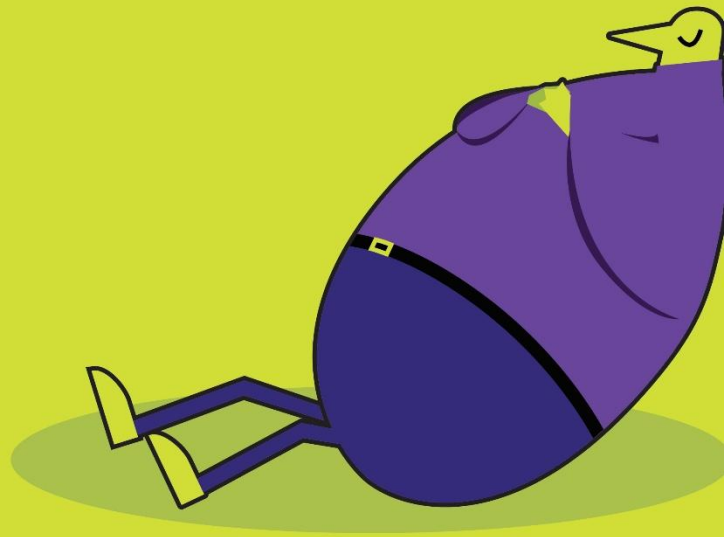


Richard Tran

Graphic Design Capstone



2025

Capstone – Graphic Design

Department of Art and Art History

Artist Statement:

I'm a graphic designer who enjoys playing with the balance between form and function. I'm drawn to clean, purposeful design, but I also like to leave space for play, surprise, and delight. Whether it's a subtle detail or a hidden interaction, much like an easter egg in a game, I enjoy adding small moments that reward closer attention. Something that draws you in and makes you glad you came to get a closer look at it.

When working with clients, I aim to build a collaborative process from ideation to final delivery. I listen closely, ask the right questions, and explore different directions before narrowing in on a solution that feels both effective and unique. I see each project as an opportunity to solve problems, tell stories, and create something with meaning and impact.

Right now, I'm in cahoots with gradients and modern minimalism, but it's an open-relationship. I'm always eager to explore new genres, styles, and mediums. Design, to me, is a space to experiment, communicate, and connect. I care deeply about execution, but I believe great design doesn't have to be so clinical. Designers should have some humor and fun in it too.

Title	Original Format
Figure 1: Udemy	Figma, Mobile
Figure 2: Drumby	Illustrator, 11 in x 17 in / Variable
Figure 2: Drumby	Illustrator, 11 in x 17 in / Variable
Figure 4: Max & Ash	Procreate, 11 in x 17 in / Variable
Figure 5: Romeo & Juliet	Procreate, 24 in x 36 in
Figure 6: AeroBoston	Procreate, 8 in x 10 in
Figure 7: AeroBoston	Procreate, 8 in x 10 in
Figure 8: AeroBoston	Procreate, 8 in x 10 in
Figure 9: AeroBoston	Procreate, 8 in x 10 in
Figure 10: Over Stimulated	Illustrator, 11 in x 17 in

Udemy Transcript - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xewKzTOq1dA>

