

The background features a close-up of several red, ruffled ribbons. In the center, a small, white, textured book is visible, partially obscured by the ribbons. The overall color palette is dominated by deep reds and maroons, with the white text providing a sharp contrast.

Poetry Ribbons

Translating poetry through
alternative modalities

CONCEPTUAL DESIGN

Cathryn Ploehn

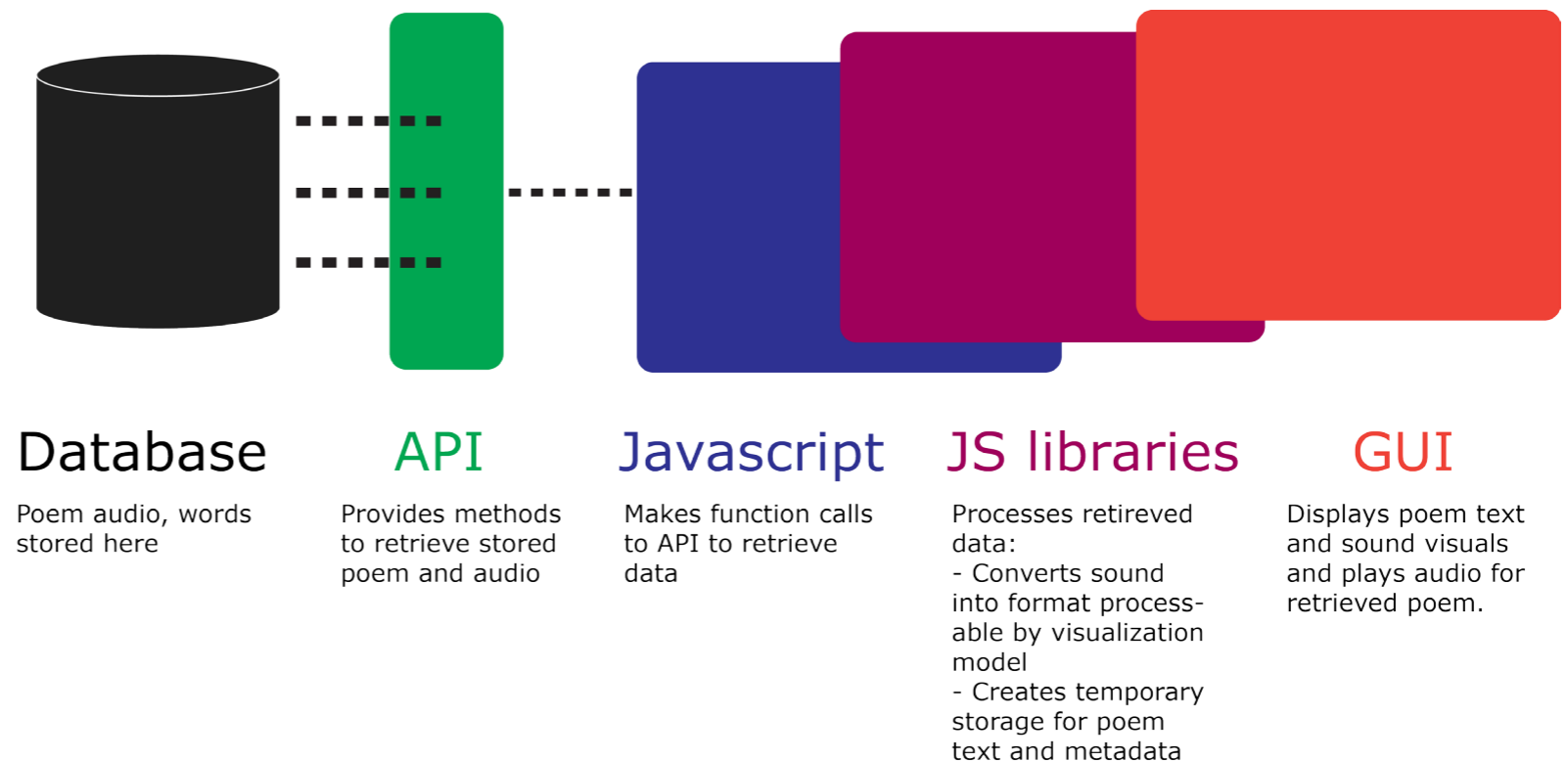
Project Overview

How can we more effectively represent translated poems?

Poetry Ribbons will be a system that translates poetry as it is read line by line, through alternative modalities. The system will promote the exploration of poetic meaning in varying languages and methods.

