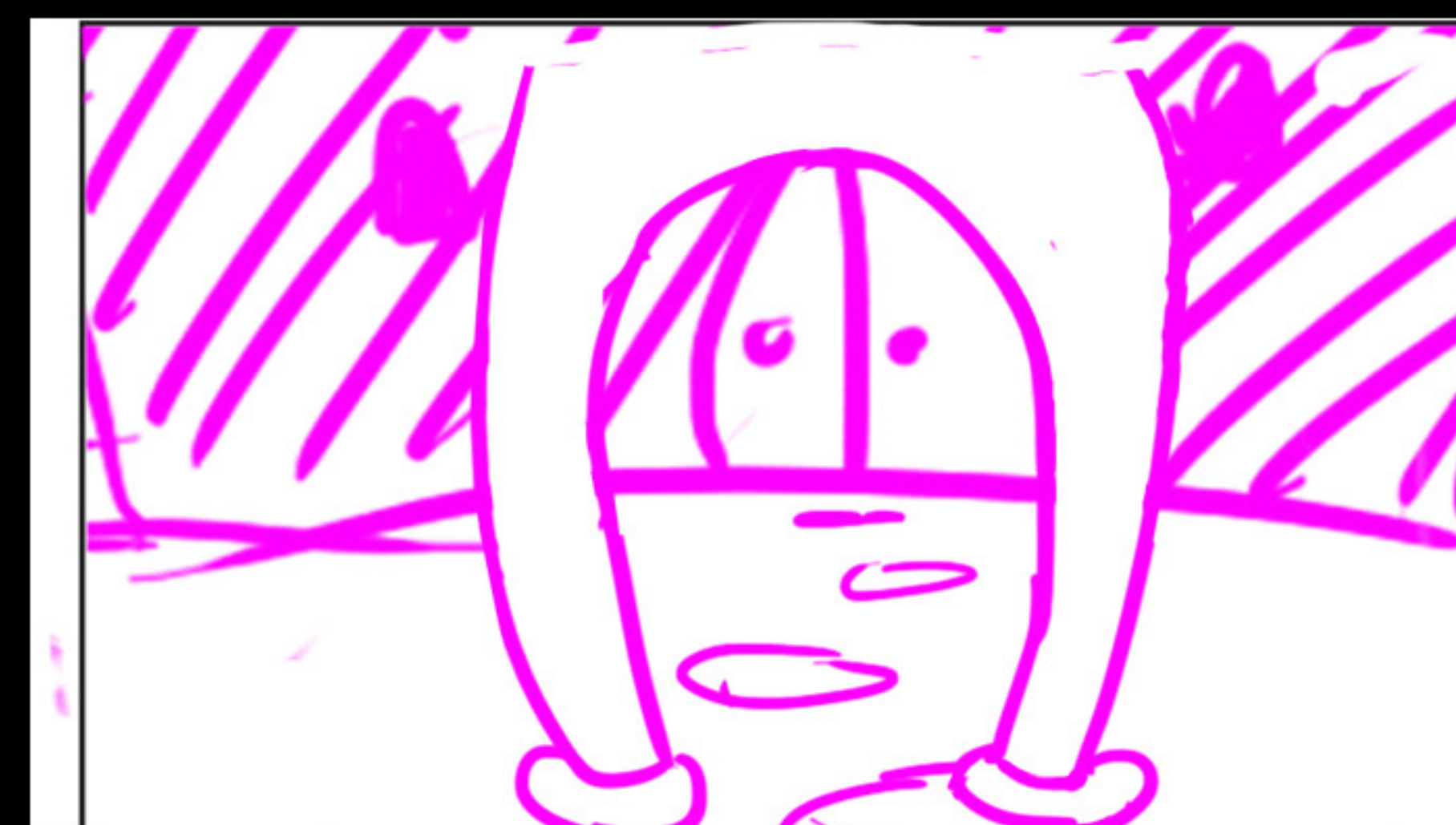
Side-shot of HERO climbing the fence

28



Low-angle view of the front door of the house

29



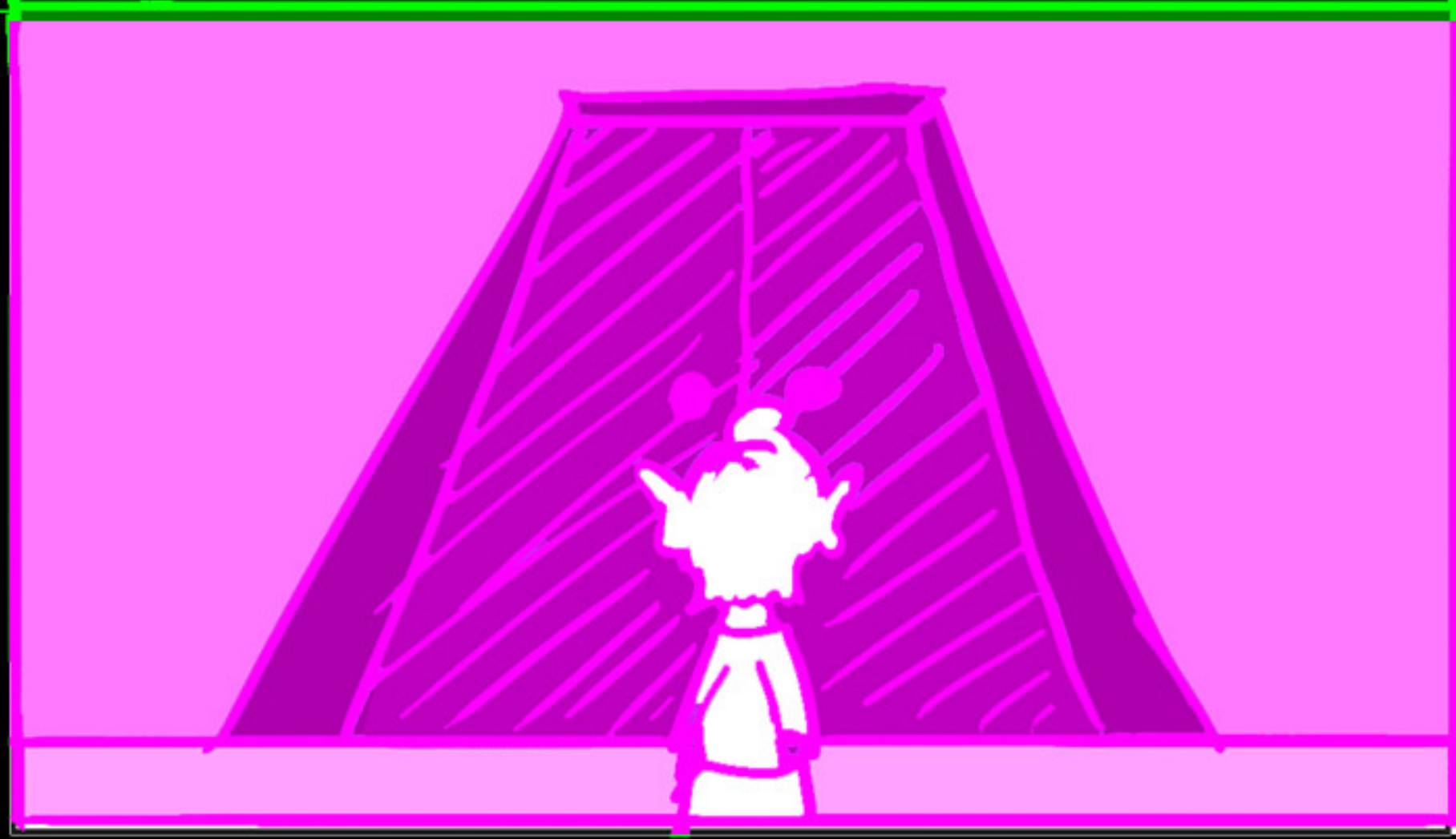
And HERO falls into frame (we only see his legs due to the low angle)

30



3/4 Shot of HERO walking up to the front door nervously

31



The HERO reaches the front door

32



Close-up shot of HERO's fist as he lifts it to knock on the door

33



And then a tentacle flies out and grabs him by the wrist!!!

34



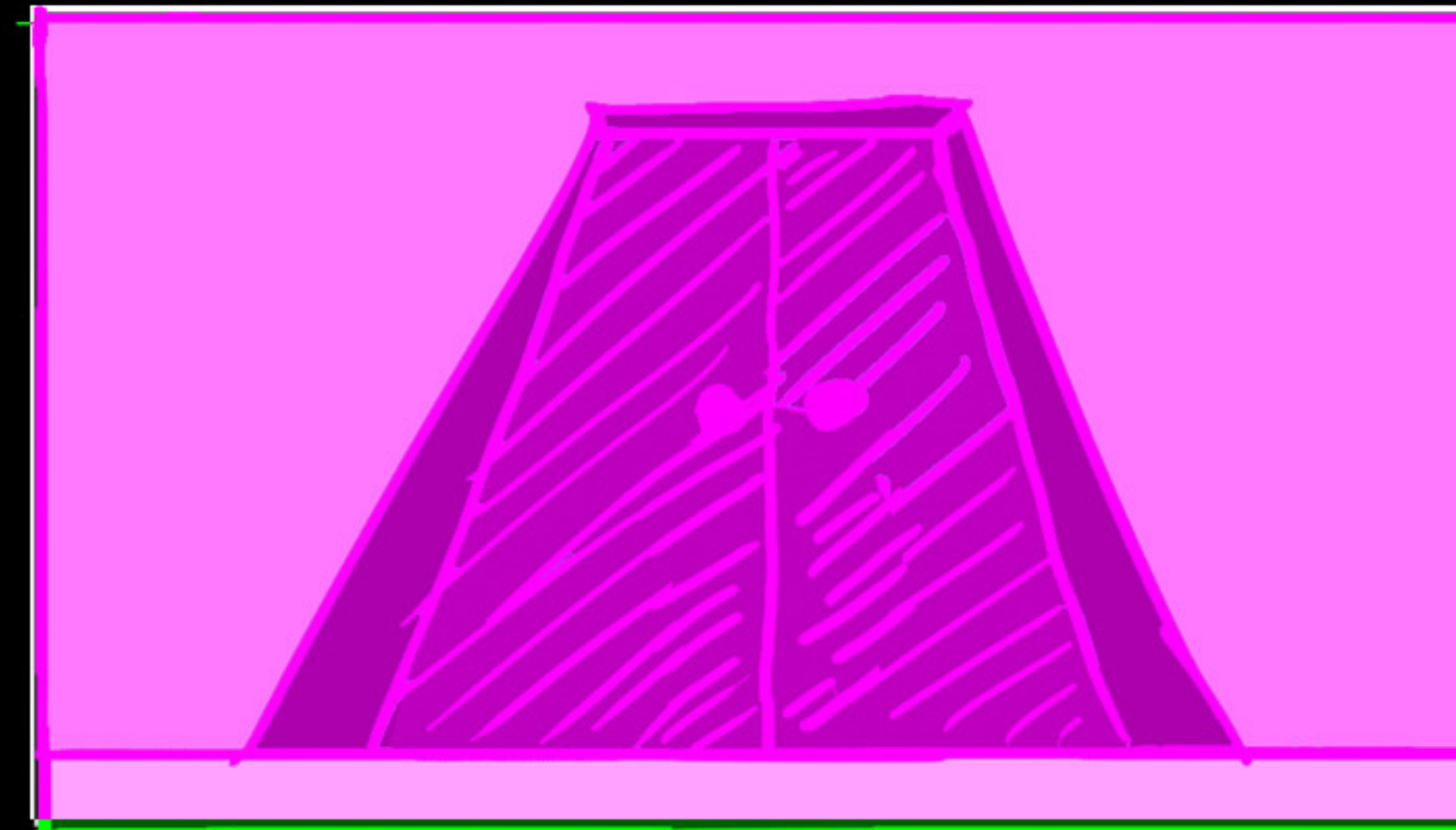
Wider side-shot of the boy gasping at what is happening

