SPLICE

V. NATALI THUMBNAIL STORYBOARDS

"CLIMBING"

JUNE 7, 2000

She rewards Dren with the candy. But the hybrid freezes, shakes her body, struck with a strange sensation.

SUNLIGHT.

Dren gawks at the glowing patches of light on her arms and chest. Looks around. Then she sees, breaking from the clouds, the glaring red orb of a late afternoon sun.

She's instantly bedazzled. Cautiously, she reaches out, as if to touch it. Cries with excitement as the warming rays meet her arms. Her fascination is PROFOUND. Elsa watches.

CREAK! The deadbolt gives. Clive rolls up the metal gate, the noise startling Dren and Elsa from their reverie.

Dren peers into the storage space. It's dark and gloomy.

CLIVE

Don't everybody look so excited. I spent a whole 48 hours fixing this place up.

A high pitched whistle cuts through the air. Dren turns to it, curious. In the distance, AN APPROACHING TRAIN.

CLIVE (CONT'D)

Shit.

Elsa gently nudges Dren inside. But Dren doesn't want to leave the outdoors. Clive joins in forcibly pulling her into the warehouse. She resists, kicking and wriggling.

They drag her inside just as the train, stuffed with rush hour commuters, ROARS by.

Over their shoulders, Dren manages to catch a glimpse of the train before Clive slams the door shut.

INT. CANDY FACTORY -- CONTINUOUS

It's as if night had suddenly fallen. The only illumination comes from a skylight in the ceiling.

Dren presses her ear to the metal door, listening to the diminishing sound of the train.

Elsa looks to Clive, discouraged.

CLIVE

Okay, it's not the Taj Mahal, but hey...

(CONTINUED)

He bounds over to a big metal vat in the center of the room, plays a drum roll against its side.

CLIVE (CONT'D) We got a toffee maker.

She just shakes her head, looks down to Dren who digs into her pocket, pulls out letters, arranges them on the floor.

N-E-R-D.

Elsa nods, gives a few to her. Dren chews them furiously, then abruptly takes off.

ELSA

Hey!

Before Elsa can stop her, Dren runs over to a series of exposed pipes and deftly shimmies up to the ceiling.

ELSA (CONT'D)

Dren. No, come down.

She watches, half in awe, half in fear, as Dren swings to an overhanging beam and finds a perch under the skylight.

Clive moves to Elsa. He wants to console her with a joke.

CLIVE

I paid extra for that skylight. She might as well enjoy it.

Elsa makes a feeble attempt to smile. He puts his arm around her, reassuring.

Together, they watch their creation staring heavenward.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. CANDY FACTORY -- DAY -- WEEKS LATER

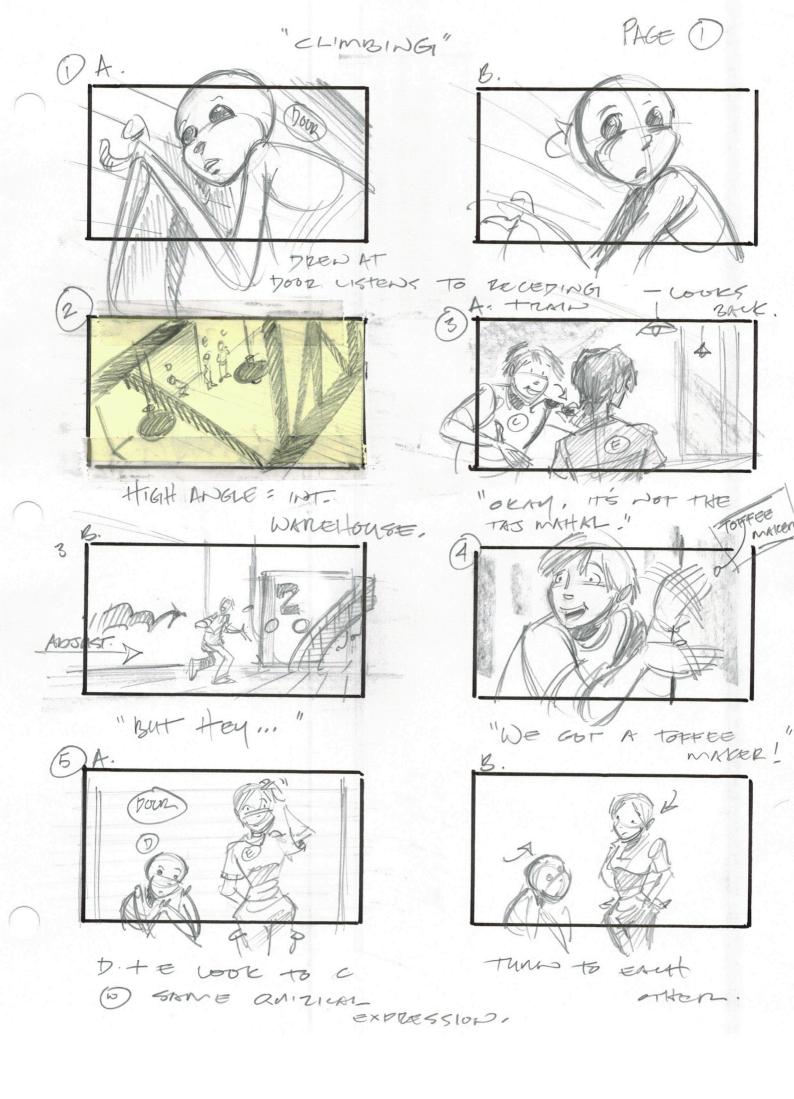
The cavernous space has been made as livable as possible. One area is a bedroom for Dren. Another designated for cooking and eating. Most objects have been labeled with identifying cards: "DESK", "LAMP", "BOOK" and so on.

