

Sylvia is my favorite sister.

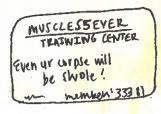
We get along the most we are both pretty consumed by our work and ravely chill out. Gven when I was fat, she made few comments on my appearance, but heavily encouraged exercise by inviting me to spinning classes. The, like me, is afraid to gain weight.

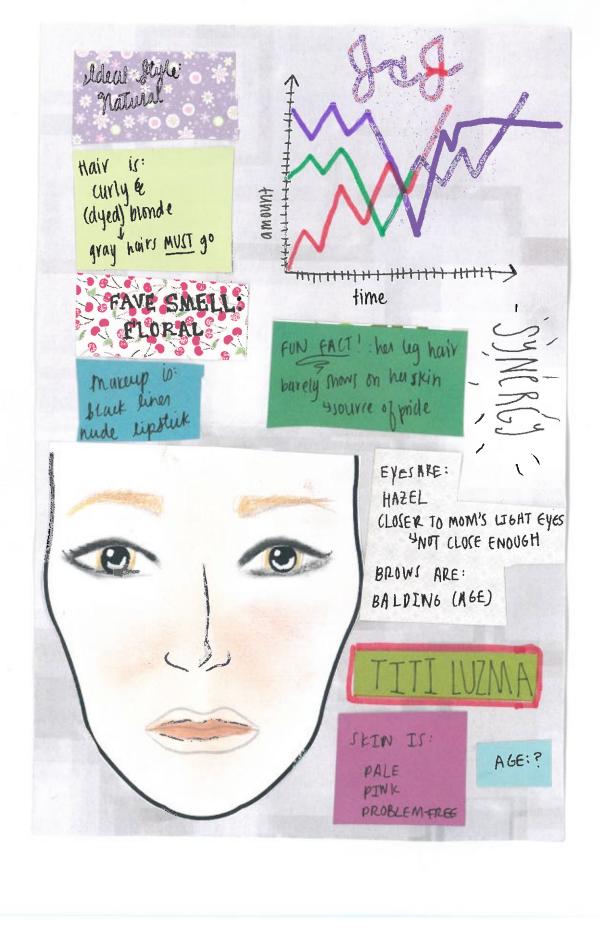
the claims to lead a simple life, but her vested interest in veganism (she cart even eat mojongo!) and working out make her seem uptight.

She definitely likes me (in part because I look like her)

GIFT CHOICE:

GYM MEMBERSHIP





Titi Lutma is the entrepeneural sister:

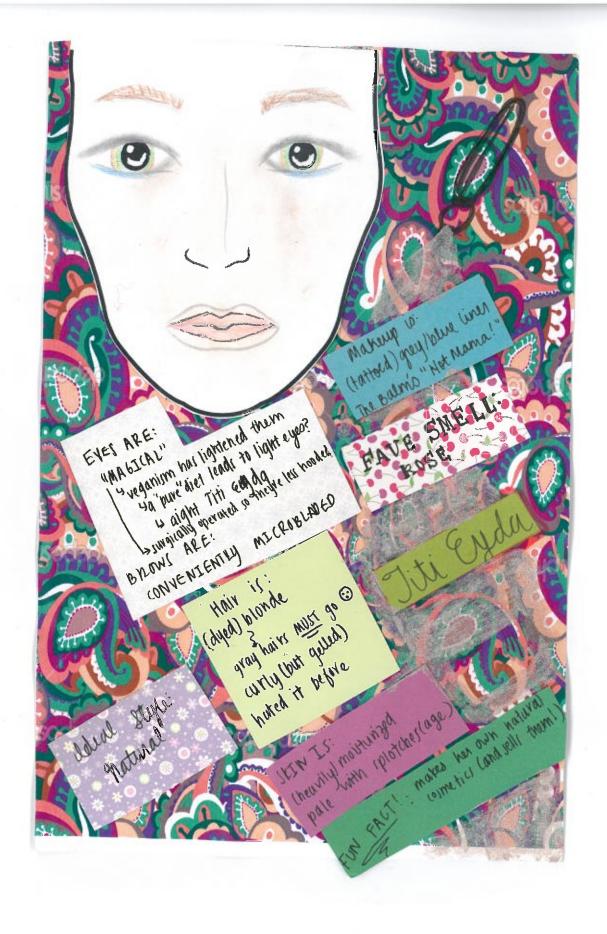
I have never recalled her commenting on my appearance. Their always been rather tomboyish, so her interests lie more in fishing and new electronics than fashion and beauty. The is much more likely to critici 3e my sloppy tendencies than the way I look.

