

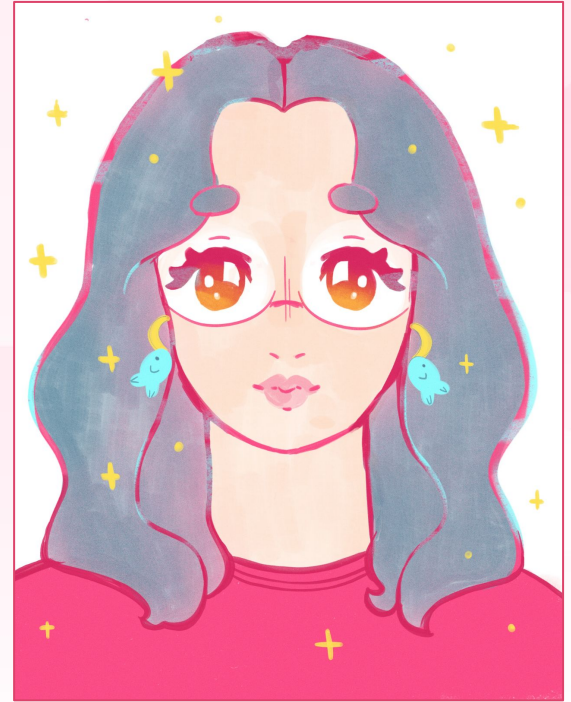
# *Linda*

Thesis Defense Fall 2024

Tania Bejarano

# About me

My name is Tania Bejarano. I am a Portland-based animator and illustrator who draws from a variety of different ideas and inspirations like that of mythology and botany to create a repertoire of introspective lines of work. This approach not only defies being boxed into one single focus, but also allows me to reflect a plethora of real-world problems through narrative. I like exploring with a variety of different art styles, and I want to explore shape more in regards to character design.



# Brief Proposal

A 2D animated short about a girl who is passionate about cooking. In this particular scenario she is cooking special dishes to remember her grandmother. However, through this process of cooking there are stages of grief portrayed through her process of making these dishes, symbolizing her heartache for her grandmother. Set in 1930s Mexico.

## Key points:

- Target audience: young adults+
- Mexican cuisine
- Remembrance of a loved one
- Honoring my heritage and portraying loss as a natural part of life

# Proposal to now

- Short film → visual development
  - Time to fulfill the short film as I envision it
  - Time to tie down the aesthetics I want to lean into
  - Research and self reflection