1. Starts with the opening of the app
2. Here you can choose your university. Here we type in Colorado State and click Colorado State University from a drop-down menu.
3. You'll then be prompted to log in to your university account to sync up your classes and schedules.
4. You'll be greeted with all your current classes and any past and planned registration classes will also be available at the tabs at the top.
Now we move on to the Search bar.
5. Here there will be no search parameters until we add filters and searches in the bar at the top. So we click that and a drop-down menu appears with all the available filters.
6. You can filter by:
 - Subject Class Structure
 - Meeting Type
 - Max Hours of work Required / Week
 - Minimum Rating
7. For example, we search for ART 314 to go through all the different Teachers doing this course. Let's choose Roberto's class as an example for this demonstration.
8. We utilize a Tag system to help show what everyone else is saying about this Teacher. We also offer an AI Overall Review of the teacher so that everyone gets an understanding of what people are generally saying as well, but in paragraph form.
9. You can click the three dots at the top right of the Tags section to view more of what others have tagged him with. The colors denote how often those tags have been used. The darker the color, the more frequently it has been utilized.
10. You can scroll down to see more reviews and click on the reviews to view more if they have a lot more written. This option is here for those that prefer a more detailed description of what goes on in the class.
11. Now let's go back and check out how to Review a class. We'll start with the plus button at the bottom right. This opens up to a review page for the current teacher selected. We'll be filling out Course Number, Class name, Subject, Rating out of five stars, and Tags. The star system is intuitive, since it's a simple slider/tap away so it doesn't require much effort.
 - We added the option to add custom tags, gotta put in "Good Looking" for Roberto.
I mean look at him!
12. We're not done with our review process! The class structure is a multiple-choice button, then you can put in the hours required outside of class to complete the class successfully. The last two are optional writing prompts such as class description and instructor description.
13. After all that is written, we can move on to submitting the final product to the reviews with the big button at the bottom. And then you're greeted with a "Thank you" and you can return back to the review with the back arrow icon or go home with the home button.

Figure 1: Udemy



RAMSKELLER

DRUMBY
[DRUM-bee] noun.
the state of being extremely drunk.
I'm trying to get drumby tonight!

4.5% ALC VOL
mmm drumby

GOVERNMENT WARNING: (1) DRINKING TO EXCESS CAN CAUSE ALCOHOL CONCENTRATION TO BE HIGHLY IMPAIRED, WHICH MAY BE CAUSAL OF ACCIDENTS, VIOLENCE, AND DEATH. (2) DRINKING TO EXCESS CAN CAUSE ALCOHOL CONCENTRATION TO BE HIGHLY IMPAIRED, WHICH MAY BE CAUSAL OF ACCIDENTS, VIOLENCE, AND DEATH. (3) DRINKING TO EXCESS CAN CAUSE ALCOHOL CONCENTRATION TO BE HIGHLY IMPAIRED, WHICH MAY BE CAUSAL OF ACCIDENTS, VIOLENCE, AND DEATH. SEE BOTTOM FOR ENJOY BY DATE

Ingredients: Water, Malted Wheat, Malted Barley, Hops, Yeast.
RAMSKELLER BREWING, FORT COLLINS CO

DUNKELWEIZEN

DUNKELWEIZEN

how drumby are you tonight?

sober

starting it up

happy place

one more, bartender!

