



Writing A Book: A Documentation of the Drafts and Process



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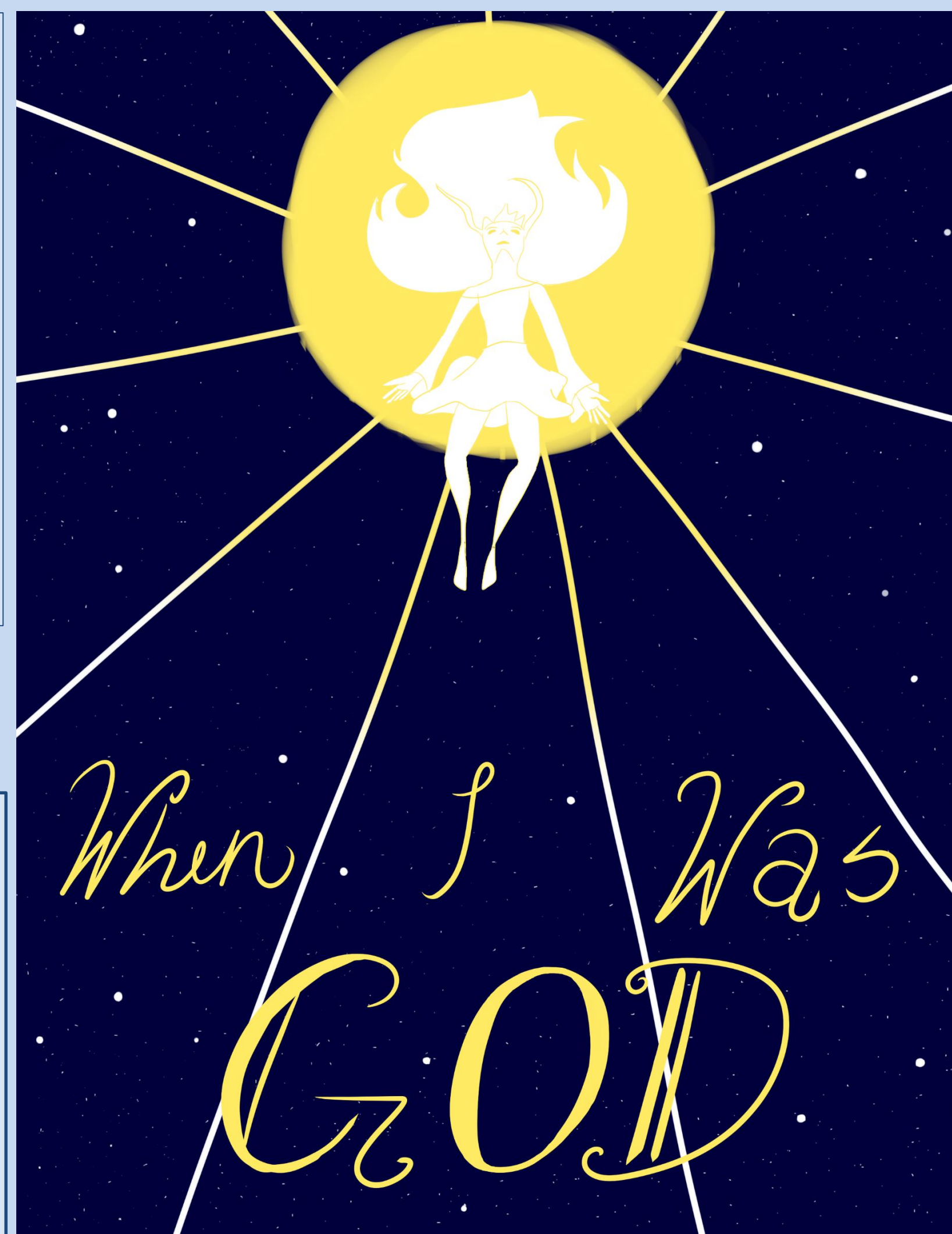
Introduction

I completed an independent project, the goal of which was to write a book.

This goal is the result of years of work in specialized creative writing classes throughout my high school and college years, which has already resulted in the publication of a book of short stories, entitled *How the Universe Was Created and Other Useless Facts*. It is available on Amazon.

Summary

In a facility miles from home, Amber and other teens from all over the world have been brought together to learn control over the seemingly divine powers they all gained overnight. The angels running the facility claim that they are only guiding the super-powered humans to their fate as the Inheritors of the New Earth, but with their training getting more and more dangerous, can that really be all that's going on?



Credit: Willow Shipperley

Future Goals

There are many paths my book could take once its plot has been smoothed out.

Goal 1: Have it accepted by an agent and a publishing company, so that it can become available in stores across the country and perhaps the world if it sells well.

Goal 2: Adapt the plot of the book into a comic format, using my own art, and posting it online as a webcomic. This would be free, and hopefully supported by some crowdfunding site such as Patreon.

Goal 3: Assuming that the comic is well received, and Patreon provides enough funding, I would like to adapt the book into a complete animated series.

Methods

Beginning with the National Novel Writing competition in November, I wrote the majority of my first draft in exactly one month – over 50,000 of the 88,800 total word count.

I wrote for at least an hour and a half daily until the first draft was complete, before beginning my second draft. The editing process took many weeks and involved multiple outlines. Many scenes were rewritten or completely replaced.

My third draft was completed using the edits of my mentor and other critical readers.

Issues/Struggles

Sitting down to write when I had no ideas for the next step of the plot was very hard to work through. Even with an idea of where I wanted the book to go, connecting the dots between major scenes was hard and took weeks.

When editing, I had an image of where I wanted to go, but no experience. This made it extremely difficult to work diligently within the timeframe allowed. Rewriting dialogue, in particular, was a big struggle. Keeping everyone in character is an important part of the writing process.

Creating and keeping track of so many characters was a struggle as well. In addition to the many background characters, my book contains nine major, unique characters that interact daily in my book – each with their own agenda and backstory fueling their words and actions.



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