



Artist Statement

Nikki Fisher

When I hear the word art, the first thing that comes to mind is culture; but if we are going to be honest here, it is the second thing. The first thing that really pops into my head when I hear the word art is growing up. As a kid, to me, the word art meant finger painting, play time, and getting to draw pictures that made no sense. It was one of my favorite hobbies, and was also my way of escaping and dealing with the lack of interest, and boredom of grade school. Whether it be those strict math teachers telling you to pay attention to what they considered were, “fun activities,” that were supposed to help you learn how to add and subtract; or those monotonous English teachers who continually tried explaining how important grammar is throughout your entire life, my main desire was always to doodle meaningless artwork on anything I could get my hands on. Though, at that age, kids do not understand how crucial education truly is; the only things they really care about are having fun and what is for lunch.

Over the past several years, as I continue to mature as a person, and as an artist, the meaning of the word art has changed in an uncountable number of ways. I never thought I would be graduating college with a bachelor in fine arts, but I am! I was only a little, nervous freshman at Colorado State University when I decided I wanted to pursue a future in art. I always caught myself painting and drawing, whether it was on paper, a canvas, or even on myself. I thought, “Wow, I should probably be in a concentration that would allow me to express what I appreciated doing most.” From that day forward, I have been a full time student in the graphic design program at the University Center for the Arts at Colorado State. I believe that art is more than just a career choice; it is a life choice, and it is one that I am happy with and will never regret making.

<u>Title</u>	<u>Media</u>	<u>Original Format</u>
Figure 1: OFF the HOOK Poster	Graphic Design	11 in. x 17 in.
Figure 2: PYCH Website Home Page Design	Graphic Design	5.5 in. 8.5 in.
Figure 3: Midtown Logos	Graphic Design	5 in. x 5 in. (each logo)
Figure 4: Midtown Stationary	Graphic Design	Letterhead (8.5 in. x 11 in.), Envelope (9.5 in. x 4.25 in.), Business Card (3.5 in. x 2 in)
Figure 5: Midtown Font	Graphic Design	17 in. x 11 in.
Figure 6: Midtown Necktie Package Design	Graphic Design	12 in. x 4 in.
Figure 7: The New Yorker Cover	Graphic Design	8.25in. x 10.75 in.
Figure 8: Face Cards	Graphic Design	4 in. x 7 in. (each card)
Figure 9: WIRED Magazine	Graphic Design	17 in. x 11 in.
Figure 10: Maui Brochure	Graphic Design	8.5 in. x 11 in.
Figure 11: Book Cover	Graphic Design	8.5 in. x 20.5 in.



Figure 1: OFF the HOOK Poster.