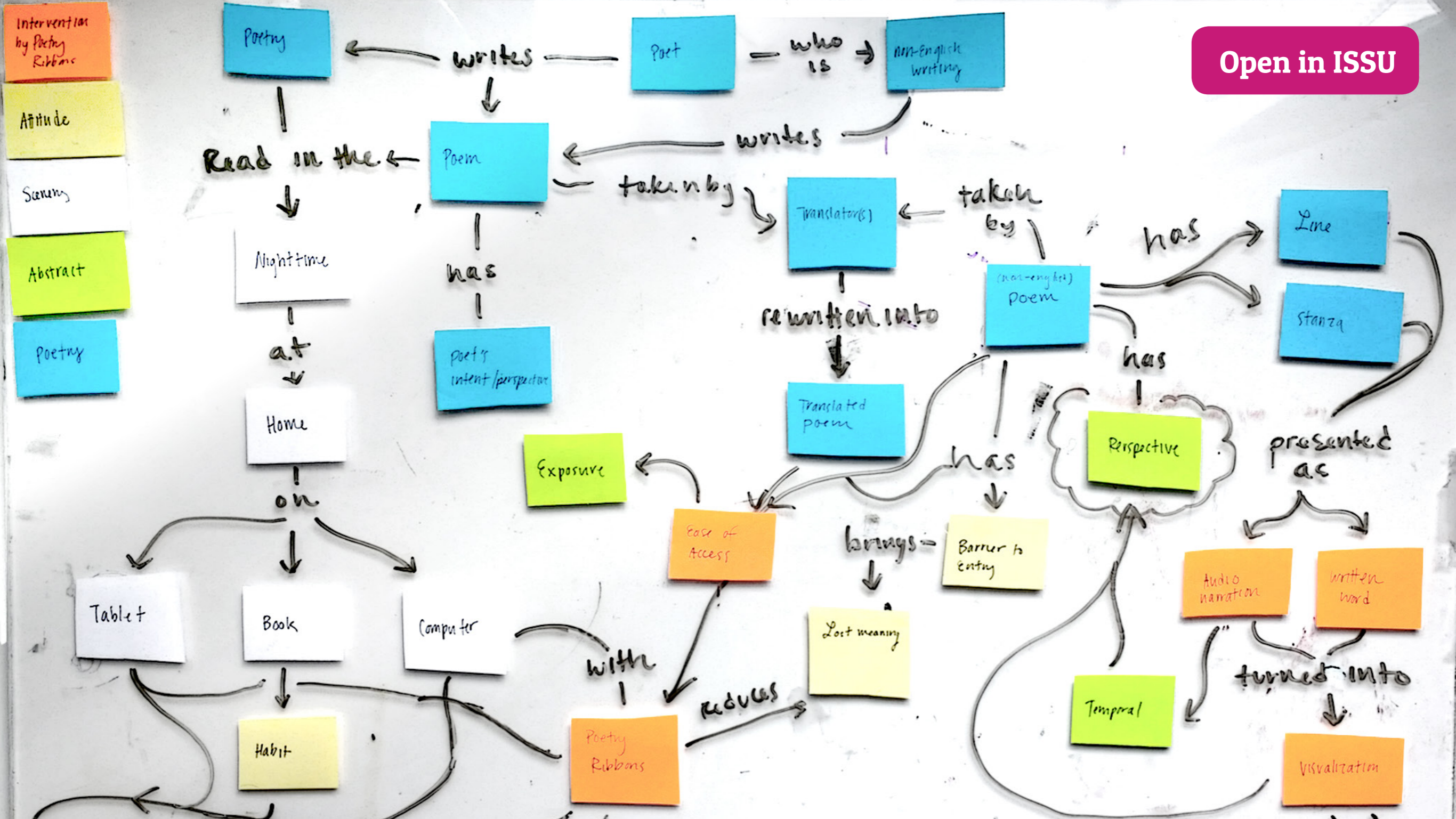
Possible tools to use:

- HTML/CSS
- Javascript
 - ThreeAudio.js
 - SoundJS
 - Web Audio API
- Processing