35



And then the tentacle pulls him into the house

36



Cut to facing the front door of the house as the door slams shut

37



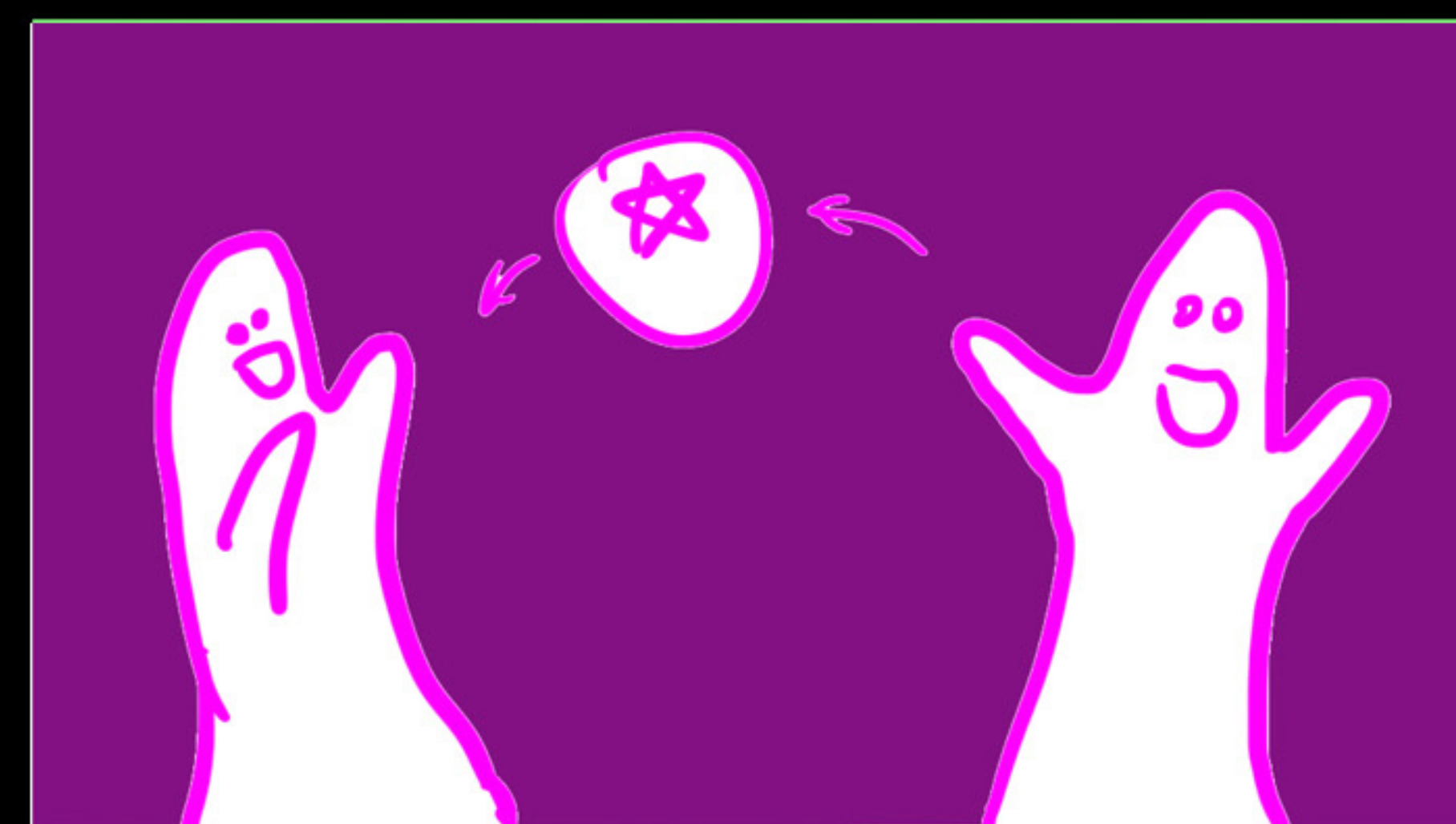
Camera slowly zooms out away from the house as the shot slowly FADES OUT to black

38



And then cut immediately to a shot of HERO inside the house, looking in shock/horror at what is happenin We see shadows on the wall and hear crazy hooting and howling

39



Cut to various shots of what's going on: There are ghosts and other creatures are inside and they're all having a party! Here are some ghouls playing with his ball

40



Here are a bunch of ghosts all drinking and singing together!

41



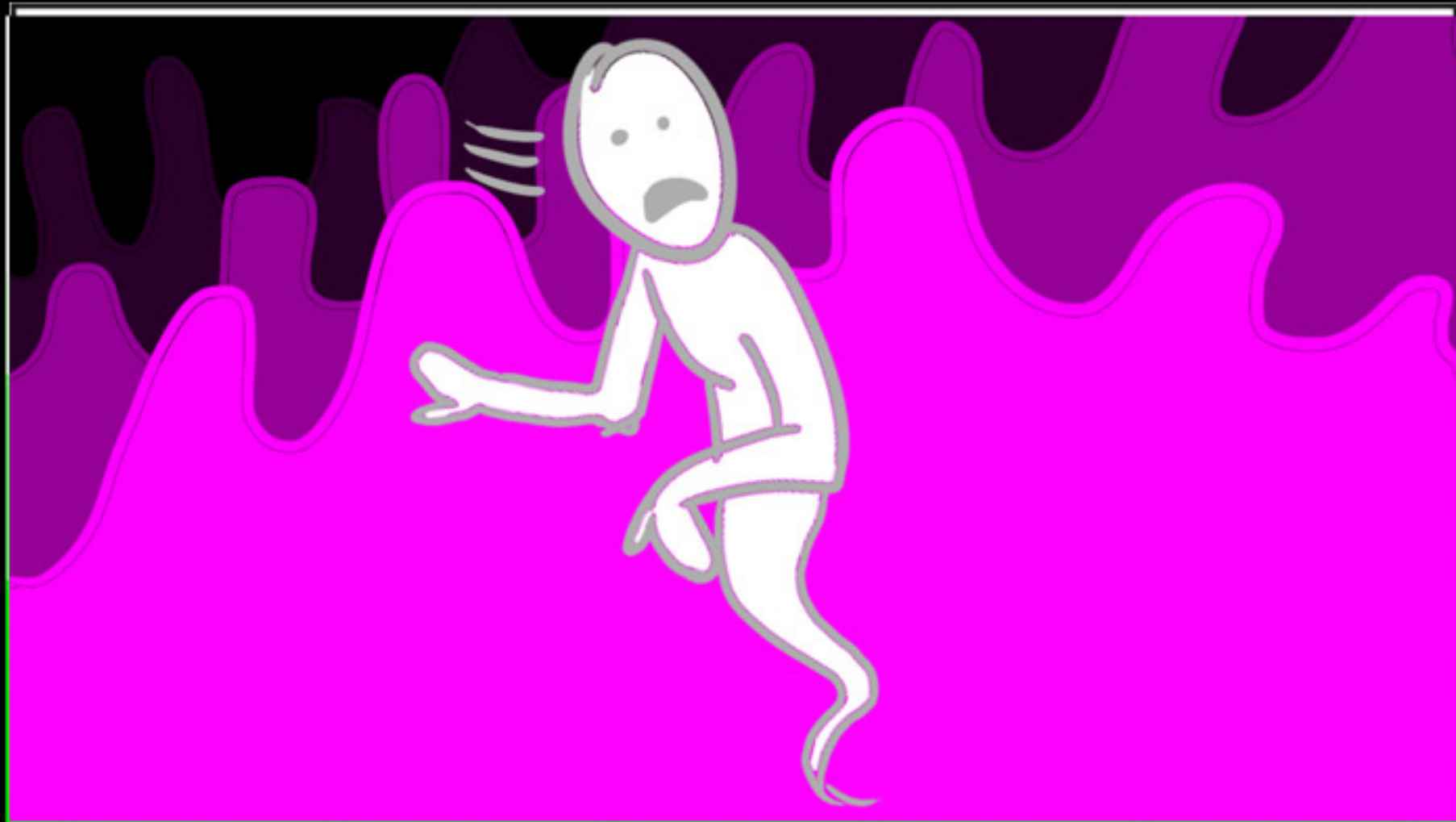
The monsters are dancing, too. It's a fun time for all!

42



Cut to one GHOST who is having a good time at the party

43



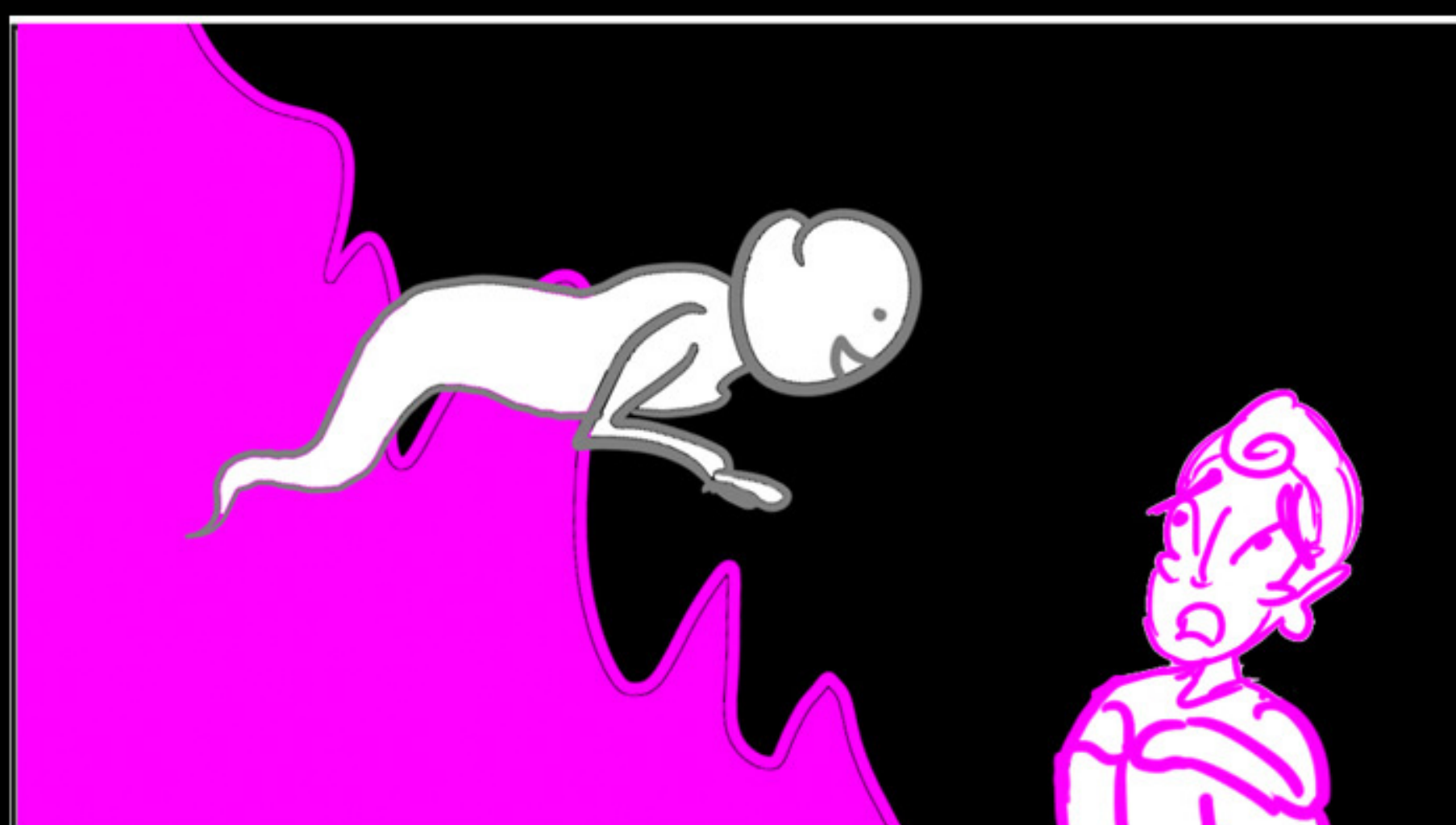
Suddenly, though, he looks over and sees the HERO hiding in a corner