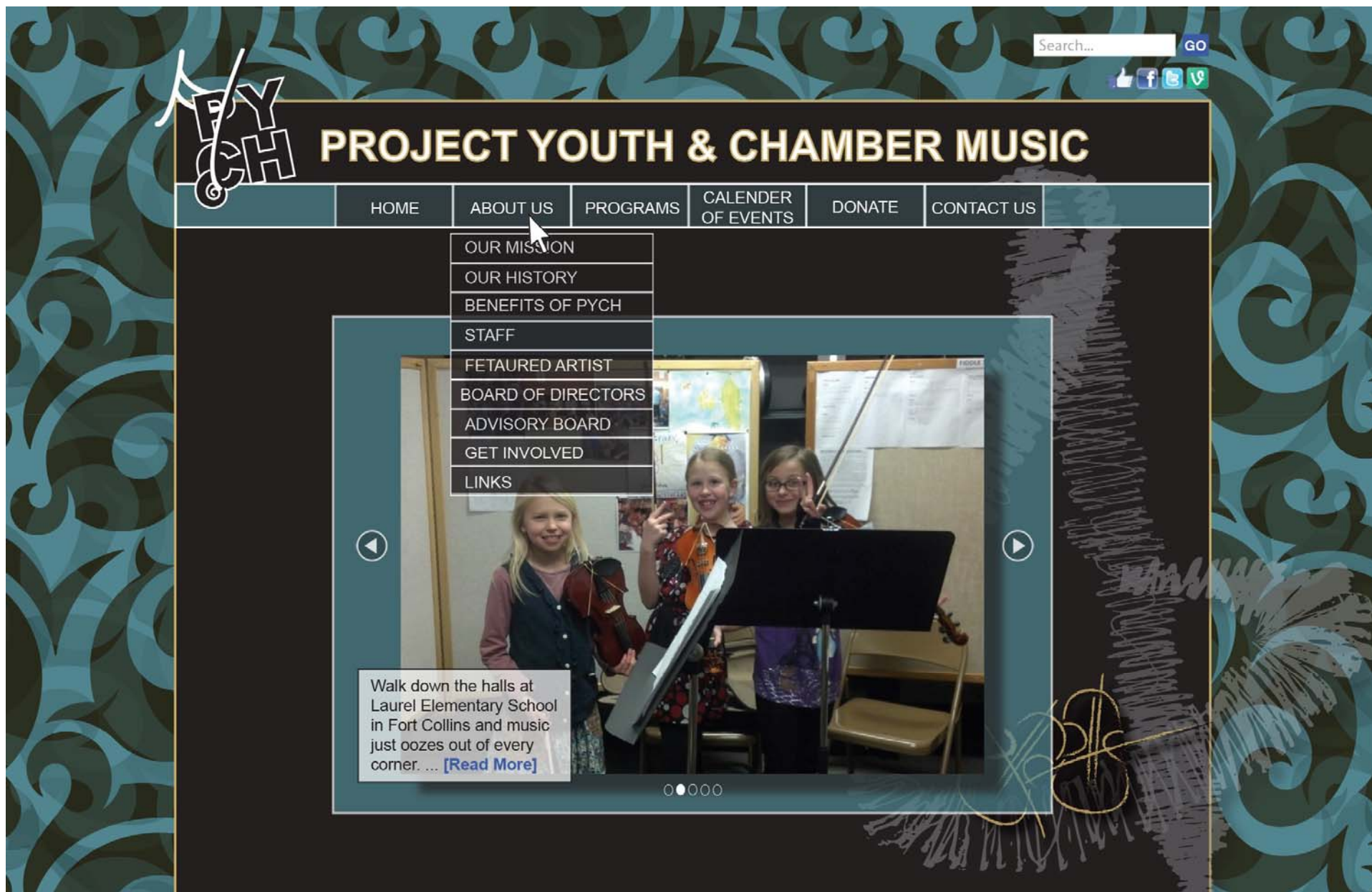


Figure 2: PYCH Website Home Page Design.

midtown®
the very heart of town

midtown®
the very heart of town

midtown®
the very heart of town

Figure 3: Midtown Logos.



Figure 4: Midtown Stationery.

designed by
nikki fisher

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Figure 6: Midtown Necktie Package Design.

PRICE \$7.99

SEPT. 25, 2014

THE NEW YORKER



Figure 7: The New Yorker Cover.



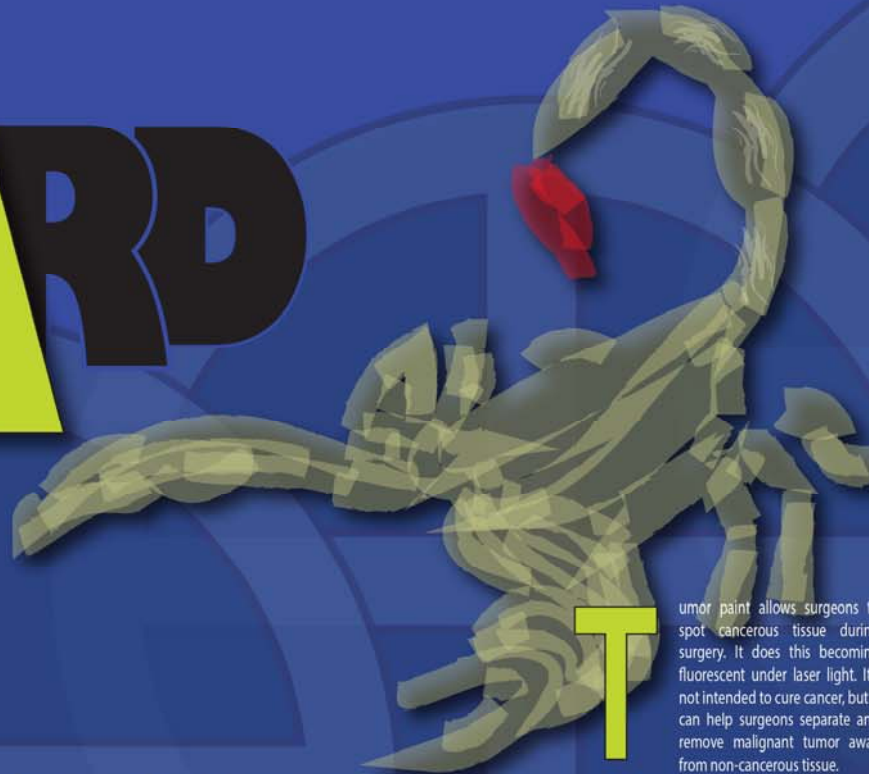
Figure 8: Face Cards.