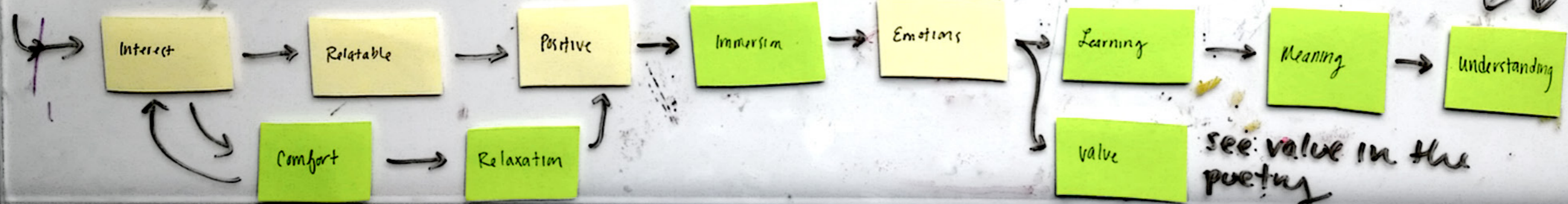




CONCEPT MAP



CORE VALUES



- Intervention by Poetry Ribbons
- Attitude
- Security
- Abstract
- Poetry



USER JOURNEYS

(and feedback)

Initial Assumptions

1. Students come home after a long day, eat, and become bored with homework. None of their friends want to hang out, or perhaps the student does not want hang out with friends; **alone time is needed.**

2. Students **indulge in a period of decompression** after returning home, then proceed to seek out activities to do in order to relax at the end of the day - one of these things includes poetry

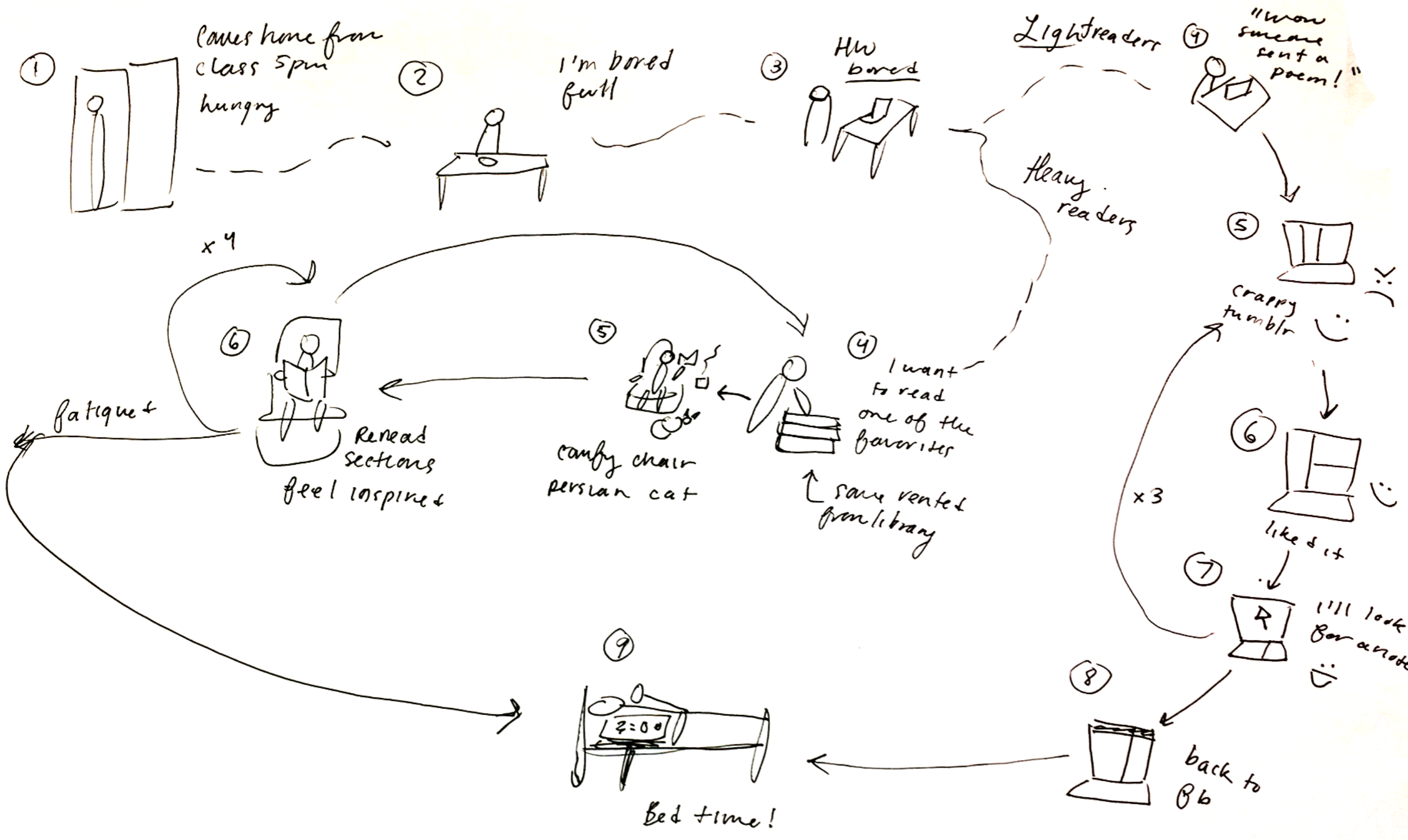
2. Students who don't interact much with poetry as a habit are incited to do so when **friends share poetry with them on their social networks**