drumby

DRUMBY
DUNKELWEIZEN

mmm drumby

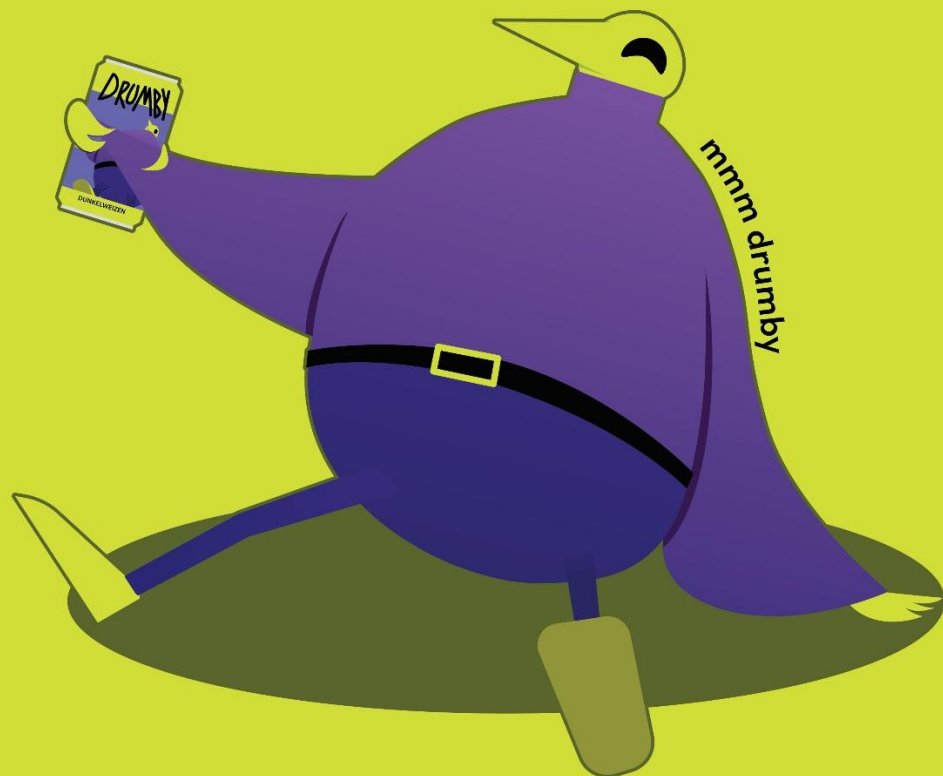
this is what we call the happy place

DRUMBY
DUNKELWEIZEN

Figure 2: Drumby

DRUMBY

DUNKELWEIZEN



this is what we call the happy place

Figure 3: Drumby

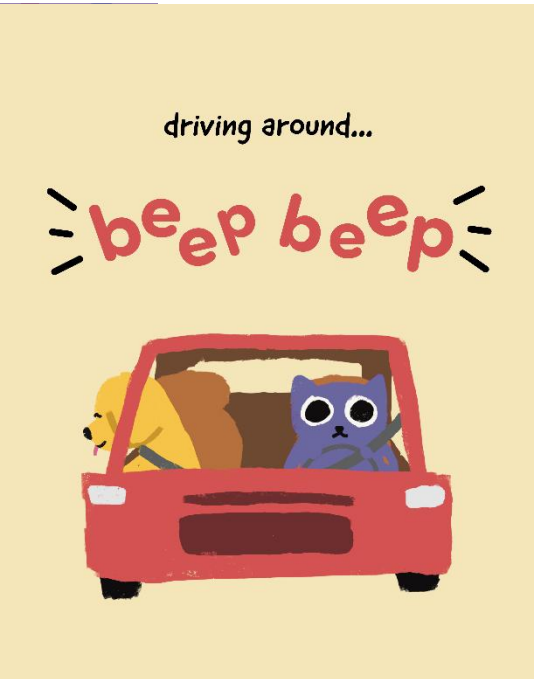


Figure 4: Max & Ash

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S
ROMEO ET
JULIETTE



8:00 PM, SATURDAY, JULY 19, 2025
FOR MORE INFO: FCOPERAHOUSE.COM | 970.565.4008

314 EAST MOUNTAIN AVENUE
FORT COLLINS, COLORADO 80524



Figure 5: Romeo et Juliette

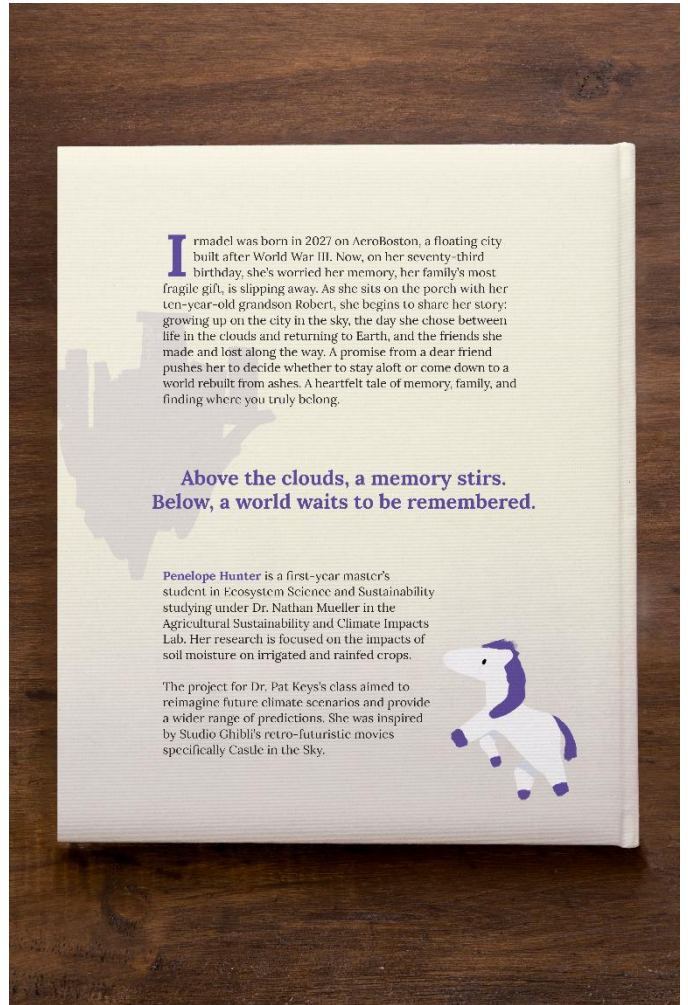
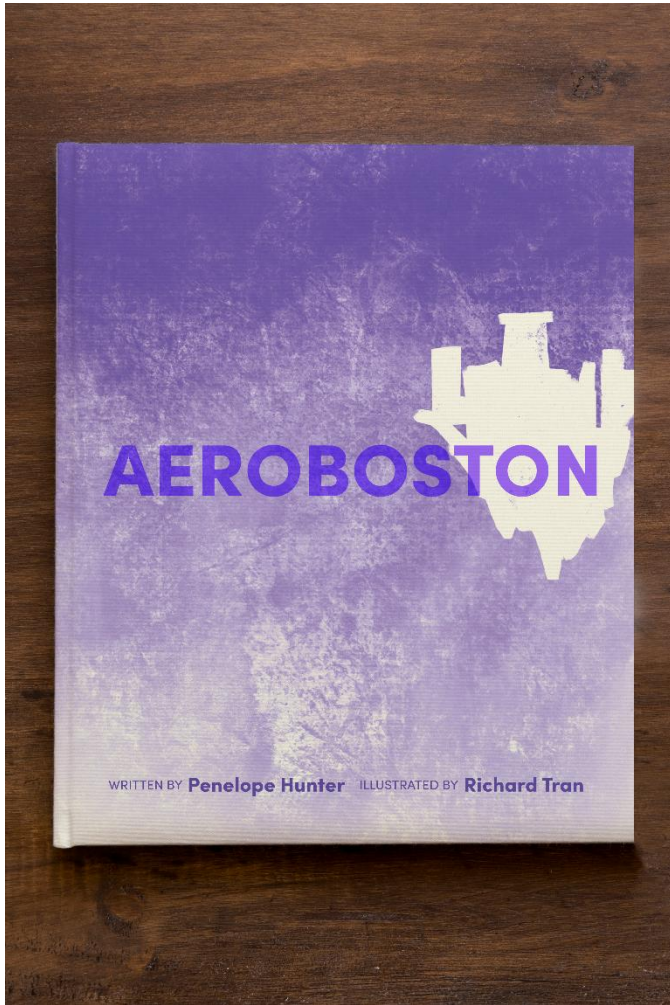


Figure 6: Aeroboston



The Year 2100

Irmadel is officially old now. Before she turned fifty, she was still young. Between fifty and seventy-two she was middle-aged. But today, she is turning seventy-three and she felt it. People in her family were not long-lived and their memory usually went before any cancer started. It had happened with her mother, and she knew it was only a matter of time before she forgot too.

Today was her birthday and not only that but her first grandson's tenth birthday. They did not always celebrate together but now she lived with her daughter, son-in-law and their children. She had spent all of this spring afternoon on the porch reading and watching her grandchildren finish their chores and run around the property while her son-in-law and daughter likely were wrapping presents inside.