HARD

TARGET

by Brendan I. Koerner

Illustration by Nikki Fisher



**“FDA APPROVES
SCORPION VENOM-
BASED TUMOR PAINT
FOR BRAIN TUMOR
CLINICAL TRIAL”**

Tumor paint allows surgeons to spot cancerous tissue during surgery. It does this by becoming fluorescent under laser light. It's not intended to cure cancer, but it can help surgeons separate and remove malignant tumor away from non-cancerous tissue.

Blaze Bioscience founder and pediatric oncologist for Seattle Children's Hospital Dr. Jim Olson worked with researchers in a lab at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle to develop tumor paint. It was spawned after a 17-year-old girl underwent a 17-hour surgery to remove a malignant tumor in her brain. Despite all the hard work, surgeons were unable to remove all the cancerous tissue because some was hidden behind perfectly normal brain tissue. Olson and his team went to work and discovered a chlorotoxin found the venom of the deathstalker scorpion could attach itself to cancerous cells in rats.

"So when it binds to the cancer cell, it flips inside the cancer cell and makes them light up so the surgeon can see them in real time while they are operating," said Olson.

Olson and his team created a synthetic version for tumor paint based on the DNA structure of the chlorotoxin in the venom. The patient comes to the doctor and has an injection of tumor paint just prior to surgery. Olson says as soon as the surgeon opens up the cavity "they can see what is cancer what is not cancer." Cancer tissue reflects green under a laser light. So far Tumor Paint has only been tested on lab rats and dogs that developed cancer.

"If the human data looks as good as the canine data, it will revolutionize cancer surgery," said Olson. Just getting to the stage of clinical trial wasn't easy for Olson and Blaze Bioscience. He made several requests for grants to research and develop Tumor Paint, but Olson says they were denied because the idea was "too ambitious" or "too speculative." Believers in Olson and Tumor Paint then took charge.

"Through bake sales and golf tournaments and chili cook-offs, they raised 8 million dollars and that funded the early discovery work that allowed Tumor Paint to get FDA approval for human trials this week," Olson said. Blaze Bioscience will now begin recruiting patients in the U.S. and Australia for its clinical trial.

WIRE

Figure 9: WIRED Magazine.