44



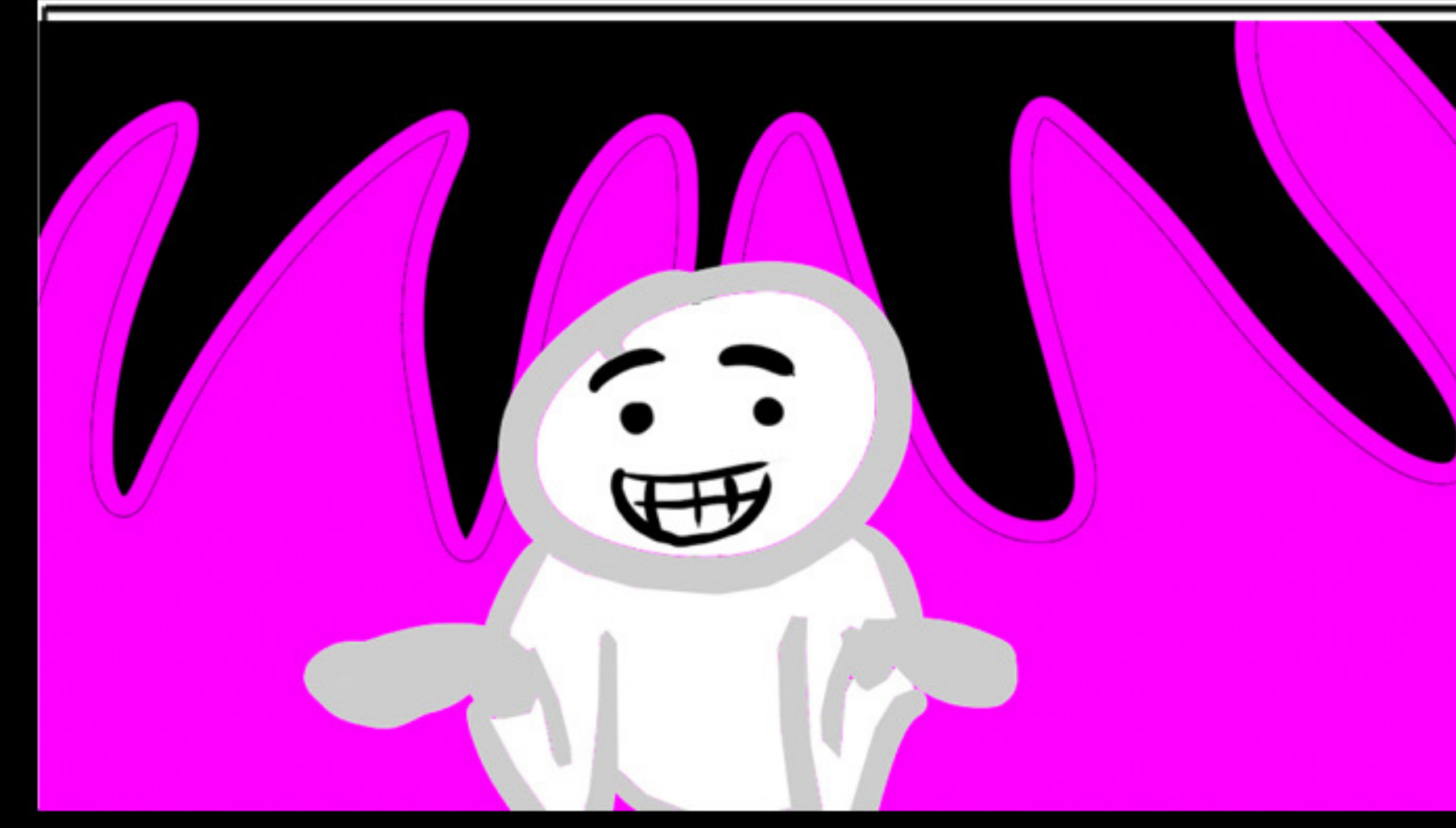
Cut to POV shot of what the GHOST sees

45



The GHOST floats over to the HERO and talks to him.
GHOST: "Hey, why aren't you dancing?"

46



GHOST: "Don't wanna have a good time with us?"

47



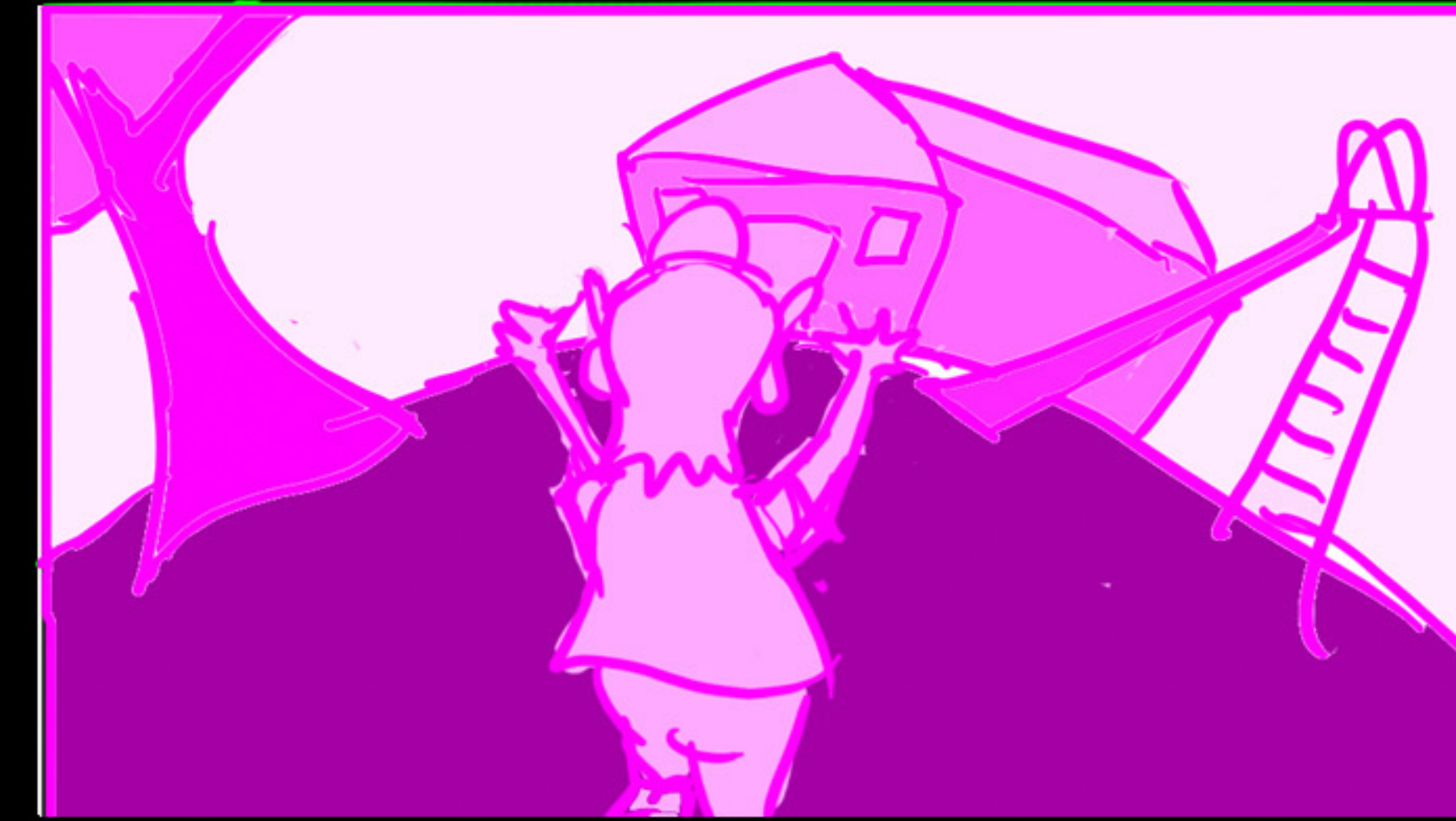
The HERO freaks out

48



We then cut to outside as the HERO bursting through the front doors of the mansion, screaming for his life as he runs away

49



We cut to an establishing-shot of HERO's house as we see him run into frame and run into the house. He's still maybe screaming

50



The HERO runs past his MOM, who is sitting at the dinner table.
MOM: "Did you have a good first day at school?"

51



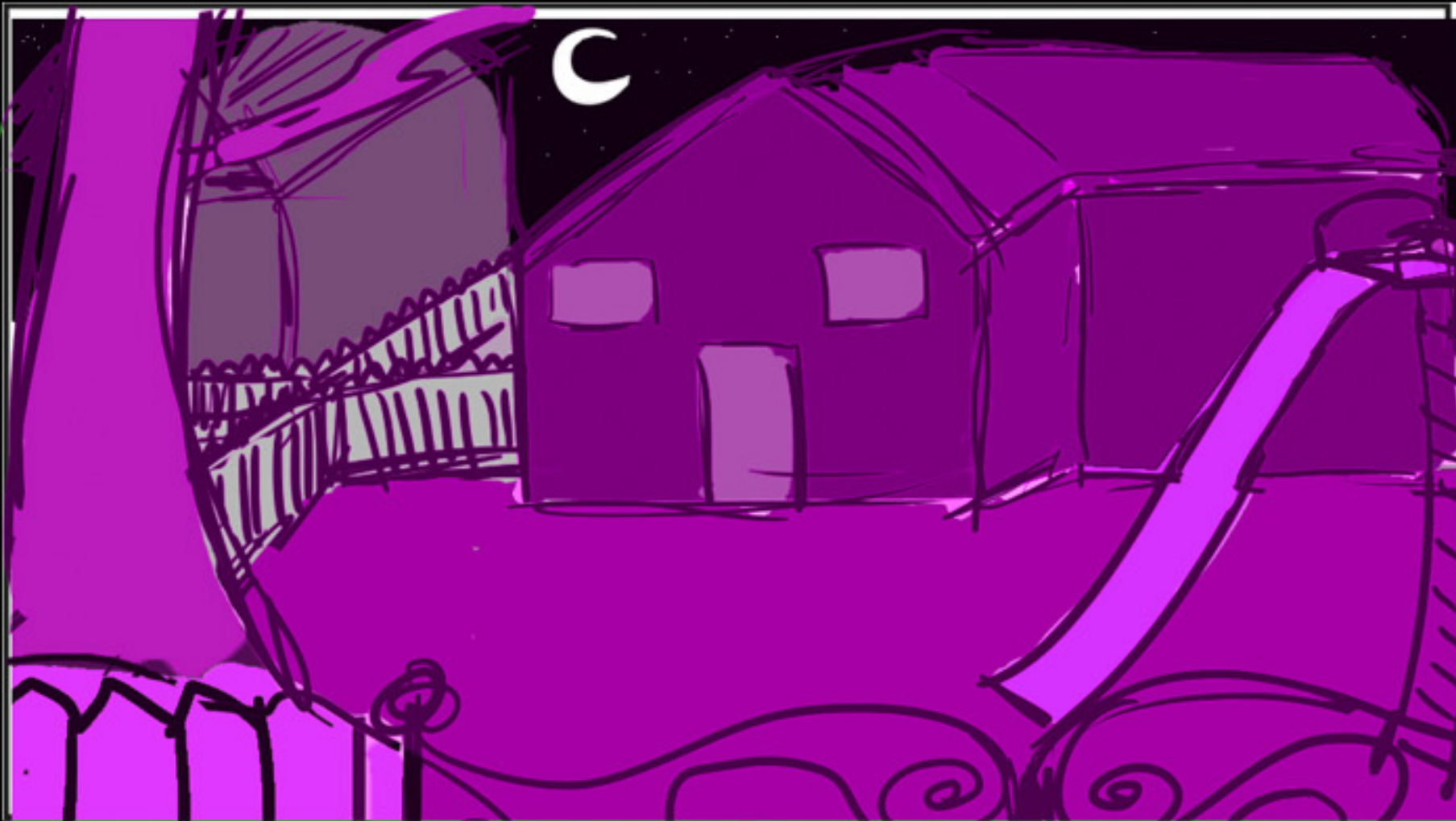
The HERO runs past her without paying her any attention, and we hear him slam the door to his room behind him. The mother looks over at where he ran too and seems confused.

52



We cut to the same establishing-shot of the HERO's house.