3. Heavy poetry readers indulge in reading poetry purposefully while **light poetry readers are reminded of poetry or stumble upon poems** as they browse the Internet

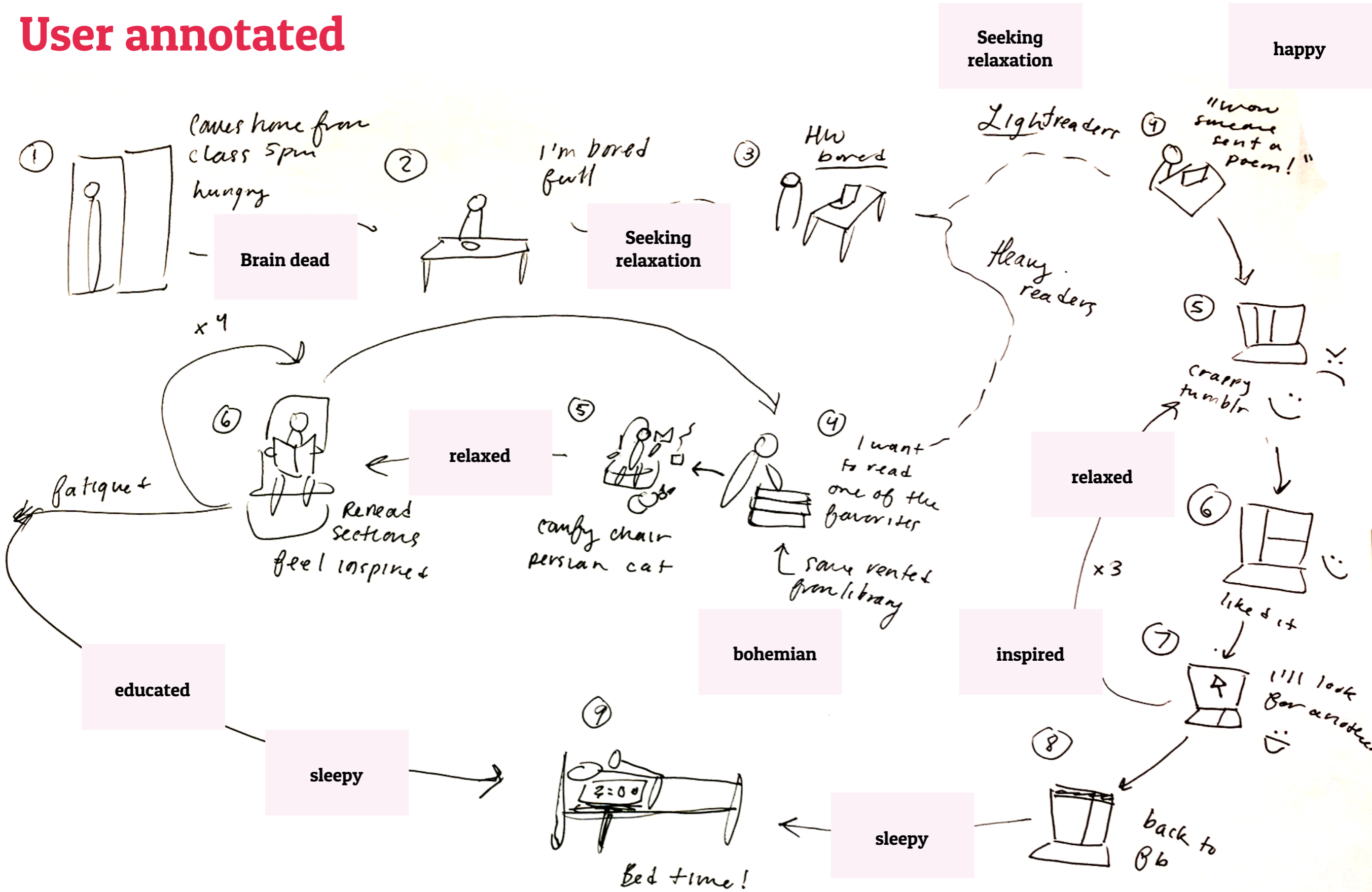
4. Heavy poetry readers will **reread poetry from their favorite authors** periodically and rent tomes of poems from the library.