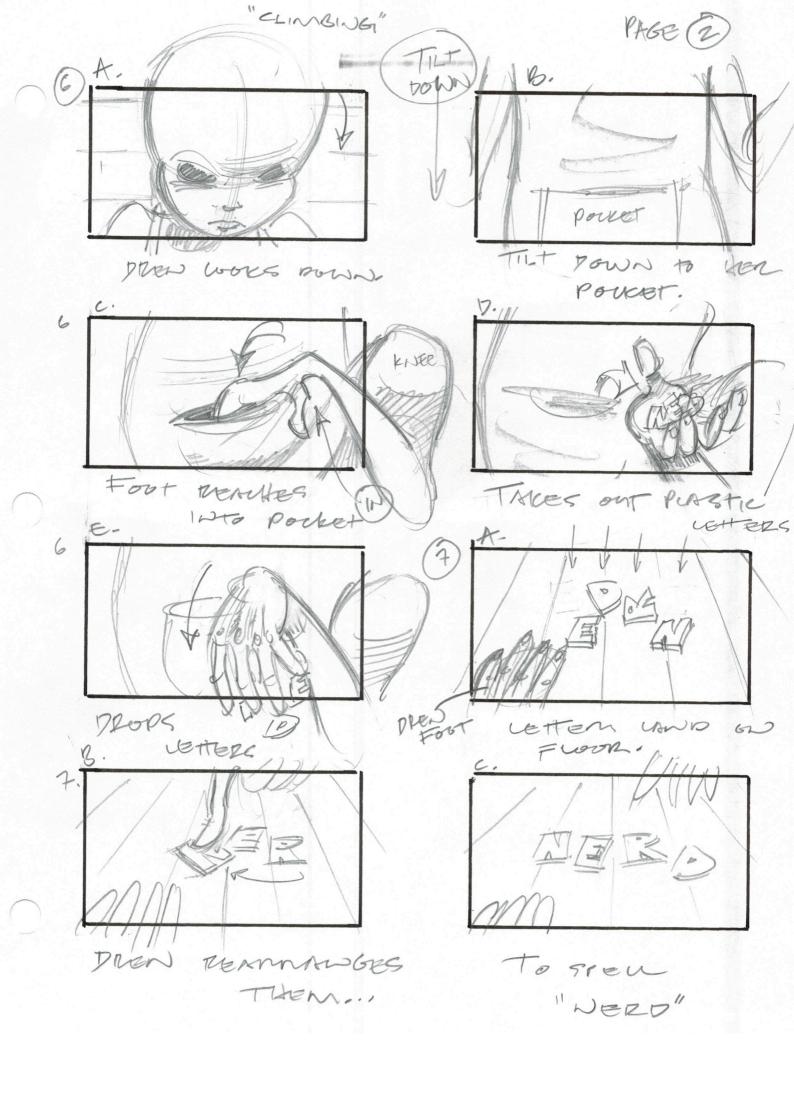
Elsa and Dren sit at a table together. She's now AN ADOLESCENT, Her features bear an eerie resemblance to Elsa's.