# Mexico



# color



# The Tale of Princess Kaguya



# *Visual Development*

Environment



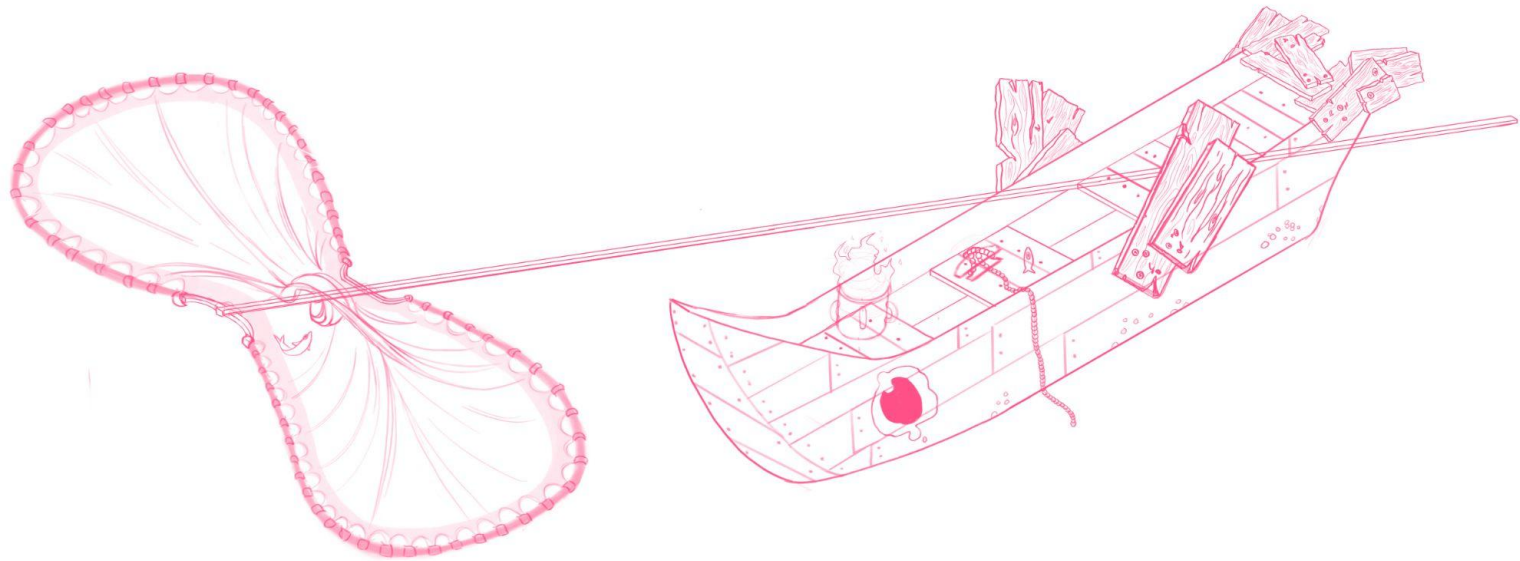


# Linda's home



# Donkey Cart



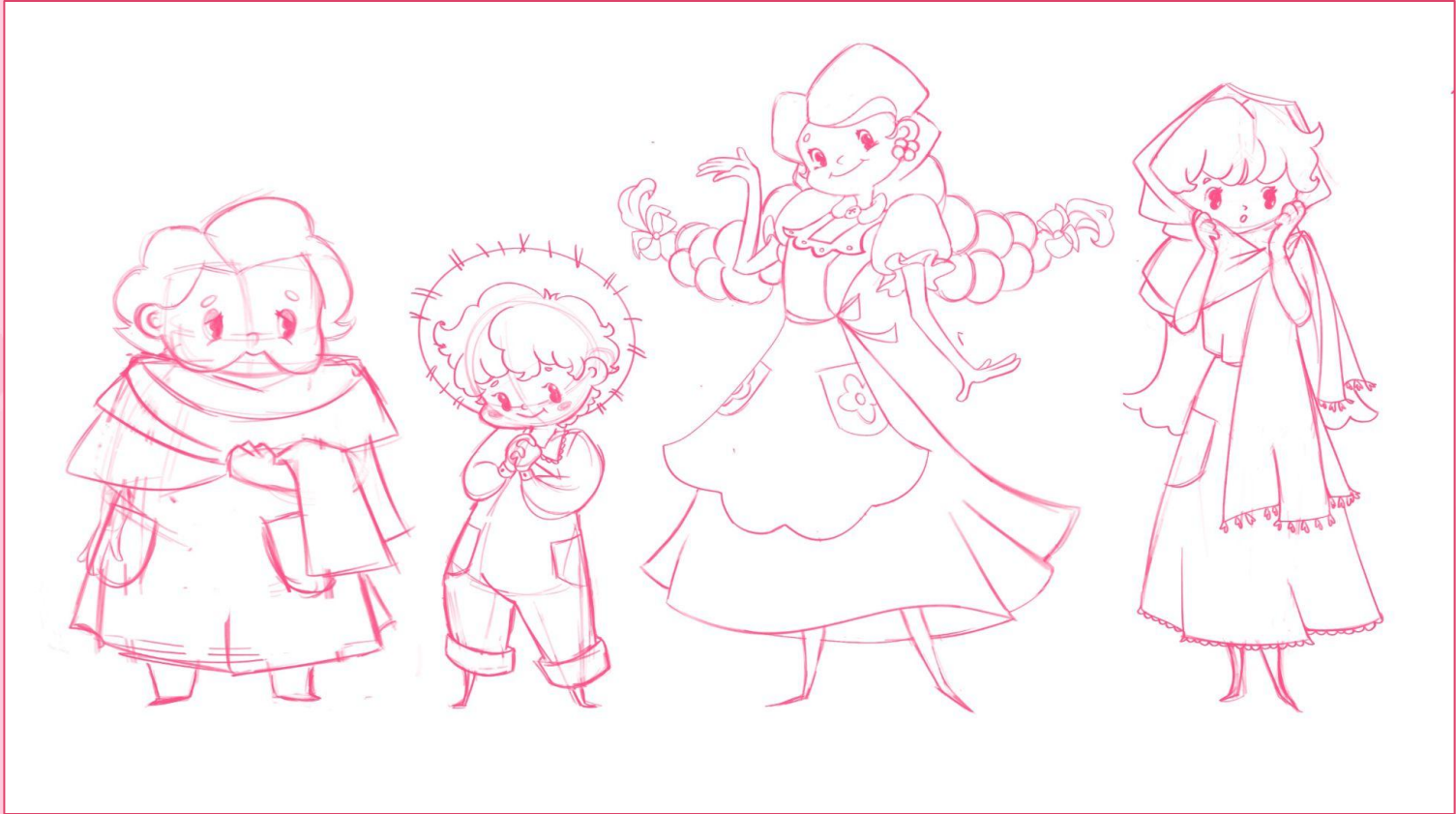


The background is a solid light pink color. It is decorated with several white, stylized clouds of various sizes and shapes. There are also several large, semi-transparent