53



Time-lapse (still facing the house) to that night

54



Cut to interior-shot of HERO in his bed, nervously staring at the ceiling

55



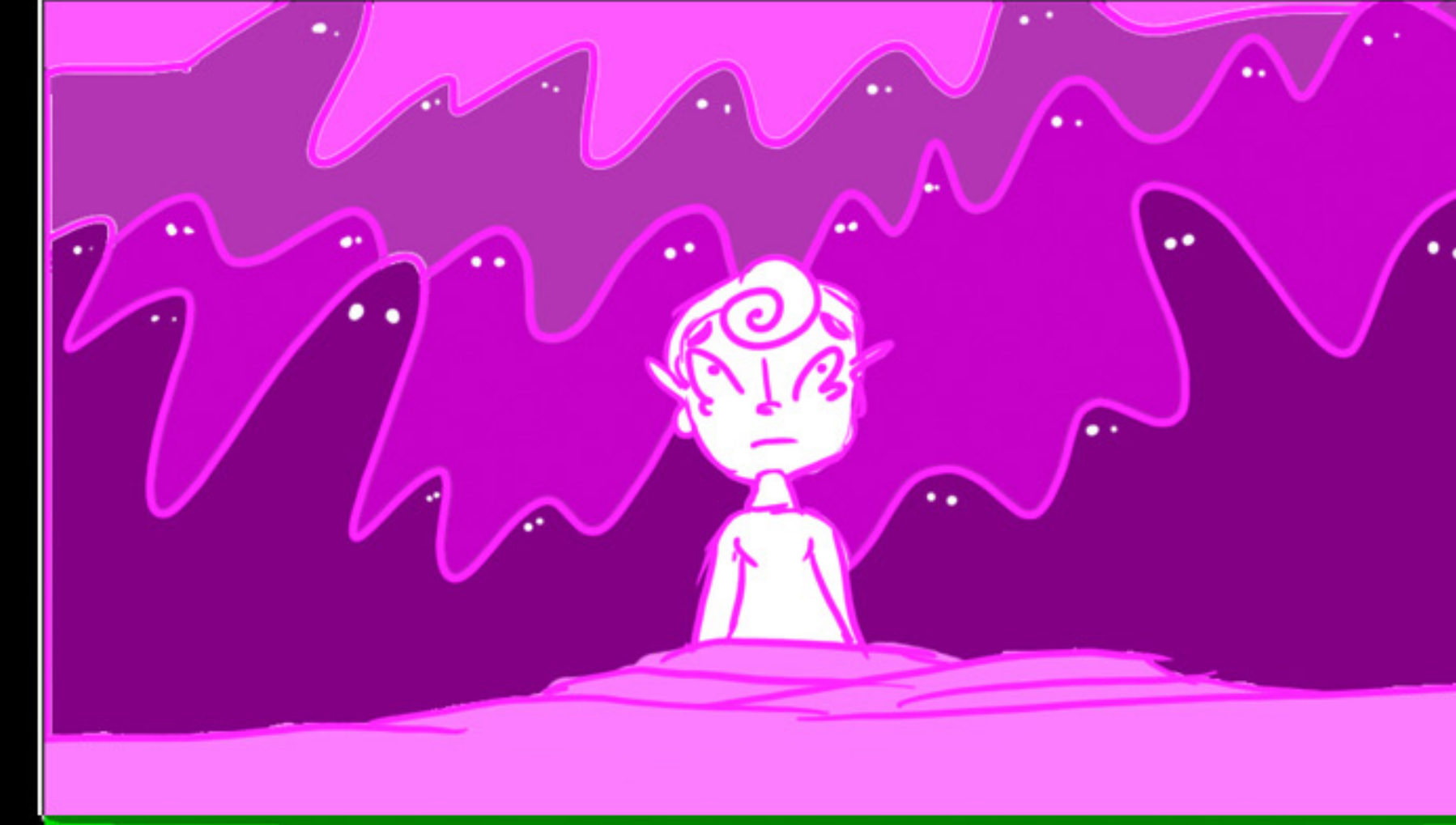
A thumping bass sound comes in through the walls, though, and the HERO hears it and looks to his right in confusion.

56



The HERO lifts his torso up to look out the window as we cut to a shot from behind him, looking out the window. We see the Mansion from before and see that lights and party music is pouring out of it.

57



Cut to a shot facing the boy looking out the window, but we then see that all the monsters from before have appeared in his room and are all waiting behind him

58



Cut to a close-up shot of the HERO as he turns around

59



And then he freaks out

60



Cut back to the shot from behind the HERO as the same main GHOST from before apparates in front of him, holding his ball. GHOST: "Hey, you forgot your ball!"

61



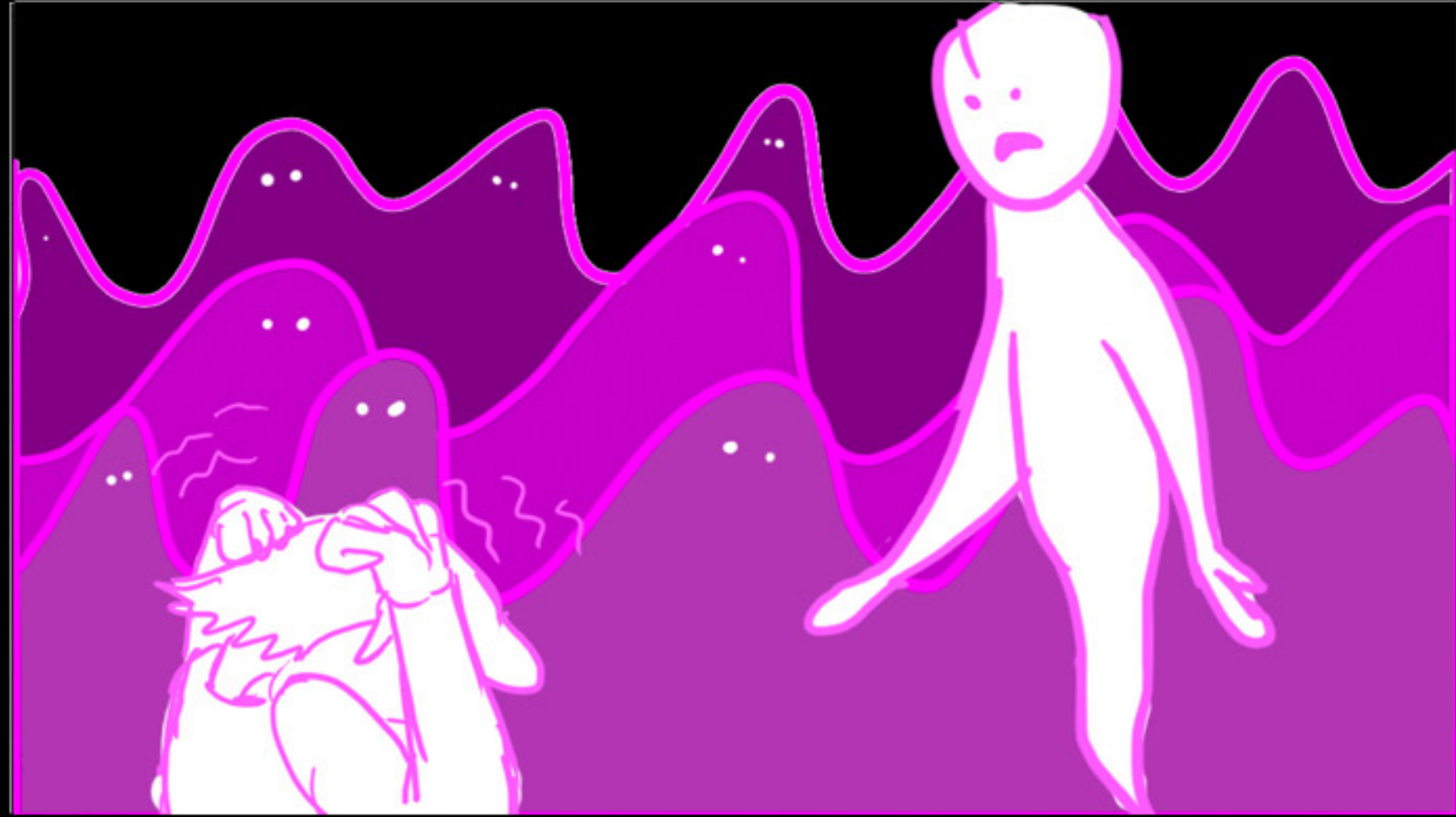
The GHOST lightly throws the ball over to the HERO's bed. The HERO looks down at the ball in fright

62



Cut to a shot of HERO being too scared to even respond

63



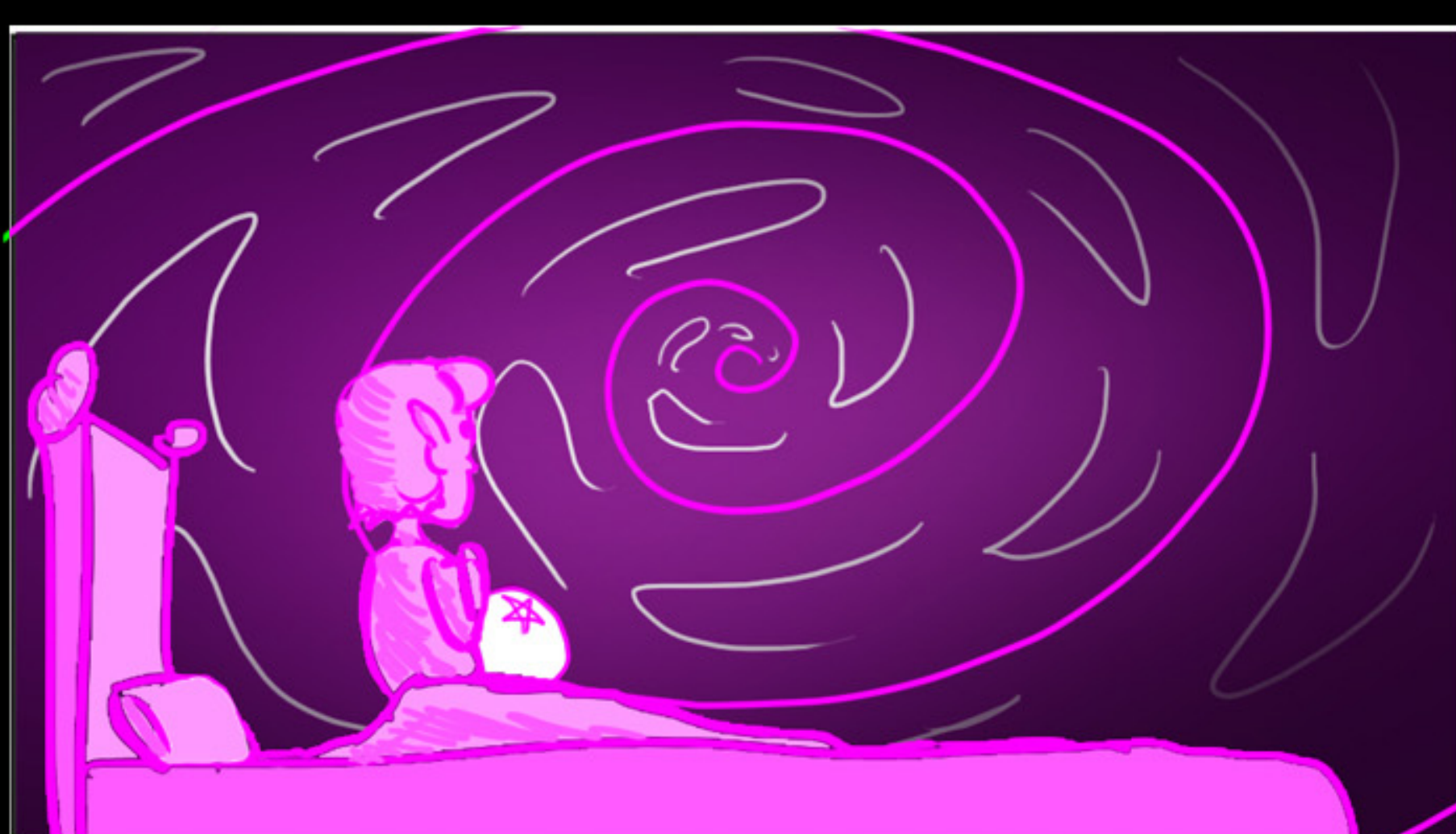
Cut to a close-up of the MAIN GHOST as he just looks confused as to why the HERO is so scared.