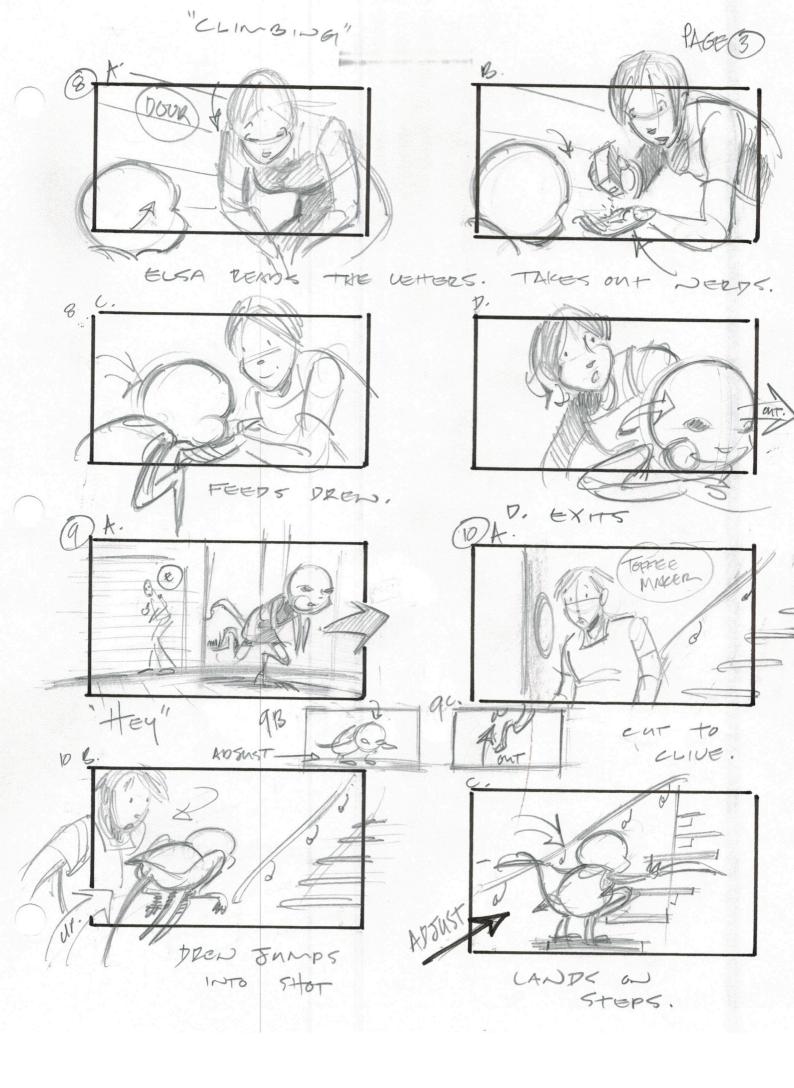
ELSA

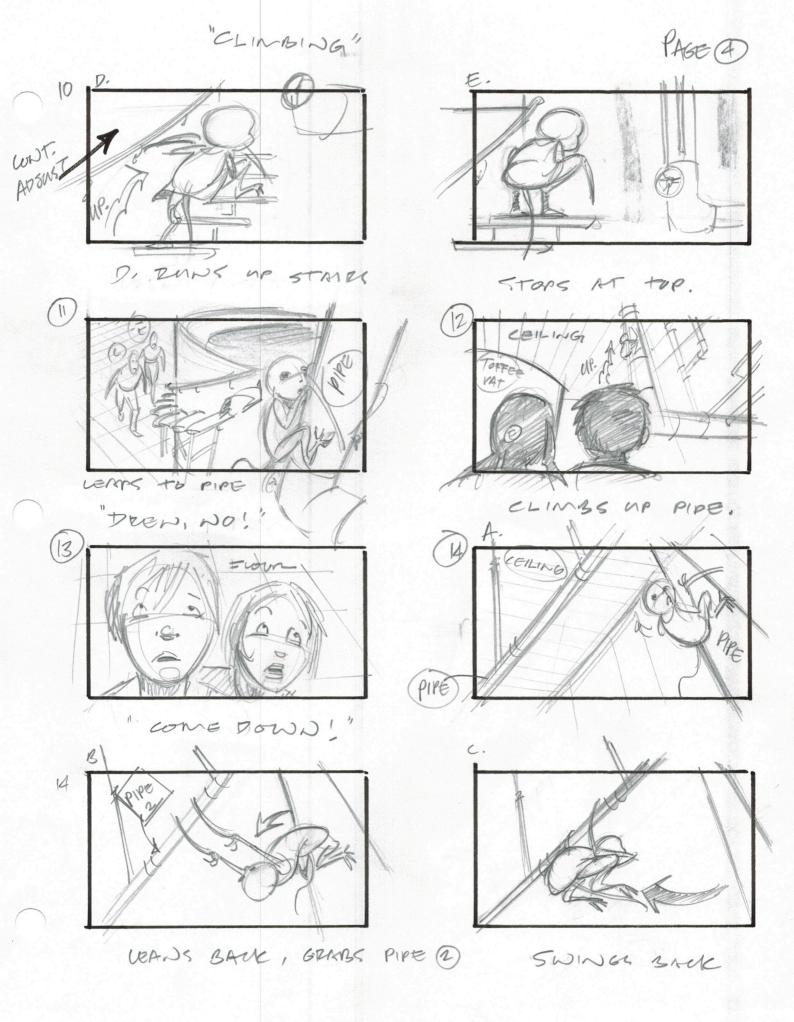
Come on. "OOOO". Now you try.