pink circles scattered across the background, some overlapping the clouds. The overall aesthetic is soft and whimsical.

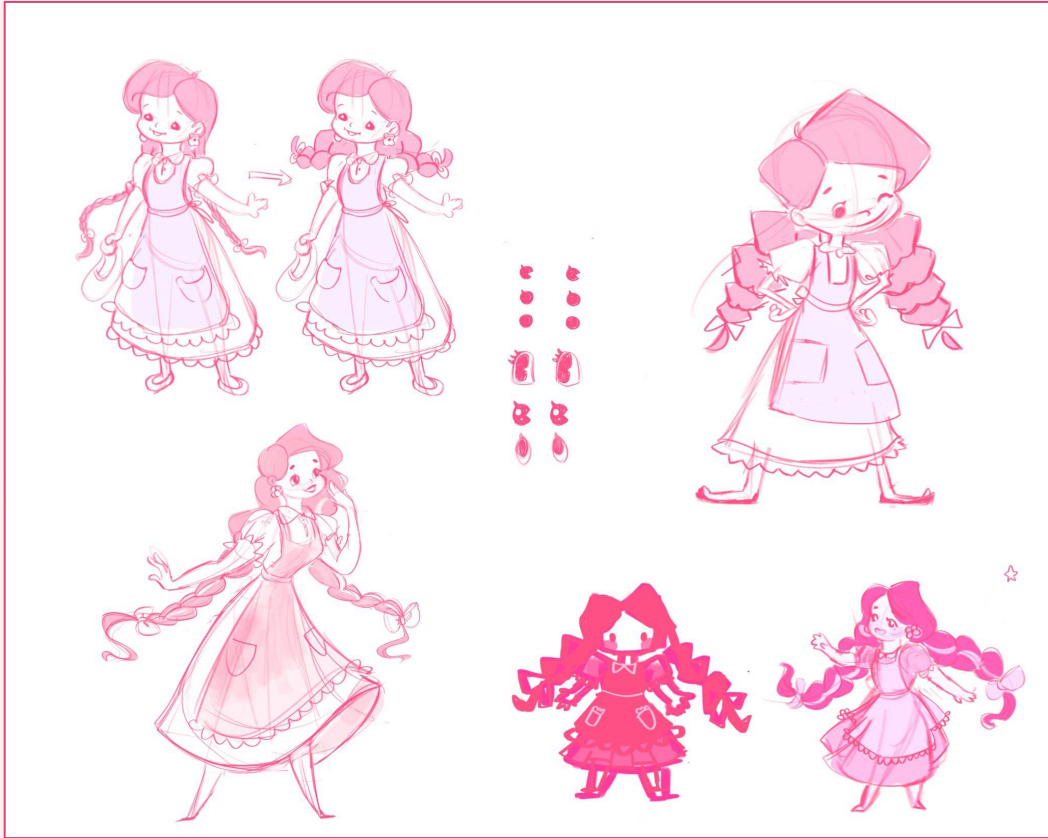
# *Character Line up*

# Jose Luis Moro









# Linda

A bubbly and upbeat girl who enjoys making those around her feel good and happy. She tends to be wreckless and impatient, as seen in her cooking



