

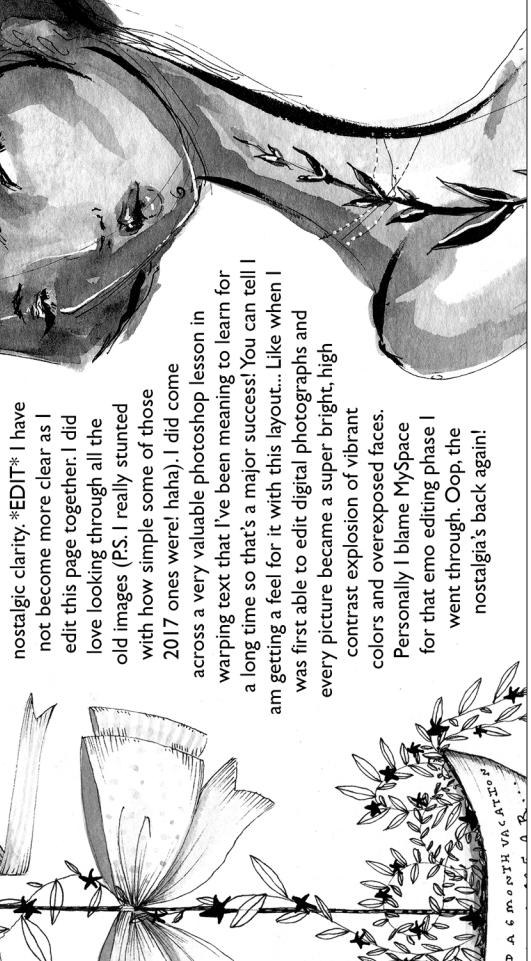
INKTOBER THOUGHTS...

jumbled, layered and entirely melodramatic

Have you heard of Inktober before? I've done some super investigating and ripped this off their website: Inktober is a month long art challenge created by artist Jake Parker that is focused on improving skill and developing positive drawing habits. Every day for the month of October anyone participating in the Inktober challenge creates an ink drawing and posts it online. I completed the challenge for the first time in 2017. I had actually previously dipped my toe in the water, but this was without the accountability of daily YouTube videos! Needless to say I failed... haha. I can't even say I took on the challenge because I was so desperate to learn about illustrating with ink. I think I just wanted to know if I could do it.

Could I complete it? Would I be happy when I did? Well, yes, I could, I did and it felt great. There's nothing quite like the satisfaction of accomplishment. It's also a pretty manageable task if you set your expectations accordingly. Inevitably I learned a lot in 2017 and decided to tackle it again in 2018 — this time illustrating 31 prompts inspired by our beloved "Daisy". I had a great time in 2018, again, learning a lot about ink and illustration. Then I took it too far... I did "Daisy", "Whimsyween" content AND 32 #litteravinktober prompts straight out of Playtest Patreon 2018! WHY?! Cue me learning a harsh lesson about myself and the closely linked self-worth / achievement issue. Let's not go there girlfriend! So, I'm at a [Britney Spears starring in] Crossroads, haha. Do I do it again in 2019? Why would I be doing it? That's the question right, why? I don't really feel like I want to explore ink again right now. I want to bring Daisy back, but I want to try doing more of the Whimsyween content that I whinge about not getting enough time to do every year. I had a great suggestion to add Daisy to the Whimsyween prompts list this year and I am actually thinking this might be the direction I take. I don't know if I'll be limiting myself in any way: ink only, color or B&W, drawing all prompts or free play... I don't know. It scares me that I don't know — these bigger projects I put together can't be done last minute so I kind of need to know in the next couple weeks. I don't know I don't know I don't know; can you tell that I'm torn? I keep telling myself "do what you can", but I know I can do it all I just know it's not good for me... I think I'll do

Whimsyween feat. Daisy: a prompt list and videos for YouTube. I also feel guilty about not doing the daily videos but it killed my channel last year. This article is going in circles. I'm gonna go format these words into the page and maybe the sight of old InkTober images filling the border will induce some kind of nostalgic clarity. *EDIT* I have not become more clear as I edit this page together. I did love looking through all the old images (P.S. I really stunted with how simple some of those 2017 ones were! haha). I did come across a very valuable Photoshop lesson in warping text that I've been meaning to learn for a long time so that's a major success! You can tell I am getting a feel for it with this layout... Like when I was first able to edit digital photographs and every picture became a super bright, high contrast explosion of vibrant colors and overexposed faces. Personally I blame MySpace for that emo editing phase I went through. Oop, the nostalgia's back again!



INKTOBER '18

Here's a look at some of the prep I did last year for Inktober "Daisy". I'm particularly fond of the sketchbook pages with the prompt passages re-worked over and over again. I remember Steve and I having a very serious discussion in the kitchen at one point about "spectacles" and "tentacles" possibly not fitting the rhyming scheme I later realized I didn't have! Haha. It was surprisingly difficult to come up with 31 passages of the story but it was very worth it. I flip through the collaborative book all the time and it fills me with such joy and inspiration. Did I ever do a "How to Draw Daisy" tutorial?! I don't think I did! *makes a mental note