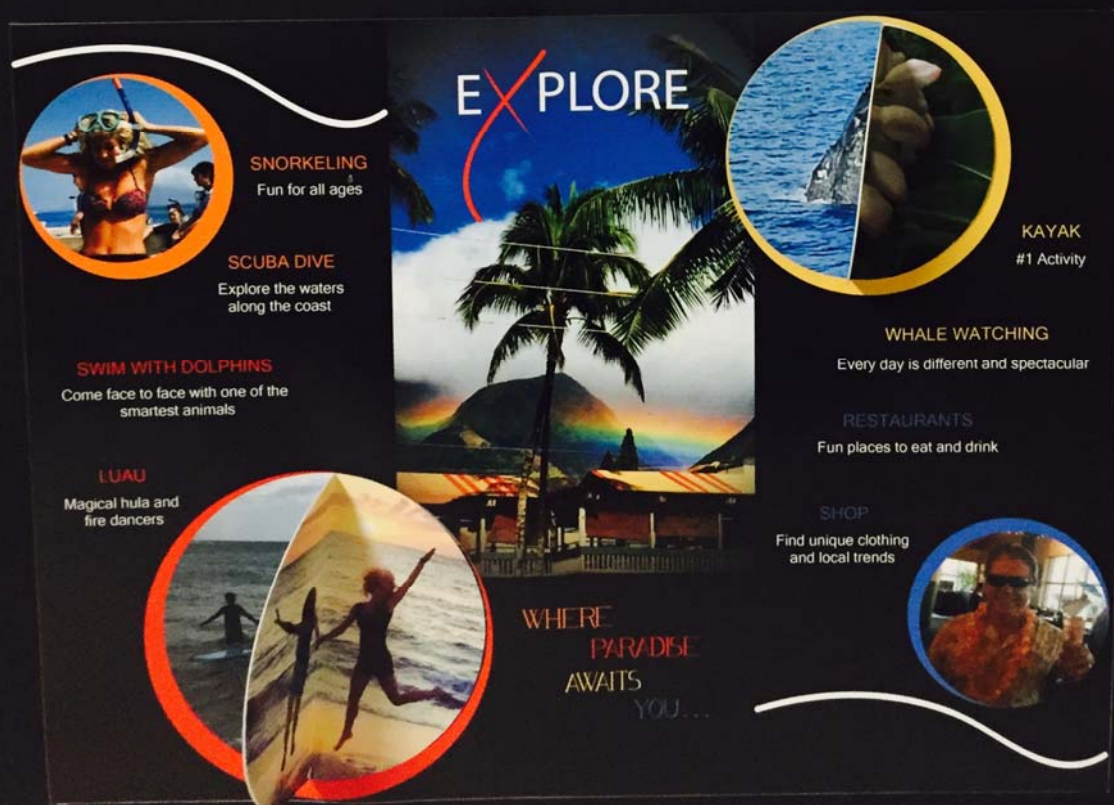


Figure 10: Maui Brochure.

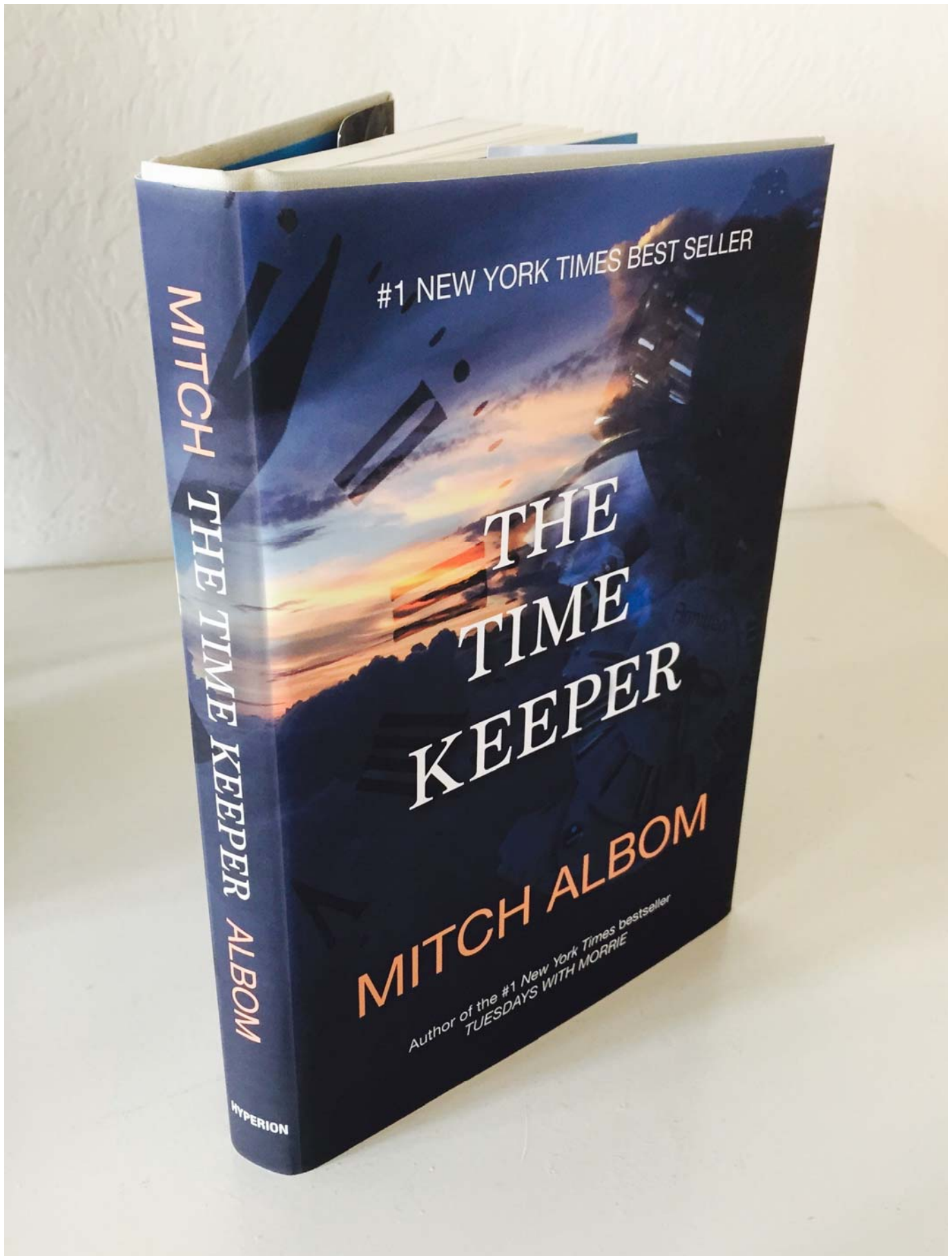


Figure 11: Book Cover.