# Linda Turnaround





# Grand Mother

A kind older woman who enjoyed cooking and left a recipe book behind for Linda. She and Linda were close. Although she was kind she was also firm in reigning Linda in when she was too wreckless





# Angel

Linda's younger brother; he is sweet and melts everyone's heart. He is generous and soft-spoken



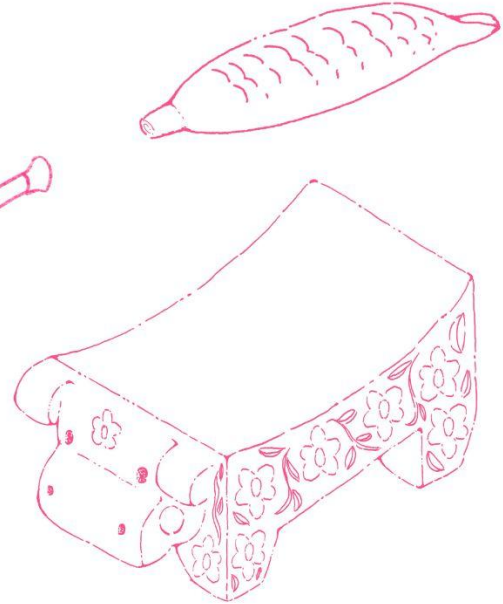
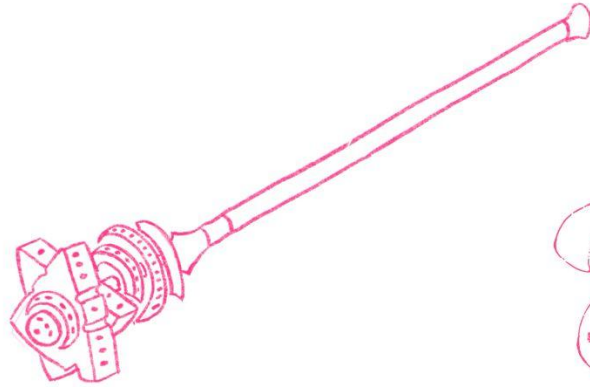
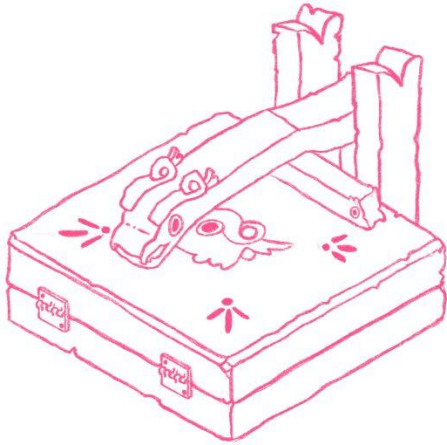
# Maria

Linda's younger sister; she is shy and isn't as outspoken as Linda, preferring to keep to herself. She tends to be the more responsible of the three siblings



# *Props*

# Props



# Food



## Line of Inquiry

I want to convey a portion of grief that I've found has manifested within myself through the losses I have experienced. Food is an important part of Mexican culture, and it is how we often show our love to the ones we care about. For me, after I lost a few people during the course of the pandemic, the one thing that I missed most about them was their cooking. For two of my loved ones, I never learned some of their recipes, and while I could easily find the dishes they made online, it wouldn't be the same because it wouldn't be how they made it. Therefore, creating a short film about the different dishes that I grew up eating with them would be my way of honoring them. It would also be my way of connecting with my own Mexican roots that I feel so far away from.

# Why this premise?

- It helps me reconcile with my grief for my loved ones
- I can decipher and explore my identity as a Mexican immigrant
- I want to explore my culture more and express it freely
- Honoring my heritage and my loved ones
- My roots

# Moving Forward

- This is only the beginning of this project! I want to fulfill it in its original short film format, but I also want to turn it into a picture book, as I believe the story lends itself well to that.



Thank you For listening