64



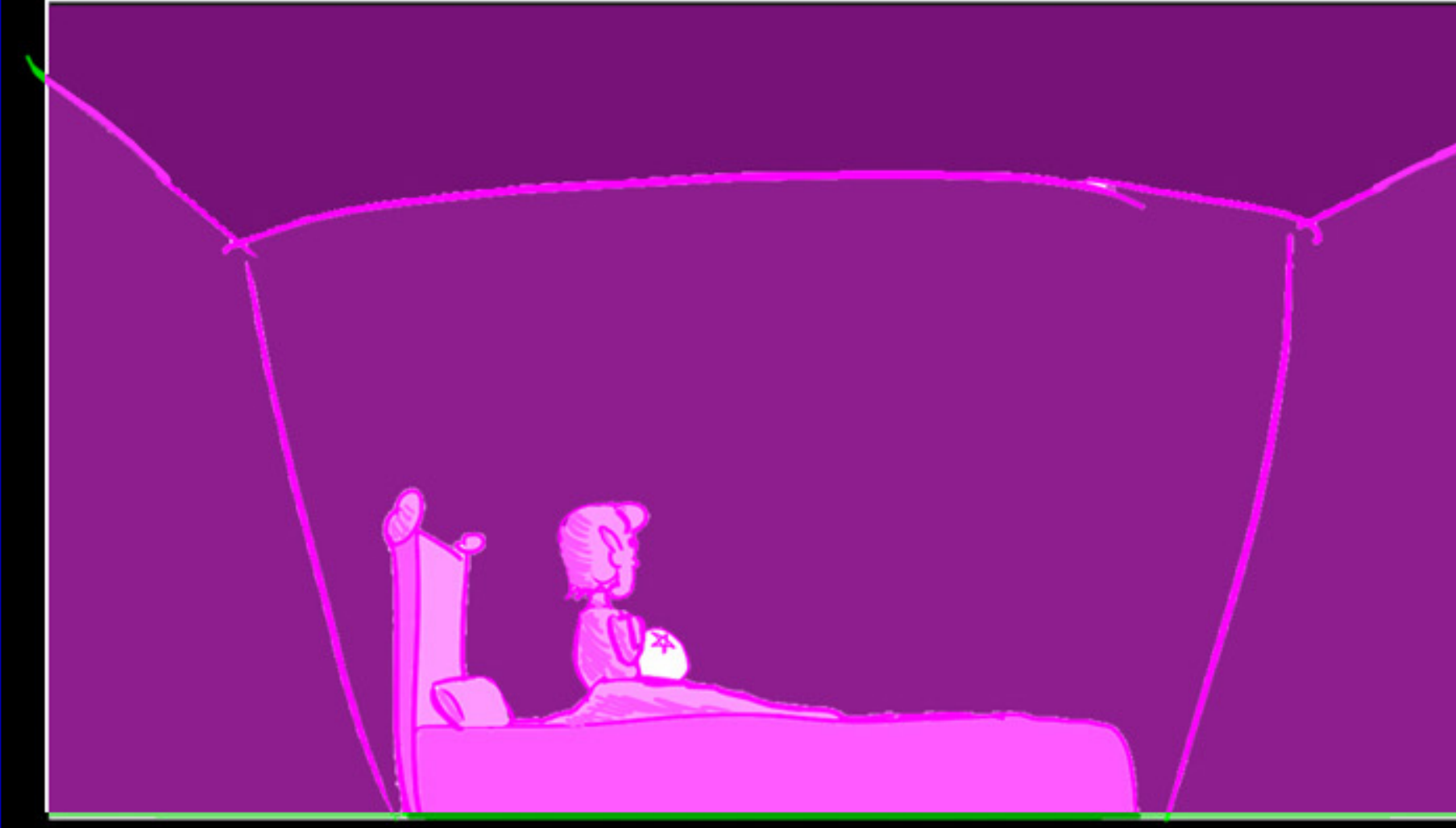
Cut back to the shot from behind the boy facing all the monsters.
MAIN GHOST: "well, OK dude. We won't force you to do anything you don't want to..."

25



And then all the monsters/ghosts disappear into a ghostly vortex back to the party house

66



...leaving the HERO alone in his room, unharmed.

67



Cut back to the over-head shot of the HERO in his bed as he lies back down and goes back to staring at the ceiling, his head full of thoughts.

68



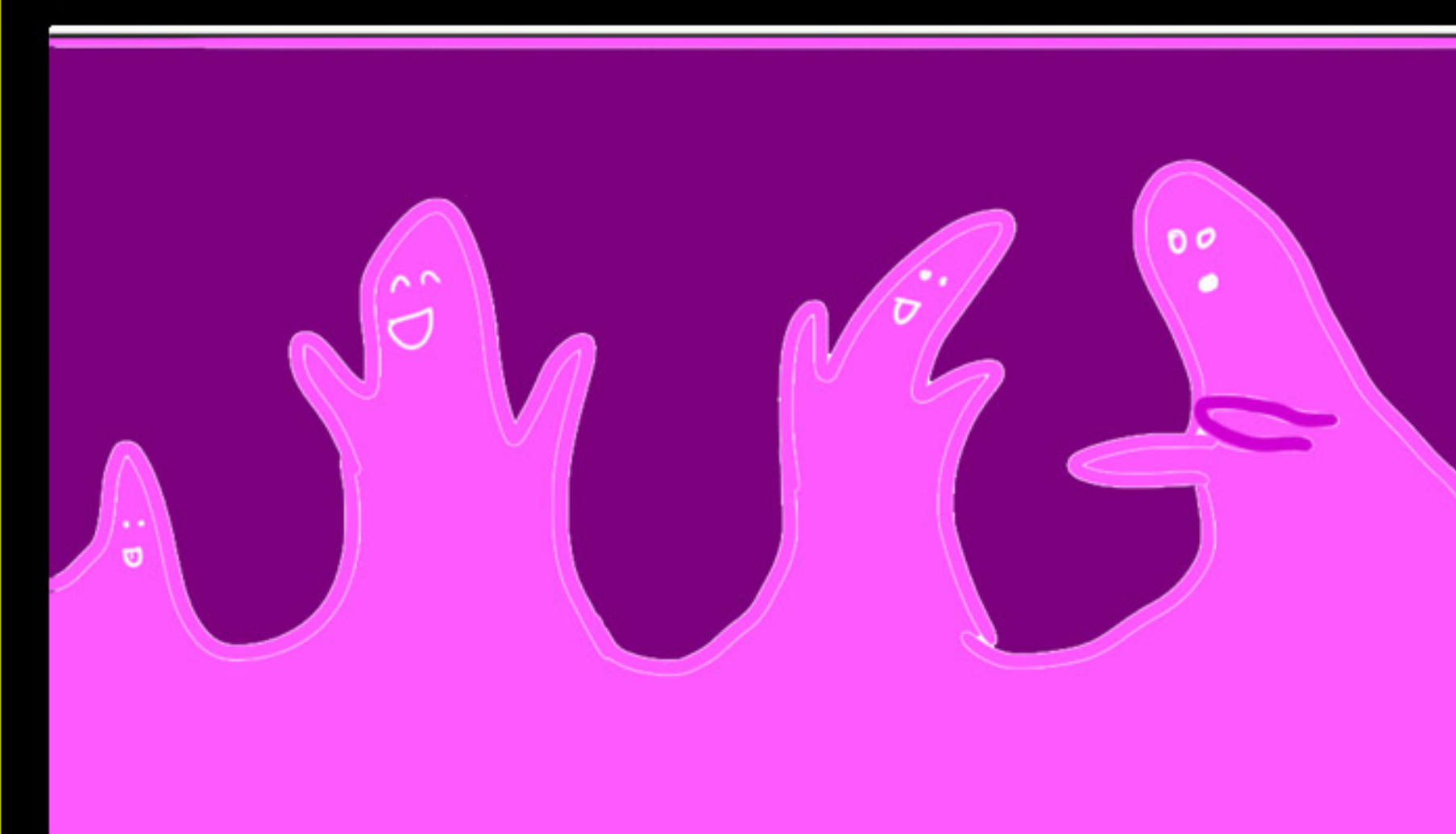
The HERO then lies back down in bed, contemplating the day's events. Sound clips from before flood through his head

69



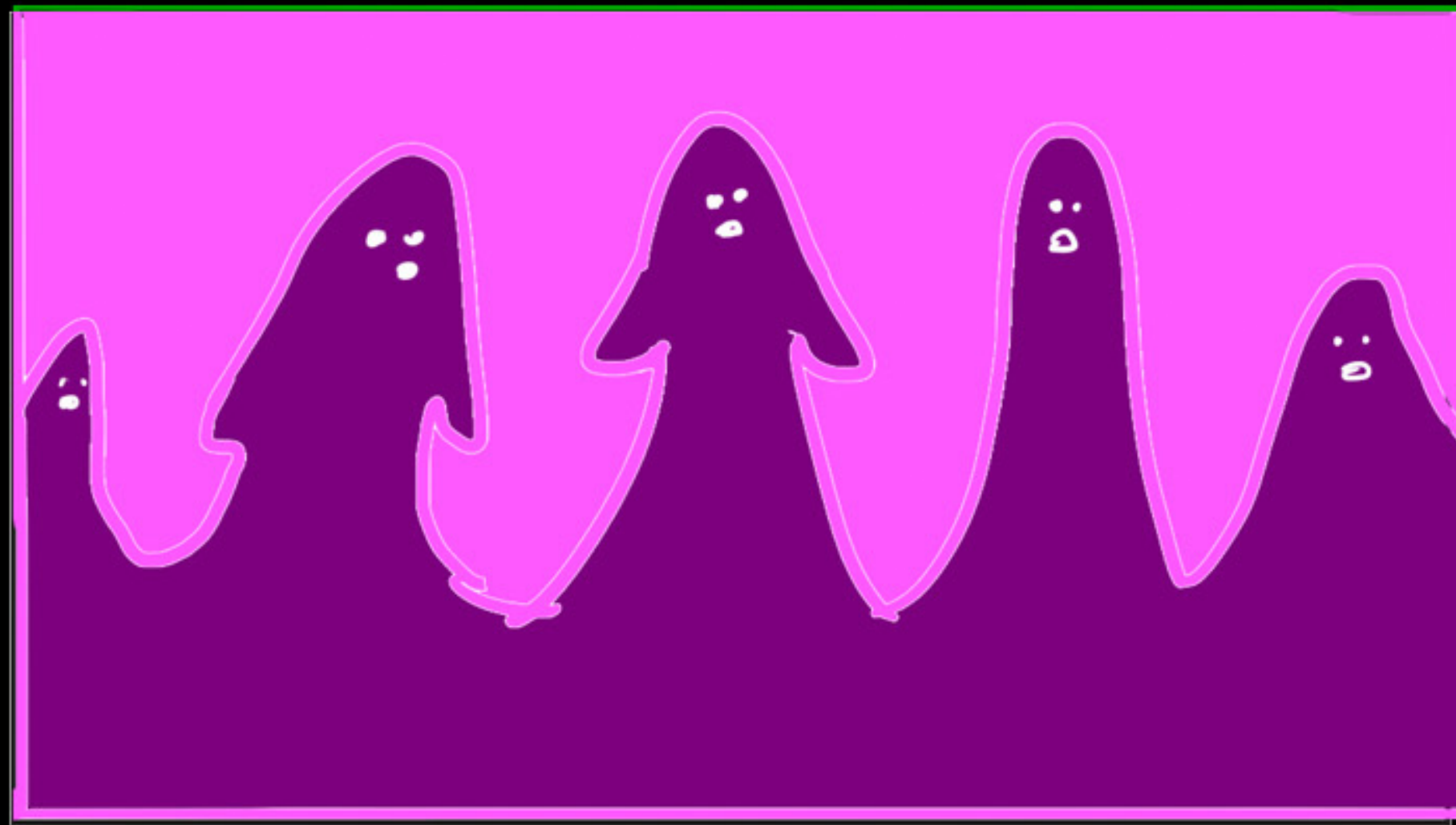
But then suddenly, he's made his decision about what to do as he sits up from his bed with a new sense of authority

70



Cut to the ghosts partying again in their house

71



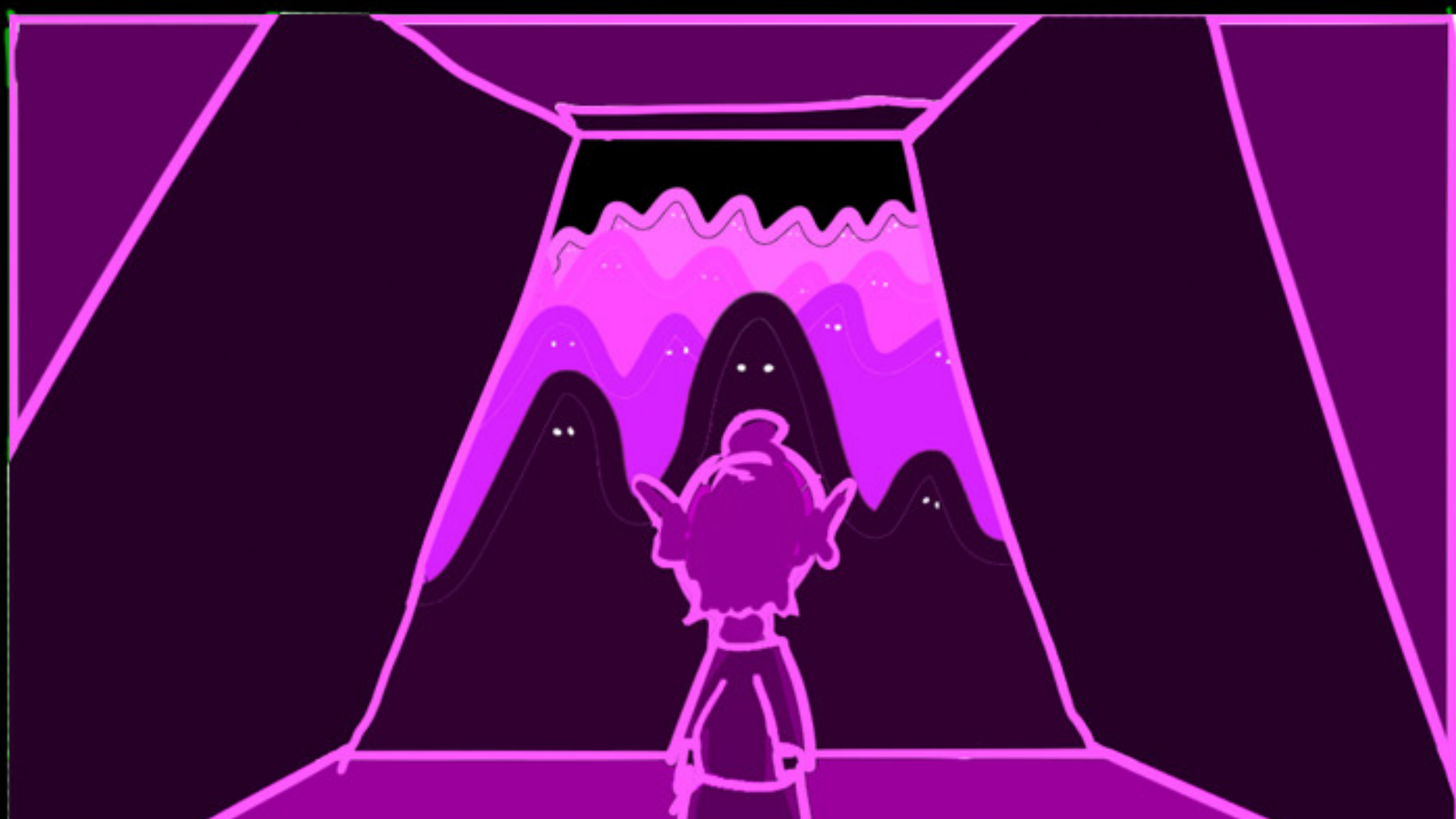
Suddenly, the ghosts all hear a knock at the front door. They all stop dancing.

