

THE BIG RACE



Concept

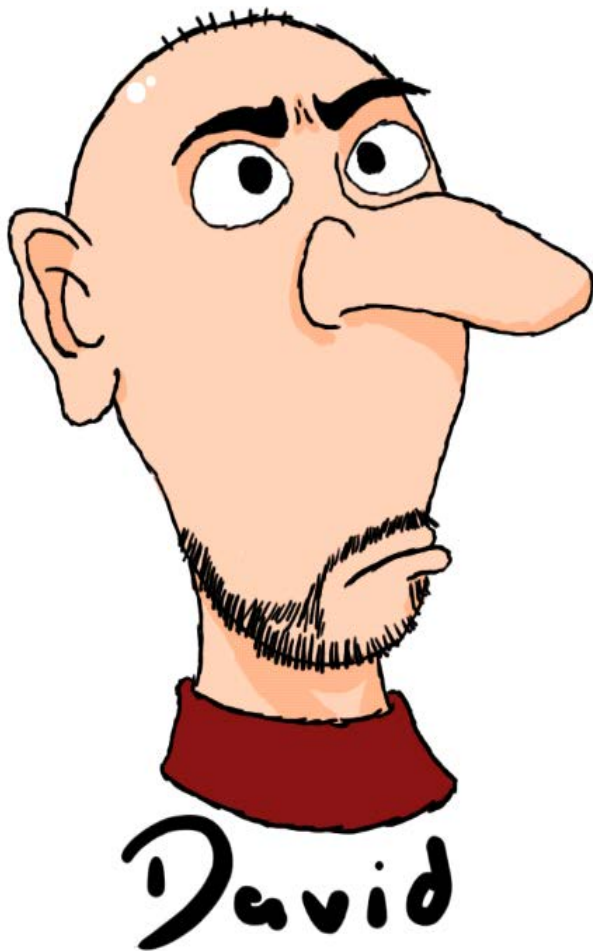
The short is about two enemies that are standing facing each other in a desert. A man and a woman are in a standoff ready to have a duel because of some bad blood in their past when suddenly a gust of wind blows a leaflet into the woman's face. She peels the leaflet off her face to reveal that there is a race happening in a week. Showing the leaflet to her enemy they both agree on doing the race instead of finishing the duel. As they both walk off screen they both come up with the idea that they are going to cheat in order to win the race and to make sure that they are better than the other person. A small montage of clips goes by where they are creating their gadgets and testing them out in which they all fail. When it comes to race day they both go up to the start/finish line and as the gun is fired to start the race, they both collapse out of exustion.

Throughout the entire short there will be no words of dialogue. The short will try to convey what the character are trying to get across to the audience in the form of movement.

The entire short will consist of two people. One Male (David) and one Female (Ella). The relationship between these two characters is that they used to be in a crime gang run by Doolin Dalton, they would regularly be preforming heists on banks and stores across America. When the law was catching up to the gang, David and Ella decided it would be best to take as much of the money as possible from the gang and escape to safety, splitting the money 50/50. After months of running it occurred to Ella that David did not split the money evenly and when she confronted David about the money he drew his gun on her. She quickly drew her gun as well and this is where the animation begins.

Character Designs

David is a tall, young, lanky man, barely any meat on his bones and is not the smartest of people but when it comes to fighting he is one of the best around. He does not keep himself clean most of the time as you can always find stains and holes on his clothes. His beard is short and his hair is gone (not old age, just clean shaved as he thought it would give him an edge in his shoot outs thinking the sun would help him blind his enemies). His eyes are brown and sunken and his skin is so pale you would have believed he was dead if he lays down on the floor.



Ella is not as tall as David, only an inch or two shorter. A slim woman whose wit is as sharp as a knife. When it comes to situations in which you need a good quick idea she would be the first person you would go to. In cleanliness she is the polar opposite of David but that doesn't mean she doesn't get her hands dirty from time to time. Wearing a bandana around her neck to help cover a scar from her past and leather jacket, black jeans and black boots it was easy to see that she was the gang leaders right hand man. Her hair was cut short and dyed brown soon after the escape in order to disguise herself if she ventures off to town in hopes that people don't recognize her. Her eyes blue and ever vigilant as she

is always weary of her surroundings in case there is an ambush by the sheriff.



Setting

In the short the setting of the piece is based if the wild west never died but technology still grew as normal. We see our characters first in the middle on a desert in a western duel preparing to shoot at each other. Cactus and tumbleweeds scattered around the place. What shows the time period evolving is that the next location is in a blacksmith shop. While typically a blacksmith is known for existing even before the wild west time period, it is filled with an assortment of new equipment and later in the short you see that the blacksmith crafted a teleporting gun. Lastly there is a scene where our characters are at a desert race track where the race is being held.