She called the eldest, Robert, over. Ever the dutiful grandson, he immediately ran over to sit on the step next to her.

"Robert, do you know where I was born?"

"No, Grammie"

"Hm, in school have you learned about World War III yet?"

He replied that he had learned last week.

"Well, I was born right after that war ended. Aboard Aeroboston." All of his attention left his siblings who were still playing and focused on her words. "Really! Everyone at school is going to think that is so cool! Will you come talk to them?" This was not the reaction Irmadel had expected, but she ignored his last comment ploughing forward.

"My parents were some of the citizens that survived the initial attacks and met each other their first year aboard the city. I was born there the following year in 2027."

Silence followed and she realized Robert was waiting for her to continue. "Hm, I guess I should have prepared something a bit more than that."

Robert helped her with a few questions. "What was it like on board? When did you come back down to Earth?"

Irmadel closed her eyes trying to picture the walls of her old room, her parent's faces. What she remembered more was the smell of the Earth and the lack of machines constantly humming when she did reach the ground.

"I will tell you everything I remember eventually, Robert, but for now I will start fifty years ago when I turned twenty-three."

The Year 2050

Irmadel woke as the small lights in her room turned on as they always did at 6am. She had stayed up too late reading and felt awful and groggy. But today, she is turning twenty-three and she felt it. Twenty-two felt too old and foreign, so did twenty-one, but twenty-three feels right somehow. Her final year of schooling is over as of yesterday so, she and the rest of the twenty-three-year-olds planned to party all day and all night.

Irmadel had forgotten, he was only turning ten today and did not need to hear about her alcohol consumption. He sometimes surprised her with how much older he acted and sounded for only just reaching double digits.

"I am sure she did, and you should ask her about the time I did shots with her and your dad at their wedding" and she continued along her memory.



The era of the aerocities was coming to an end. The radiation from the power plant meltdowns had spread across the Eastern states through the wind and soil and water causing residual radiation to linger longer than expected. These cities had been running off of solar power for twenty-four years, keeping everyone who was exposed to radiation safe and away from the rest of the population. On the ground, the world looked very different from before World War III. This tragedy had brought the remaining citizens of the U.S. together, focused on a common goal. Rebuild, Rethink, and Remember was the new mindset. They followed China's push for renewable energy, efficient consumption, and rapid decarbonization as the population experienced a massive drop from the war.

But now, it was safe to begin the descent. Already, many of the cities' people were cleared to return to the ground. All of this means little to Irmadel who feels very far away from the earthly politics and prefers to read rather than dream of descending as her friends do. With the rest of her graduating class, she would make the decision to get cleared and head down to Earth to live the rest of her life or remain in Aeroboston. She had no idea what she was going to do. She had no living relatives she knew of to talk with and despite all of her friends wanting to leave, she could not decide. However, she had bigger concerns like what she was going to wear to the graduation party!

Robert interrupted again. "You did leave though, you decided to live on Earth and met Grandpa"

Irmadel told him to stop spoiling the ending and he settled back down to listen.



Irmadel and her husband.

Figure 7: AeroBoston

Irmadel was going to meet her friends in the University Section dining hall at noon and sneak up to the roof where every graduating class had celebrated since 2026. She could have spent the morning finishing her book but decided to get ready for the day. She lived in a room with three other students sharing a small bathroom, common room and sleeping room along with everyone else. Most older couples and families were housed together, but everyone else was given a quad to share.



Every aerocity had a university section that held classrooms, separate dormitories, a dining hall, exercise room, and a library. She knew that universities on the ground were open to the air, not one large building, and could not imagine how students had gotten to class on time. After eating breakfast in the dining hall and spending an hour in the exercise room, she still had four hours until she had to meet her friends. Usually, she would clean the library as her daily job. Every person from the ages of ten to sixty had a daily job. Students like her had simpler jobs like cleaning computers in the library, wiping down dining hall windows, or serving meals. Some students applied for more strenuous ones like data entry, or cleaning the solar panels on the roof, but most kept their assigned chores.