Journeys created:

- Most popular media for heavy and light readers: Light readers on computer, Heavy readers on books.
- Second most popular media: Light readers on tablet, heavy readers on computer.
- Hypothetical use of poetry ribbons on tablet/computer



User annotated



I read the most on the weekends, especially Friday. I am least likely to read on Monday

Yes, I usually do have to settle down (eat/change) before I can read poetry or start the process of finding it

I don't usually share/receive poetry on Facebook. I usually just Google the authors in general to find poems

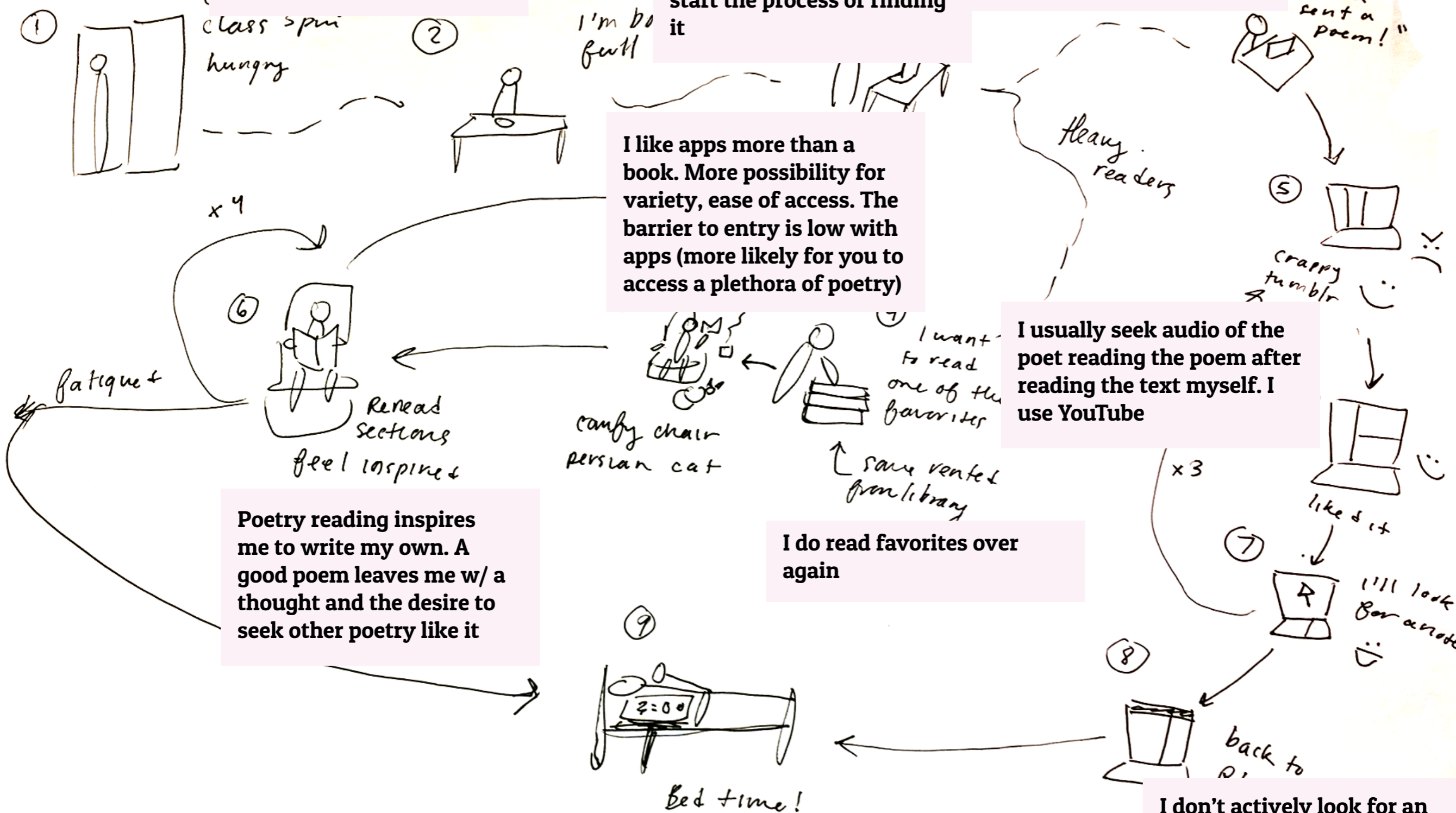
I like apps more than a book. More possibility for variety, ease of access. The barrier to entry is low with apps (more likely for you to access a plethora of poetry)