Style

The animation and design style is going to be aimed to be more stylized as a cartoon instead of realistic. I feel this would match the effect of the animation as I am not aiming for it to be serious at any point except from the beginning. For the first 20 seconds of the animation I want it to make the audience think that it is serious due to the standoff between two people. Guns drawn and pointed at each other. Once the leaflet hits Ella in the face and throws her off screen the mood will change and they will show the audience that it isn't serious at all.

Target Audience

The target audience is aimed at ages 7 and up. The main reason for this choice is that while the majority of the animation will be comedy the beginning of the animation shows two people preparing to shoot each other with guns and at one point one of the characters does shoot their gun at the other person so I don't think it would be suitable to show that to anyone that is too young. I did think about a way for trying to remove that scene and replace it for something a little more PG but I felt the short worked better with it in.

Premise

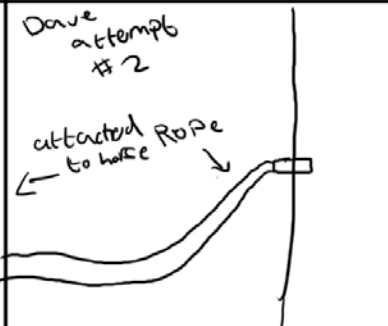
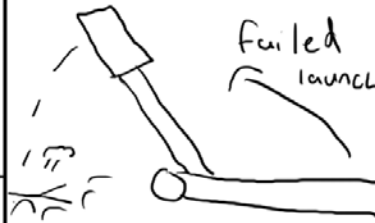
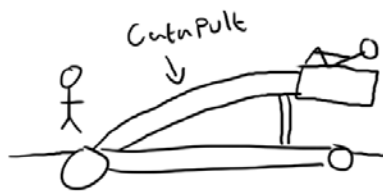
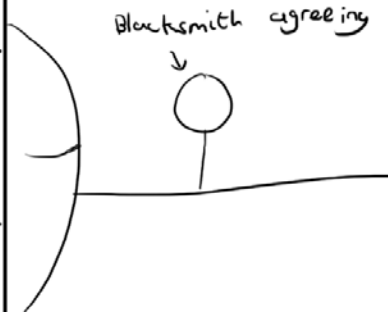
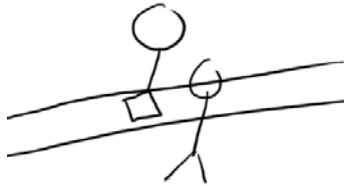
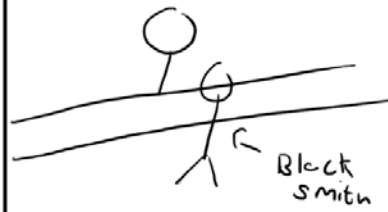
The basic premise of the short is that two people are trying to settle their difference in a shootout. Another idea comes by and instead of shooting each other they are going to have a race. Since neither of the people want to lose the race they both end up trying to cheat and then both end up passing out at the start line because their inventions failed and are too tired to race in the end.