She decided to go to the library despite having the day off. She knew that libraries on the Earth had paper books instead of tablets and computer screens. Thinking about all the germs those books spread after being touched and left on shelves for years made her shudder. She was going to grab a cleaning cloth and a spray bottle when someone called,

"Del!"

Her favorite worker was on his shift. Richard was probably in his sixties by now and was always peering at people behind his glasses as if he knew what you were hiding. She had not seen him in a few weeks as he was confined to the health clinic. He had a terrible cough that kept him from doing much else other than research in the library.



Richard and Irmadel sat in silence for a while reading about the history of Scottish legends. Richard loved history more than anyone else she knew. She liked historical fiction more, but legends always felt like fiction, and she was happy to mark any mention of unicorns and kelpies in the texts for Richard to look at later. Richard began coughing trying to cover it up, but eventually waved her off to find a cup of water for him. When she came back, he had finished coughing and was sitting with his eyes closed, breathing heavily. Once he had drunk the water and relaxed, she asked him quietly,

"What did the doctors say?"

He took a long moment and then answered too brightly for the topic, "It's lung cancer but we already knew that. Too much of that East Coast smog!"

"Hi, Richard! I'm glad you're back today. How are you doing?"
 "Oh, I'm fine and glad to be back. Just listening to the over cautious doctors is tiring. Now, what are you doing here on your day off? Shouldn't you be off drinking with all the other students?" Richard was always on top of the social dynamics of the city.
 "I'm not due for a few hours and thought I could help out here until then"
 "Hm, well the computers were just sterilized so why don't you pull up a tablet and help me with my report?"
 Robert interrupted, asking "Is Richie named after Richard," his three-year-old brother was now running after a cat around the corner of the house.
 Irmadel smiled and said "Yes, Richard was one of my best friends and it felt right to remember him this way. Now no more interruptions!"



Figure 8: AeroBoston



"Richard how can you say it like that"
Richard smiled again. "I have had decades of knowing I would die up here from radiation poisoning. No point in making a fuss now."
Irmadel was shocked, but he continued, "I lived most of my life on the ground and I made it count. Went to almost every continent before the war, you know, and saw all sorts of people and animals. I was alive for the start of the Internet you know?"
Then he was older than she had thought.
"Irmadel, I spent the last few weeks talking to others about my impending death, so I'd like a moment to talk about something else for once."
Recovering from her shock she faced him and quickly told him "I don't want to leave AeroBoston this year." She had not said that aloud yet.
He took another sip of water and said "Okay," returning to his reading.



"I thought you wanted to talk about something else!"
"Del, you seem pretty made up about this decision, so there is nothing else I can do."
"Ha! So, you do think I should leave this year?"
He frowned at her this time and took a look at her through his glasses. "It would be a shame to lose such a good computer cleaner, but I admit, yes, I do want you to go to the ground!"
"Why do I need to go this year? I can stay here another year, take a class or two and help you out?"
He turned off his tablet this time and faced her, "Why do you not want to go to the ground Del?"
She suddenly became very interested in the drawing of an old unicorn on her tablet, "I don't know Richard, I don't see the point if I'll end up doing the same thing down there. I can read and clean up here and I bet the Earth is just so disgusting with all those people and germs and..." She had looked up after hearing Richard trying not to laugh.



Back on the porch, Robert was intently listening when his mother came to the screen door. "It's time for dinner and presents you two!"
Robert began to race into the house but stopped remembering to help his grandmother out of her rocking chair. As he opened the door for her, he started to ask,
"Is that why we got you the..."
His mother clamped a hand down on his mouth stopping him from saying anything else. "Sit down Mom and open your present first!" Her daughter smiled and called the rest of the children inside. They filed into their seats all talking loudly as she was handed a large, strangely wrapped present. She gently tore the paper to find a giant stuffed animal of a unicorn.