I usually seek audio of the poet reading the poem after reading the text myself. I use YouTube

I do read favorites over again

Poetry reading inspires me to write my own. A good poem leaves me w/ a thought and the desire to seek other poetry like it

I don't actively look for an answer/meaning in the poem. I read it, I recognize my reaction, and move on.



User annotated

I am usually full/content. I don't have immediate physical needs

This is accurate. I usually find myself reading as a distraction from homework

Nobody sends me poetry via social media

comes to class 5pm hungry

I'm bored full

HW bored

Light readers

"wow someone sent a poem!"

heavy readers

Heavy readers also use electronics. I use sites like poetry.org and the Poetry Foundation website

I don't know if a crappy website distracts the reader from getting to the poem. Sometimes, I'll skip sites that aren't visually pleasing.

x4

Reread sections feel inspired

comfy chair Persian cat

I want to read one of the favorites

same rented from library

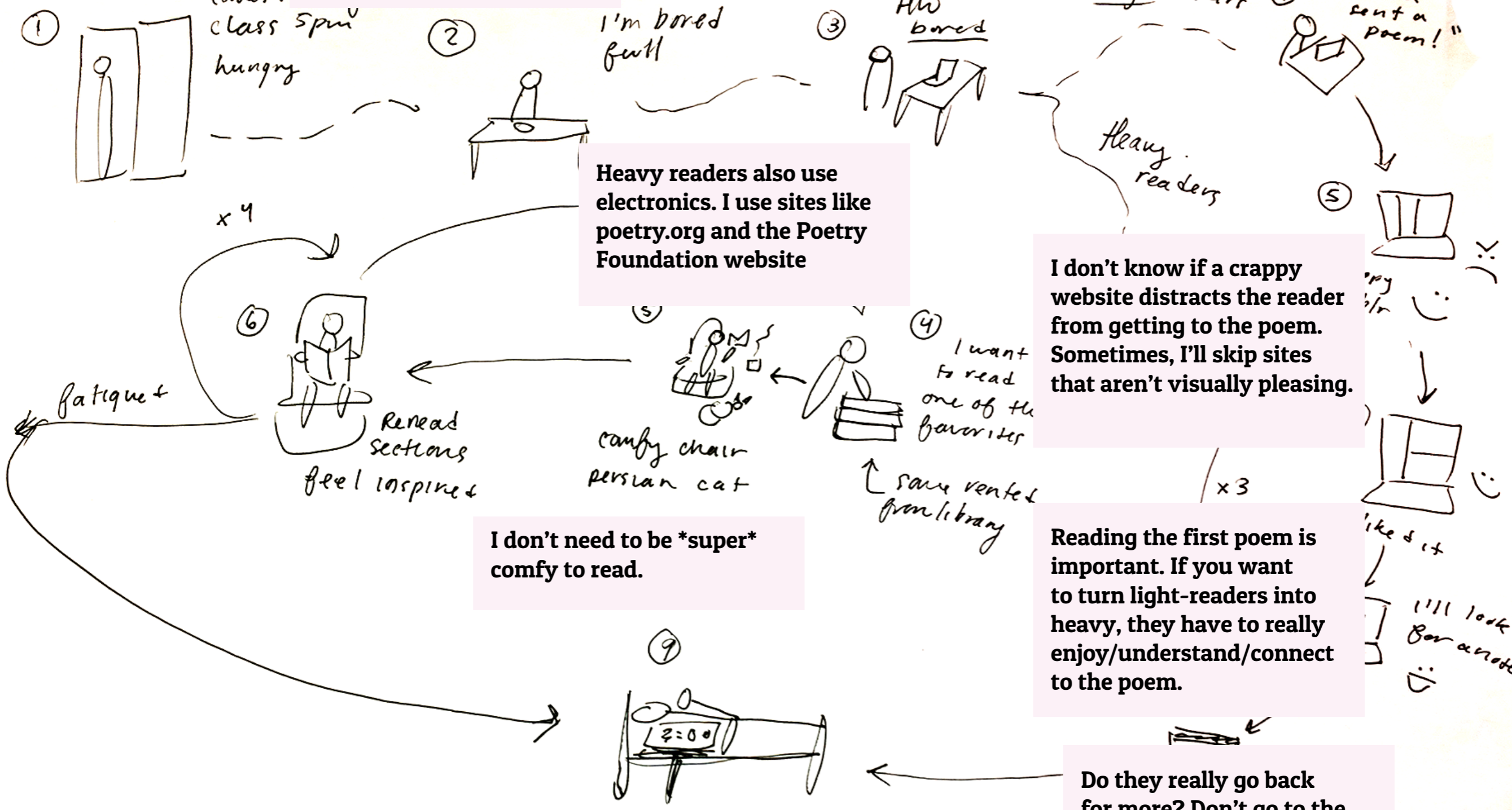
I don't need to be *super* comfy to read.