72



Cut to low-angle shot of HERO standing at the front door.

73



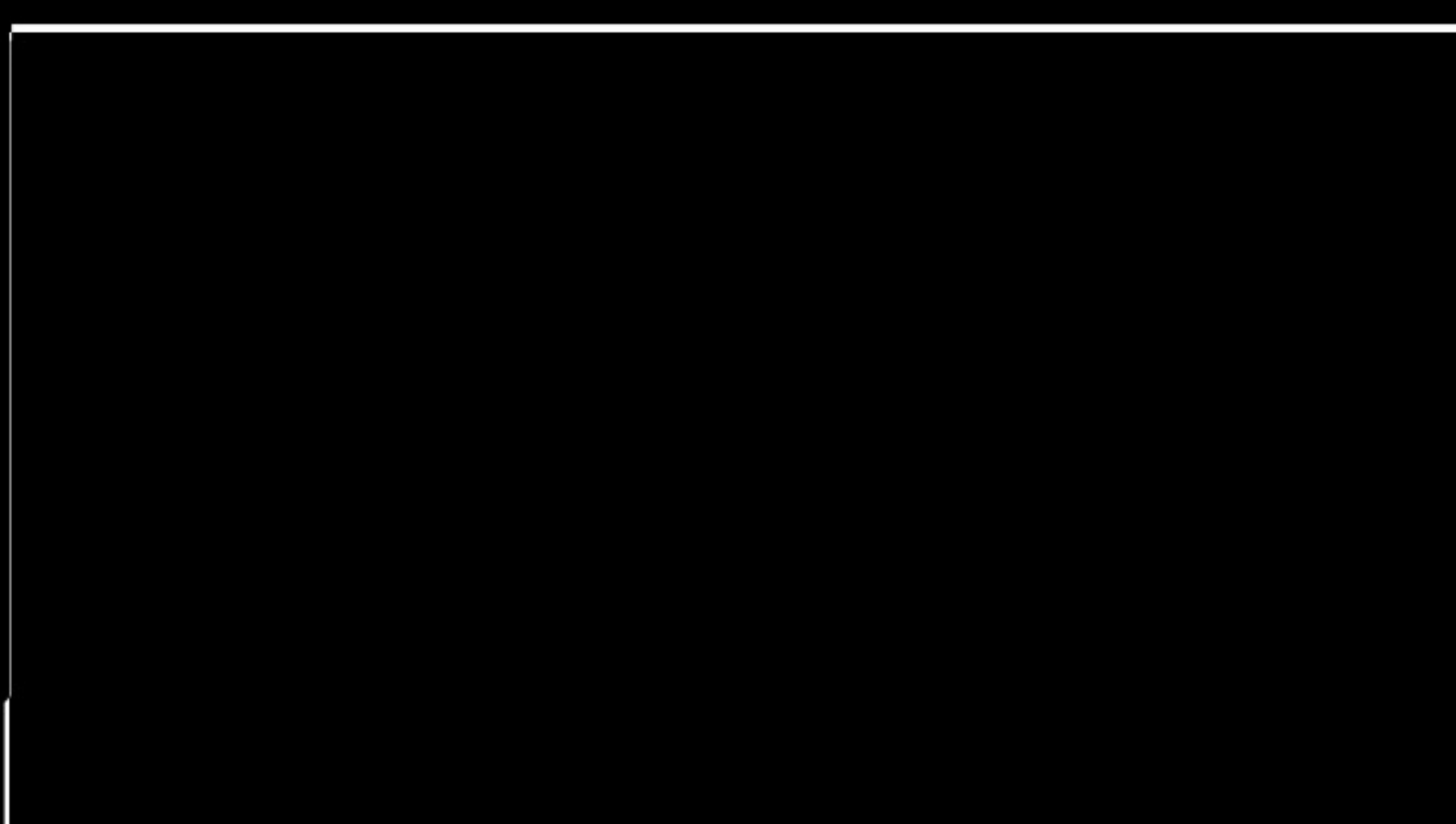
Cut to low-angle shot of HERO standing at the front door.

74



The MAIN GHOST from before then appears in front of all the other ghosts and looks down at the HERO menacingly.
MAIN GHOST: "Well well well... it seems you've come crawling back..."

75



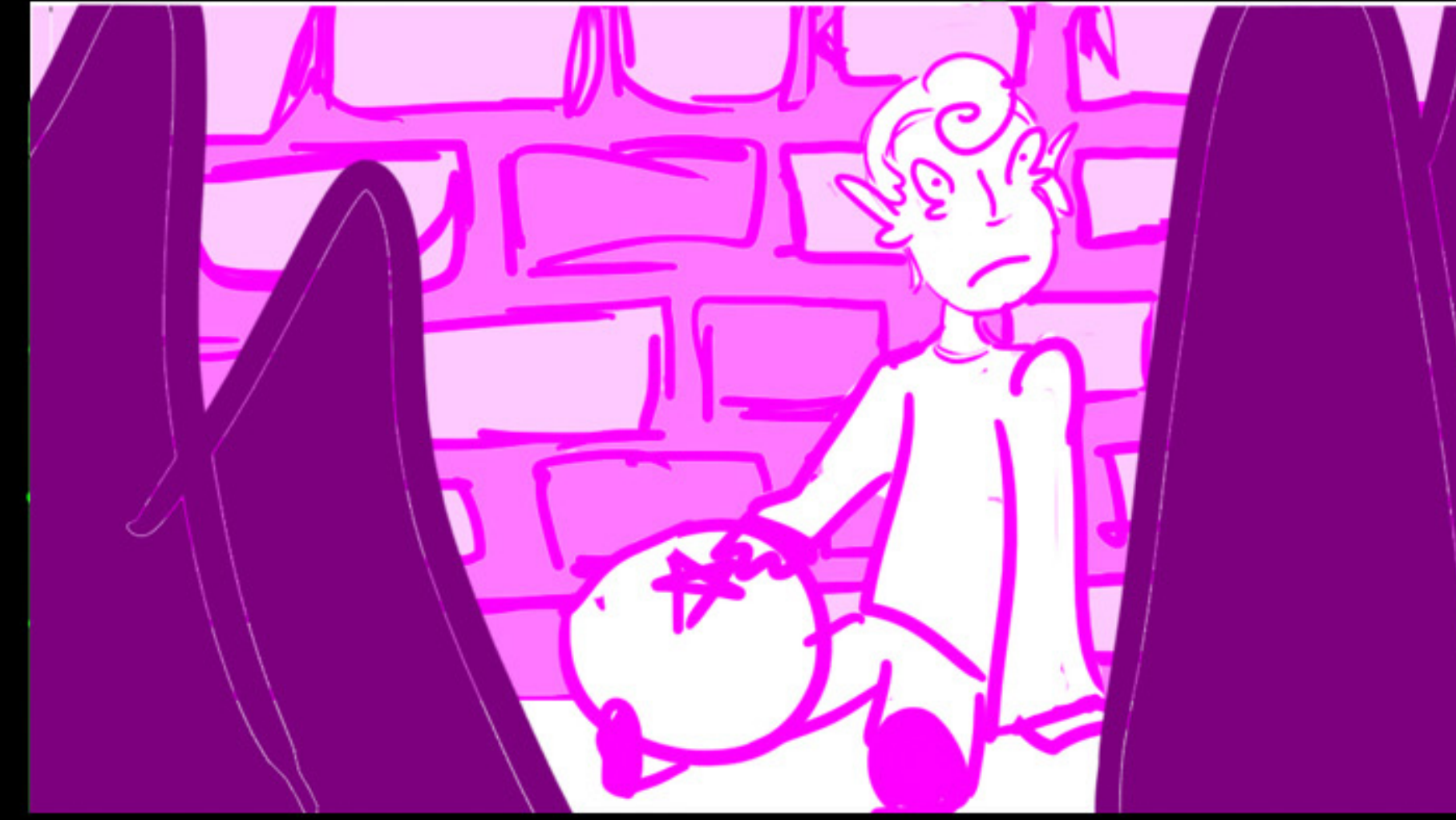
Fade to black w/menacing scary music

76



Cut to the next day at school, HERO is by himself again with his ball.

77



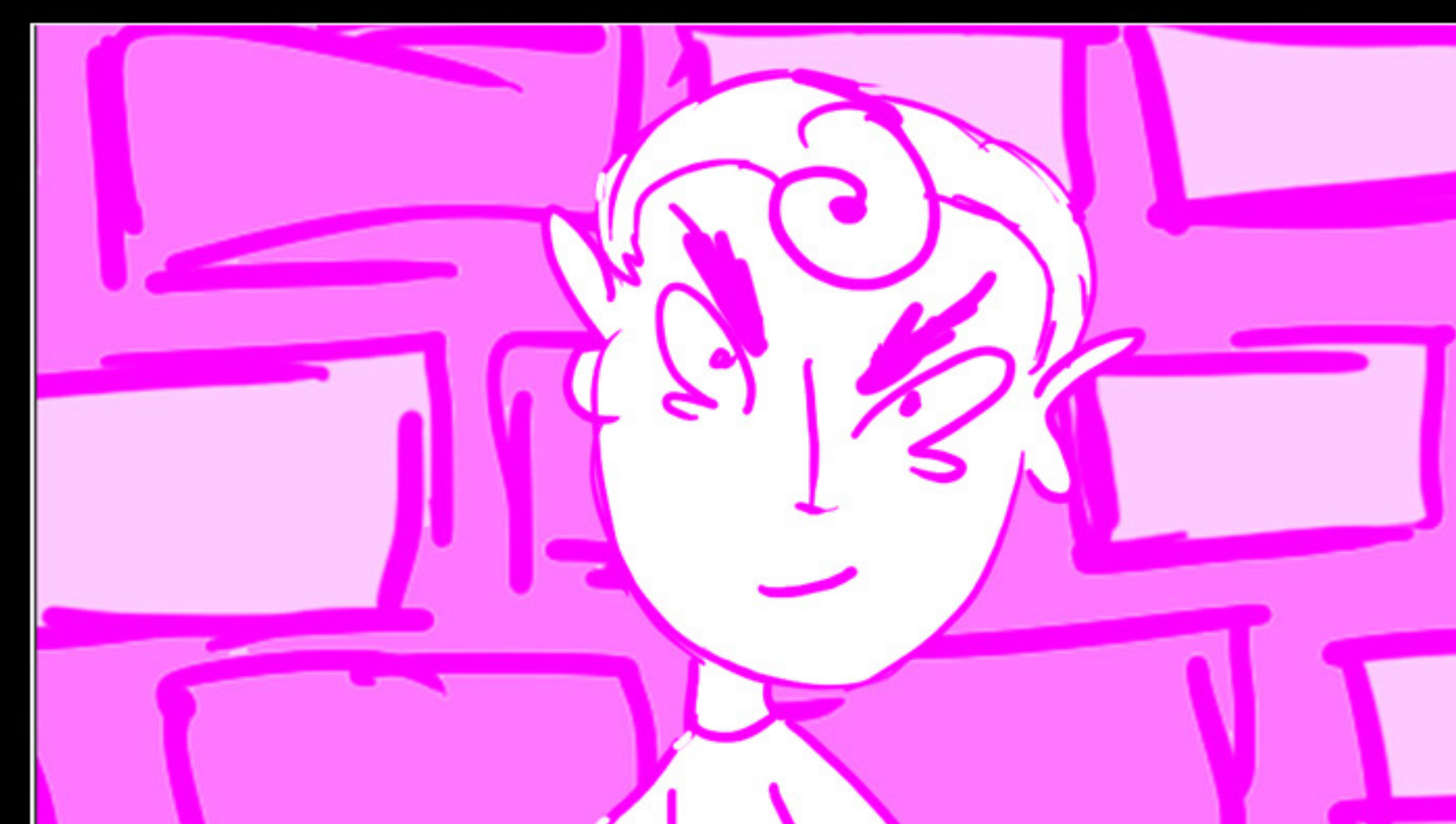
A bunch of people all crowd in on him

78



It's the MEAN GIRL and her friends.
MEAN GIRL: Well well! Seems the boy survived the Ghost house! Surely you've learned your lesson. Are you ready to come play with us? You've passed our test, you can be our FRIEND now...