Figure 9: AeroBoston

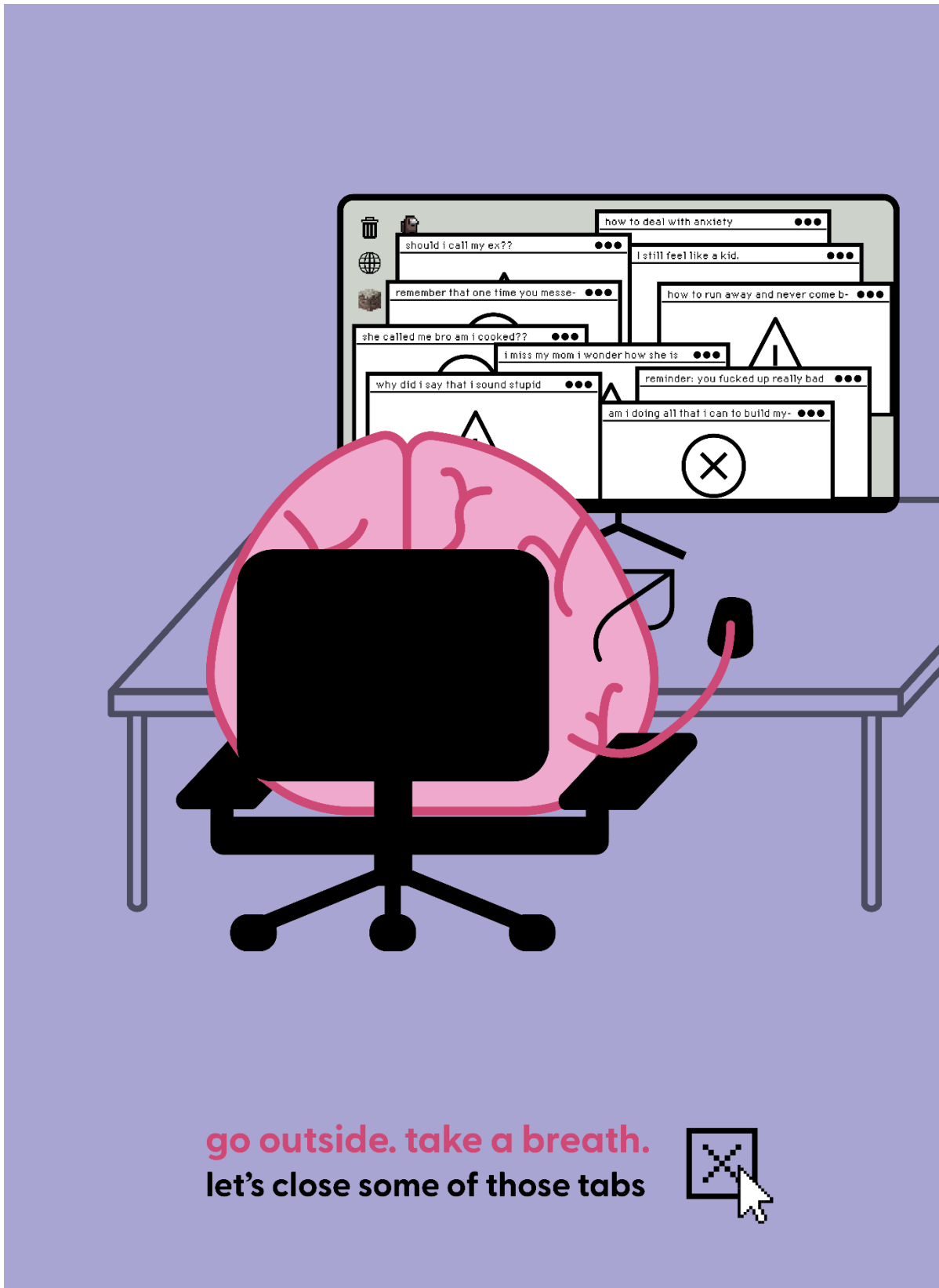


Figure 10: Overstimulated