She seems to be pretty content with life.

pretty sure she likes me (but isn't too performative)

Gift of choice: SONY ACTION CAM





Titi Goda is the creative sister.

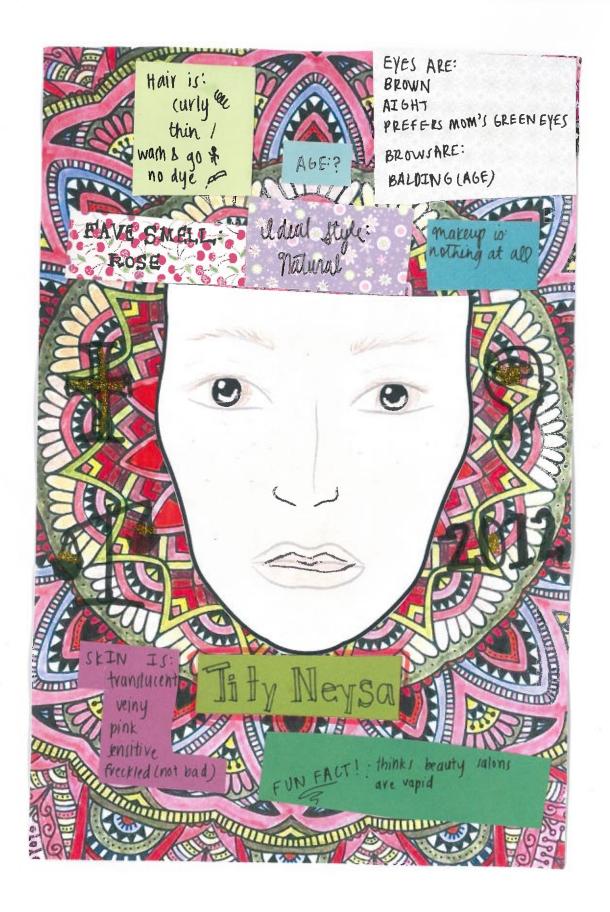
The seems to take high pride in her appearance and compliments mine as well-maybe my memory is bad, but I only remember her complimenting my makeup and fashion after I lost WEIGHT. Before that she would criticize me for eating too eagerly.

It's hard to tell how she feels (as the can turn from estatic to upset in the blink of an eye).

she definitely shows the likes me (emotes a lot but hardly knows me).

Gift of choice: SHOES (that she didn't want)





Neysa is the holiest nister-

whenever I talk to her, I feel like a bug under a magnifying glass. She very rarely comments on my appearance, but her probing questions make me feel like my SOUL is inherently ugly.

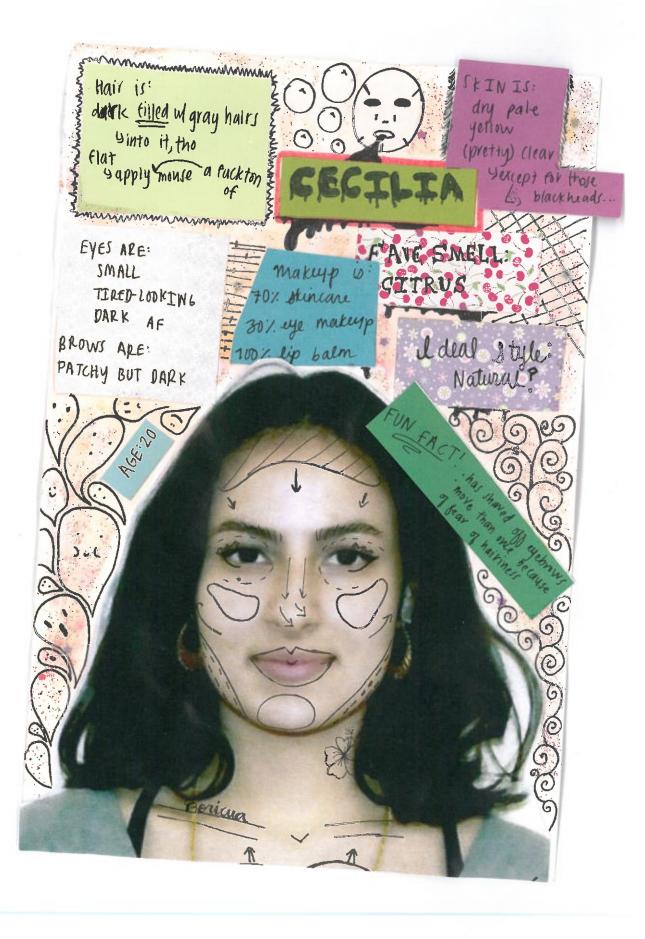
The gave up much of her material (and therefore aesthetic wealth) in order to find peace, but I am not quite sure if she's found it

Can't tell whether or not she likes me.