79



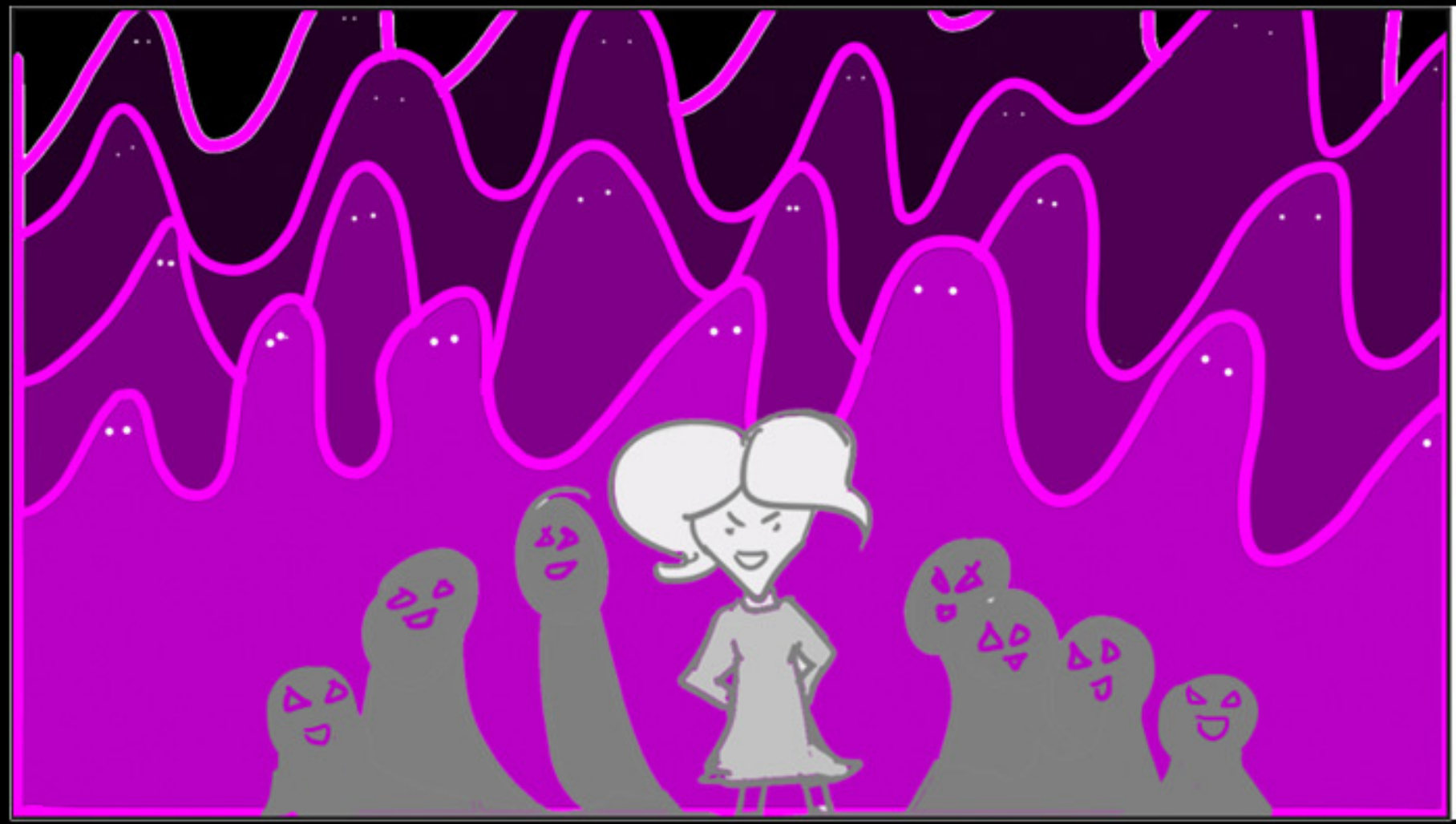
The HERO then looks back at the MEAN GIRL menacingly

80



Cut to facing the MEAN GIRL and her friends,

81



as all of the ghosts appear behind them.

82



Close-up shot of the MEAN GIRL turning around suddenly as she realizes that something is behind her

83



POV shot (MEAN GIRL's persp.) as she sees all the ghosts behind her, with the MAIN GHOST in front of them all, making a menacing glare.

84



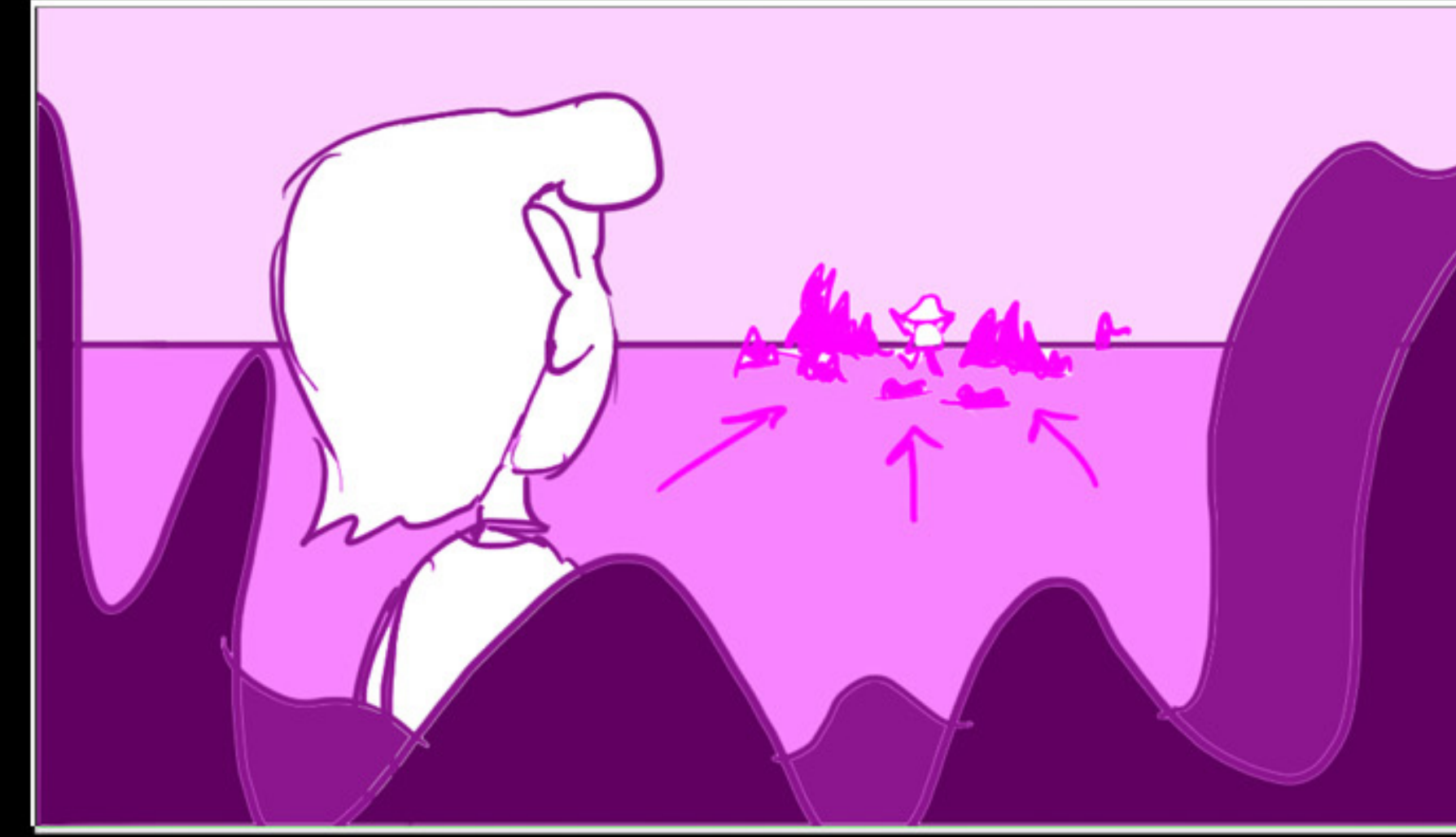
C.U. shot of the MEAN GIRL freaking out

85



Wide-shot of the MEAN GIRL and all her FRIENDS running away in a panic as the MAIN GHOST and all his MONSTER FRIENDS all chase after them, scaring them all away

86



Long shot of the HERO standing with the MONSTERS as they all watch the MEAN GIRL and her FRIENDS running away

87



Front-shot of the HERO standing in front of all of the MONSTERS, a powerful and menacing look on the HERO's face.

88



The HERO then throws his arms up in victory as the MONSTERS all rejoice in unison. HERO: "LET'S PARTAYYY!!"

89

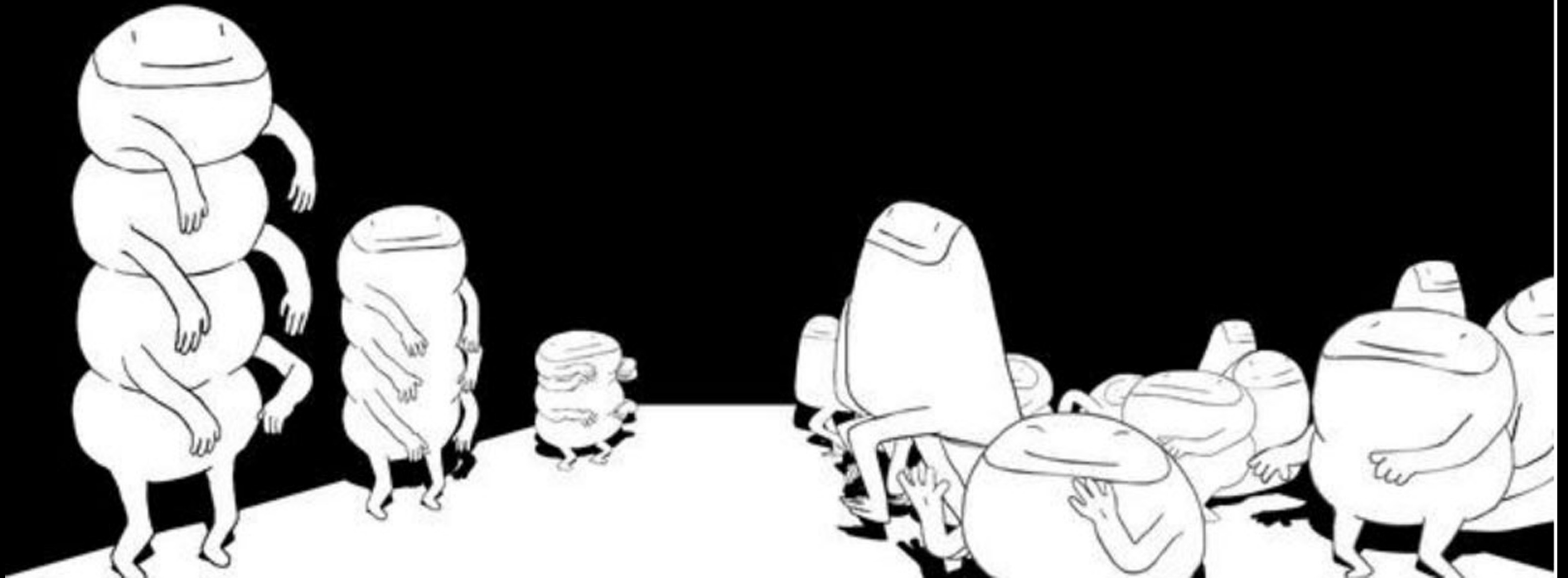


Cut to ending title card (and then roll credits)