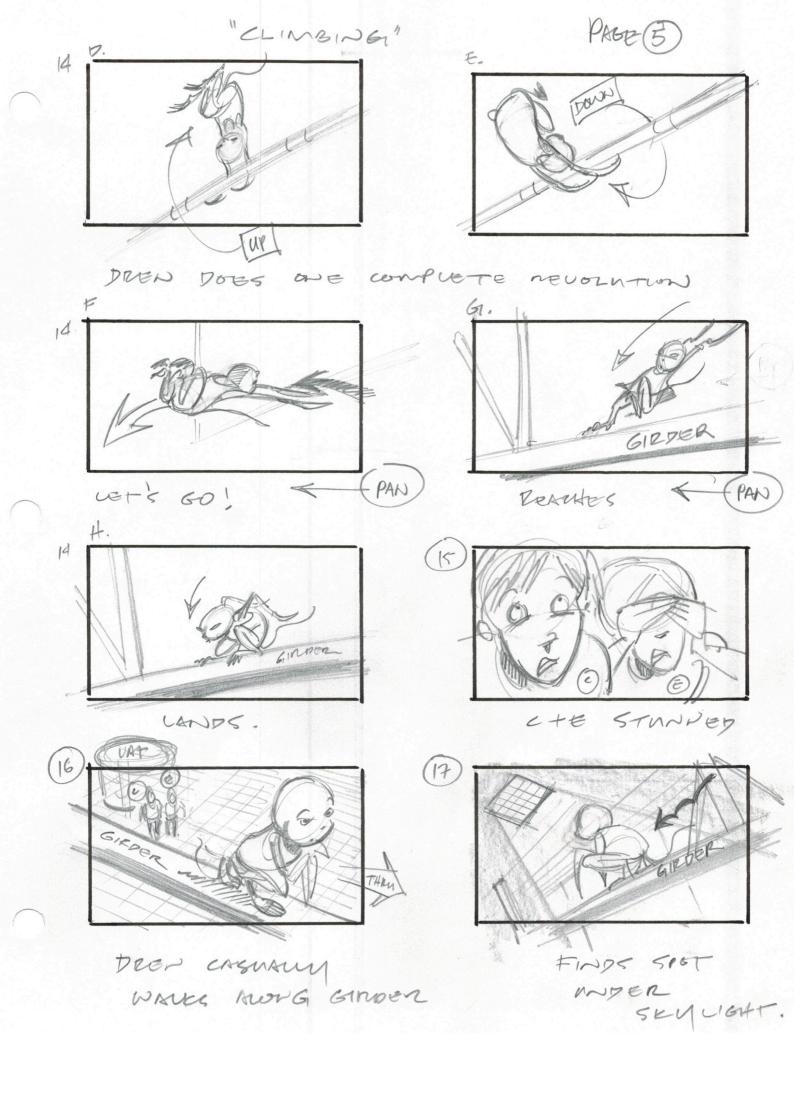
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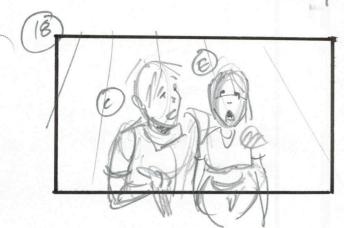












"I PAID EXTER @ THAT SKYLIGHT, SHE MIGHT AS WELL ENDY IT. "