6ift of choice:

AN ESCAPULARIO





Ceulia is the confued niece.

she seems to get along with everyone, but varely keeps in touch. Hayonly called this year to interview them box a project on beauty.

She seems to be content with her life, but seems undecided on what to do (while her distortis the opposite). Two bad path's too opinionated!

They like her.

Gift of choice:

Her presence (is the present!)



Cecilia Pou Jové

Prof. Rosario

LATS 346: Drawing Democracy

December 4, 2017

Artist Statement

Cecilia Pou Jove's graphic storytelling takes on a variety of mediums, including digital storytelling, collages, and pen and watercolor drawings. Her works often take her smaller, personal narratives to a broader political context, marking how one can never truly isolate themselves from policy decisions (that are oftentimes made without the nation's choice). This is best reflected in "The Color of Democracy", where she uses frequently seen colors in her childhood to elaborate on the colonial landscape of her home country of Puerto Rico . Another common theme is grappling with self-image and self-hatred as a body that ages and dies. Her works concern issues of death and decay, and how people continue their lives despite knowing how fleeting time is.

Growing up as a queer nerd, much of her childhood was spent assimilating to U.S. culture through the imagery she saw on on film and television, science fiction, horror, and animation. Today, she utilizes this same imagery to deconstruct and reconstruct many of the narratives she had grown up believing. Her work in Comparative Literature, Arabic Studies, and Latino/a Studies serve to complicate her notions through different lens.

Her final work "Tía Talk" is a pseudo-magazine spread on her aunts and herself. This project demonstrates the complex intergenerational struggle women have with their own (and other family members') appearances.

In my final project titled "Tía Talk" I seek to (partially) answer how is women's beauty is a result of their own choice. My belief is that studying beauty is important since appearance affects how people are treated in societies. There is power in appearances, because this has historically dictated who is worthy of citizenship.

Since the inception of my project I wanted to do a pseudo magazine spread/ trading cards on the women in my maternal family. I wanted to somehow show how the external appearance affects the internal emotions.

At the beginning of my project, I just thought of creating these spreads off of the opinions I have of each relative, but ultimately decided to conduct interviews with my four aunts by asking them about the good and bad about different parts of their faces. I definitely believe that if not for the interviews, I would have done more severely cartoonish renditions of my relatives, since in their absence I imagine them as more intense than they actually are. I am happy that I interviewed them because through this I could also see some patterns and repetitions in their answers (like their love of rose-scented products and disdain for their balding eyebrows).

Furthermore, after interviewing them, their self-assessments became the answers I put in my work.

I originally contemplated several options regarding how I wanted to render my aunts. My initial thought was to do my makeup and hair like them, but I figured that I had limited time and photographical skills to make appealing renditions. Afterwards, the professor suggested I try Adobe, but I felt like I wanted to use something more concrete and had limited time to learn to tinker with new software. I ended up printing face charts that are used in the cosmetics industry to delineate looks. I decided to use my actual makeup to achieve these faces and am happy with

the results; it took a couple of tries to see how to apply different kinds of powders and liners, but I think it is an interesting medium to work with, and I can hopefully become better at shading and conveying more diverse traits on these face charts.

For the backgrounds of each aunt, I decided to juxtapose them with a background that reminded me of them in terms of the energy I get from them; Titi Sylvia is the only one put onto an actual environment. For each aspect of their assessment, I decided to use the same paper for some type of consistency (ie. hair sheet is the same across all members), but arranged it in ways that I thought reminded me more of them. Furthermore, I drew and painted on additional aspects that reminded me of them because I thought the pages lacked personality.

For the literary portion of the project, I wanted to convey how they had made me feel about myself (in regards to my face and body), how satisfied with their lives I think they are, a statement on whether or not I think they like me, and a memorable gift they have given me that I believe encompasses their personalities. I chose to include mention of a memorable gift because since I don't see them frequently, my interactions with them are punctuated by gifts.

Furthermore, in the final page I decided to reverse the narrative and frame it as if my aunts had done the same project to me. I thought this step was important because I project a lot on this work and wanted to in a way confront my self-image.

Overall, I enjoyed doing this project. Although I had difficulties deciding what mediums to use over others, I enjoyed trying new techniques. There was something healing about creating works that show feelings I had never really recorded before.