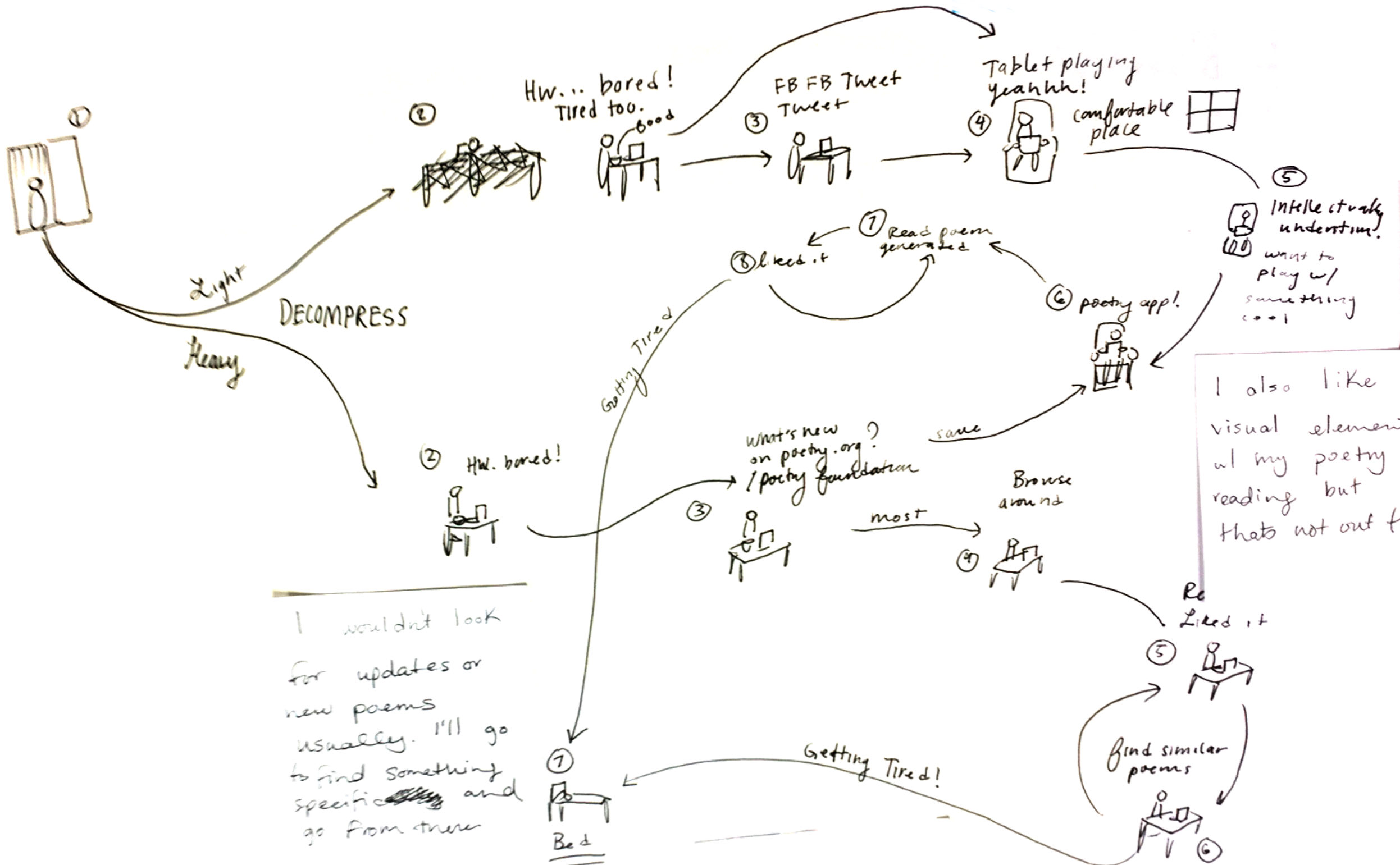
Reading the first poem is important. If you want to turn light-readers into heavy, they have to really enjoy/understand/connect to the poem.

x3

Do they really go back for more? Don't go to the crappy Tumblr! (but, then again, light readers don't know where to go)

Bed time!