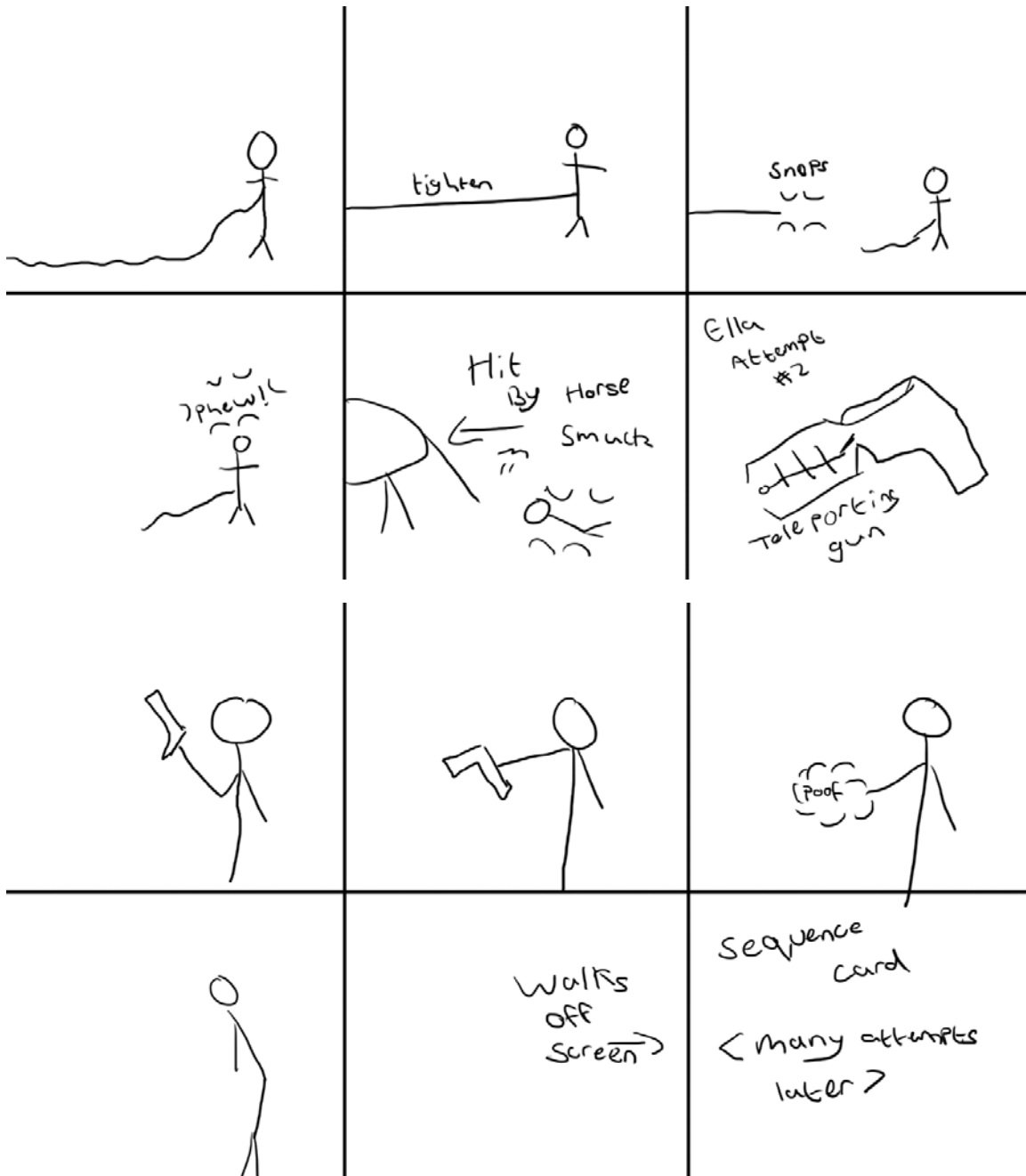
Storyboard





Black
Screen

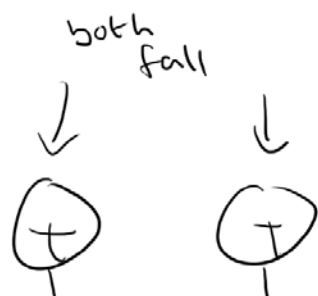




THE Big
race
Day



Shot of
sky



sleeping



Roll
credits

fin

Script (Camera Shots)

The scene starts with a wide shot of the cloud going by. As the camera pans down as the title fades in and out. The camera stops at the horizon line when the two characters are in frame, a tumbleweed rolls in from the left of the screen and off to the right. The camera cuts to an over the shoulder shot from Ella's perspective facing David as he is pointing the gun towards Ella. After 5 seconds the camera switches to over David's shoulder facing Ella who is pointing her gun back at David. After 5 seconds the camera zoom cuts to David's eyes where he squints preparing to fire his gun. 2 seconds pass and the same shot happens to Ella. As the tension builds a leaflet flies in from the left of the screen and hits her in the face, knocking her off screen.

A few seconds later she walks back on screen, holding the leaflet, reading it with a confused look on her face. Suddenly a bullet flies past her face narrowly missing her. The camera quick pans to the left with a side view onto David holding his gun with smoke coming out the end of the barrel of his gun. With his gun shaking a bit Ella walks into frame and pushes his gun down away from her and pushes the leaflet into his face.

The camera cuts to a close shot of the leaflet revealing that there is a race that is happening in a week's time. The camera cuts to a wide shot of the two characters shaking hands and walking off either side of the screen. A few seconds later, David comes back on screen and shoots the paper 5 more times as it floats to the ground and quickly runs off screen again.

The scene cuts to a shot of blueprints rolled out on top of a table very brightly lit of a weird contraption that he is going to build in order to, Dave walks into frame to block the blueprint with a hammer in one hand and some metal in the other, he places the metal on the table and raises the hammer above his head. The camera cuts to a close up of the hammer and as it swings down the scene switches to Ella doing the same thing, hammering on a piece of metal with a blueprint in front of her.

This introduces us to a small montage of clips where we see the two characters trying and failing to make devices to help them move faster during the race in order to help them win. Whether they be complex as shoes that make you run faster due to the power of springs from Ella to attaching a rope to yourself and a horse and making it drag you along the race course.

After a few attempts of inventing we see a wide shot of our characters barely standing up at the start line of the race track. The camera cuts to a side by side shot of the character looking worse for wear, as if they are about to collapse from exhaustion. The camera cuts to a close up of the sky. Coming in from the right hand side of the frame a hand with a gun in it appears and a countdown begins.

Three, two...the camera cuts to the side by side shot again. One, BANG! The race begins. The second the gun goes off the two-character collapse to the ground and pass out. The short ends with a camera slowly panning back showing the characters on the ground getting some rest after a busy week as the credits roll up.