ANIMATION TECHNIQUE/MEDIUM



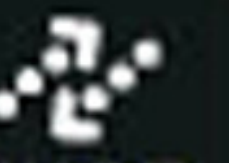
ANIMATION TECHNIQUE/MEDIUM



LIKE



LATER

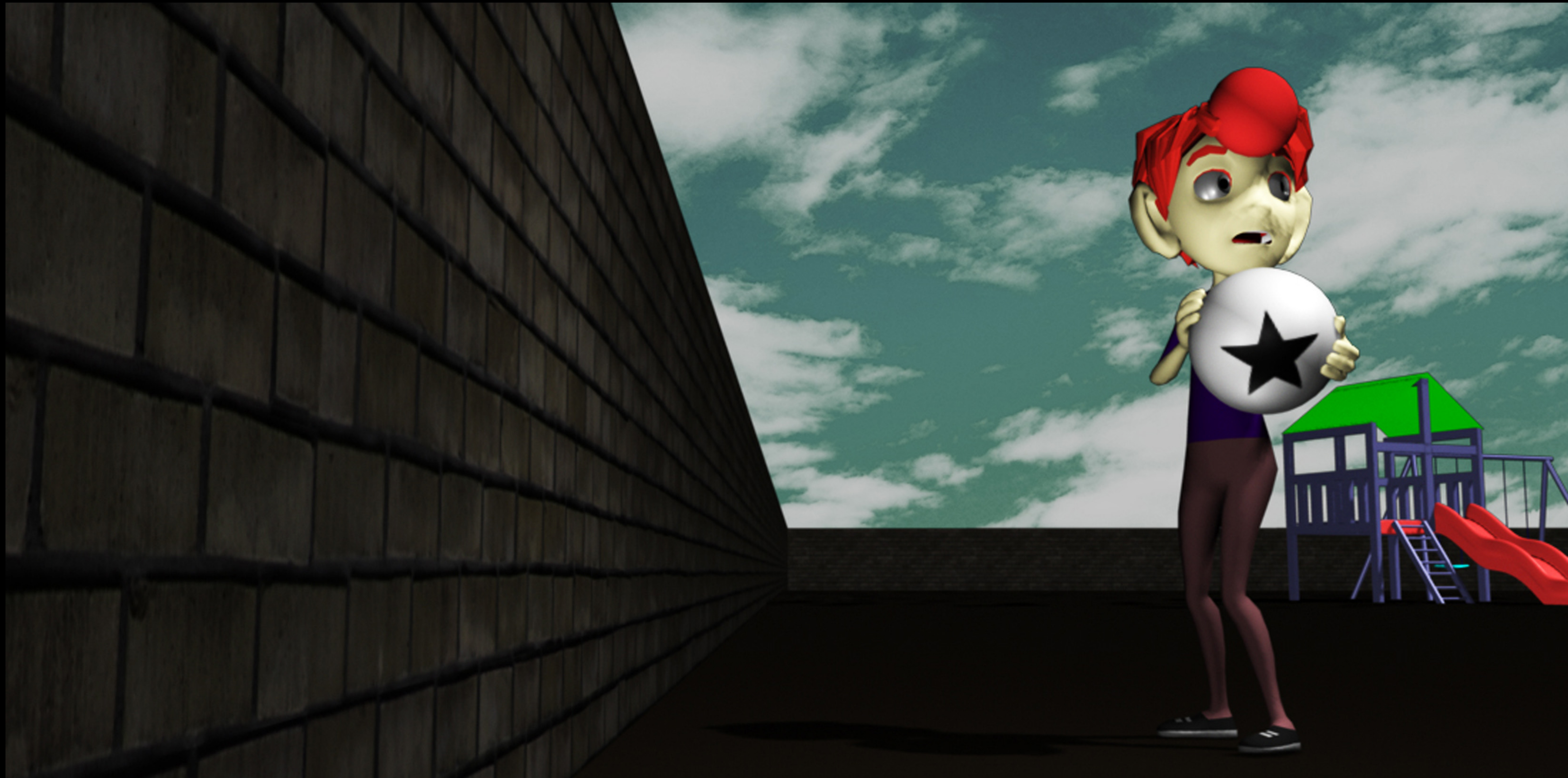


SHARE

ANIMATION TECHNIQUE/MEDIUM



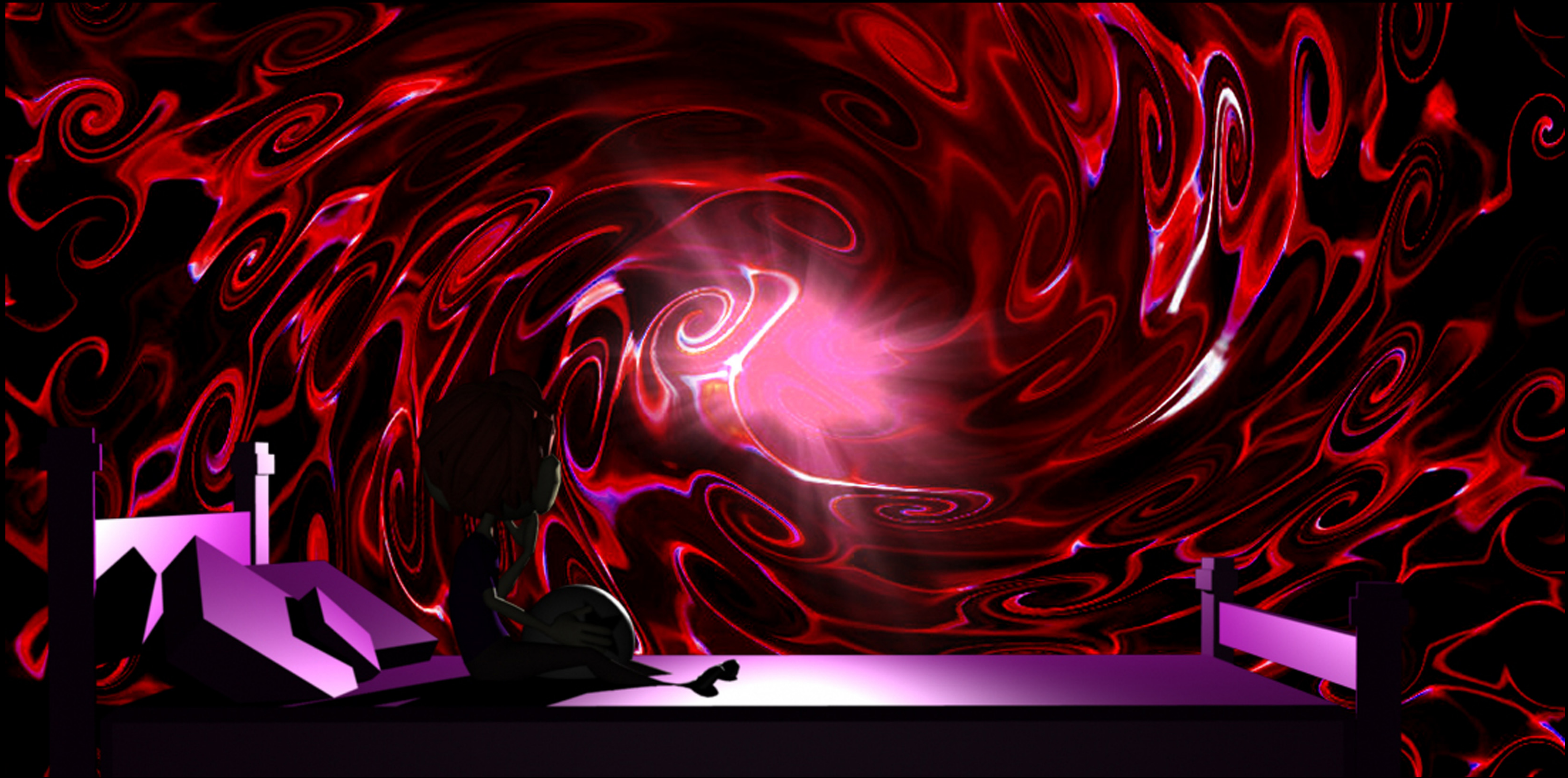
STYLE FRAMES



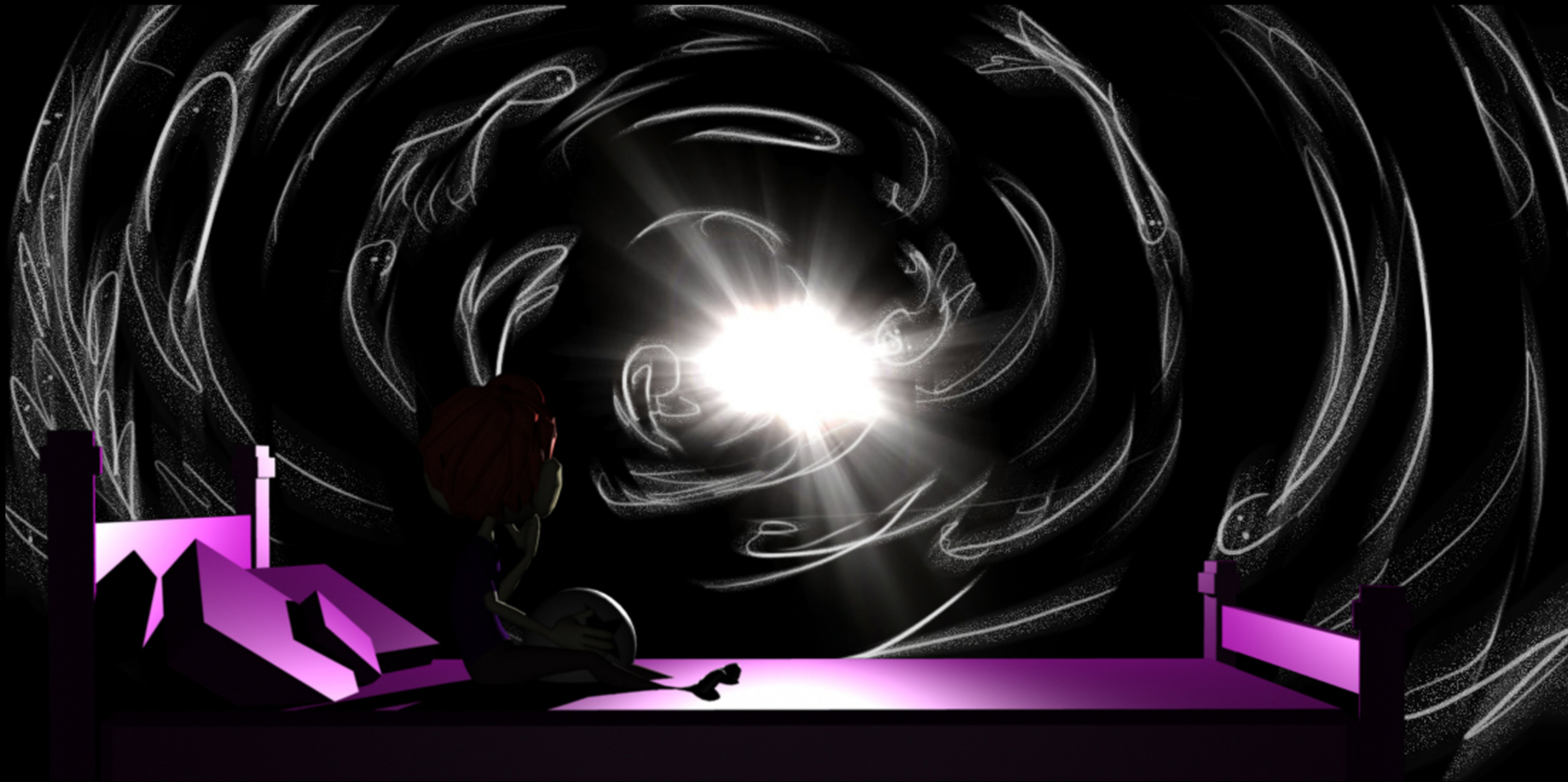
STYLE FRAMES



STYLE FRAMES



STYLE FRAMES



TECHNOLOGY

3D Modelling/Rigging: Maya, Zbrush

3D Animation: Maya

2D Animation: **Toon Boom**, Photoshop, Flash?

Compositing: After Effects, **Premiere**

BUDGET

Voice Actors, 3D Modelling/Rigging

2D Colorists

QUESTIONS?