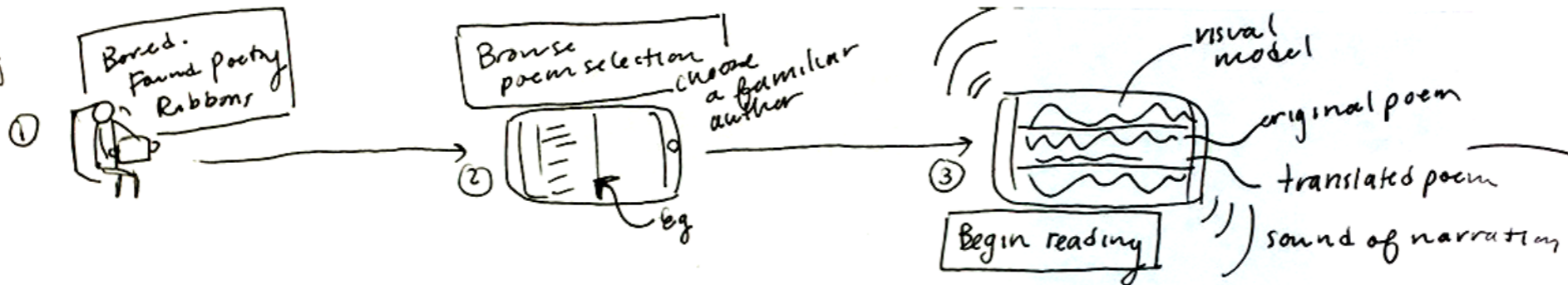


I also like visual elements w/ my poetry reading but that's not out the

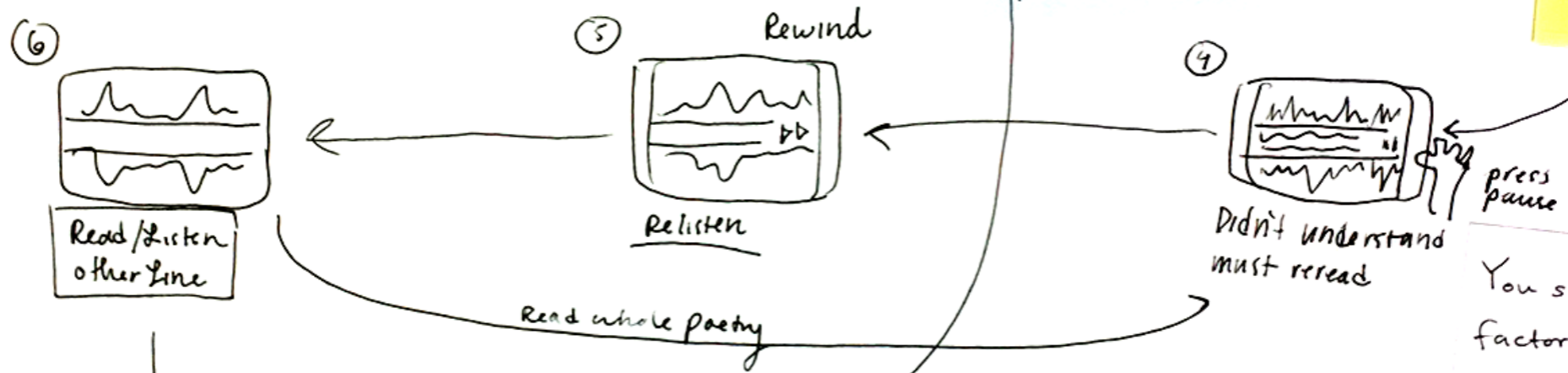
I wouldn't look for updates or new poems usually. I'll go to find something specific and go from there

I usually know

Chilled art,
Feeling relaxed,
Full of funny
nighttime



Color compare



You should factor in speed.
(How fast is the poem read?)



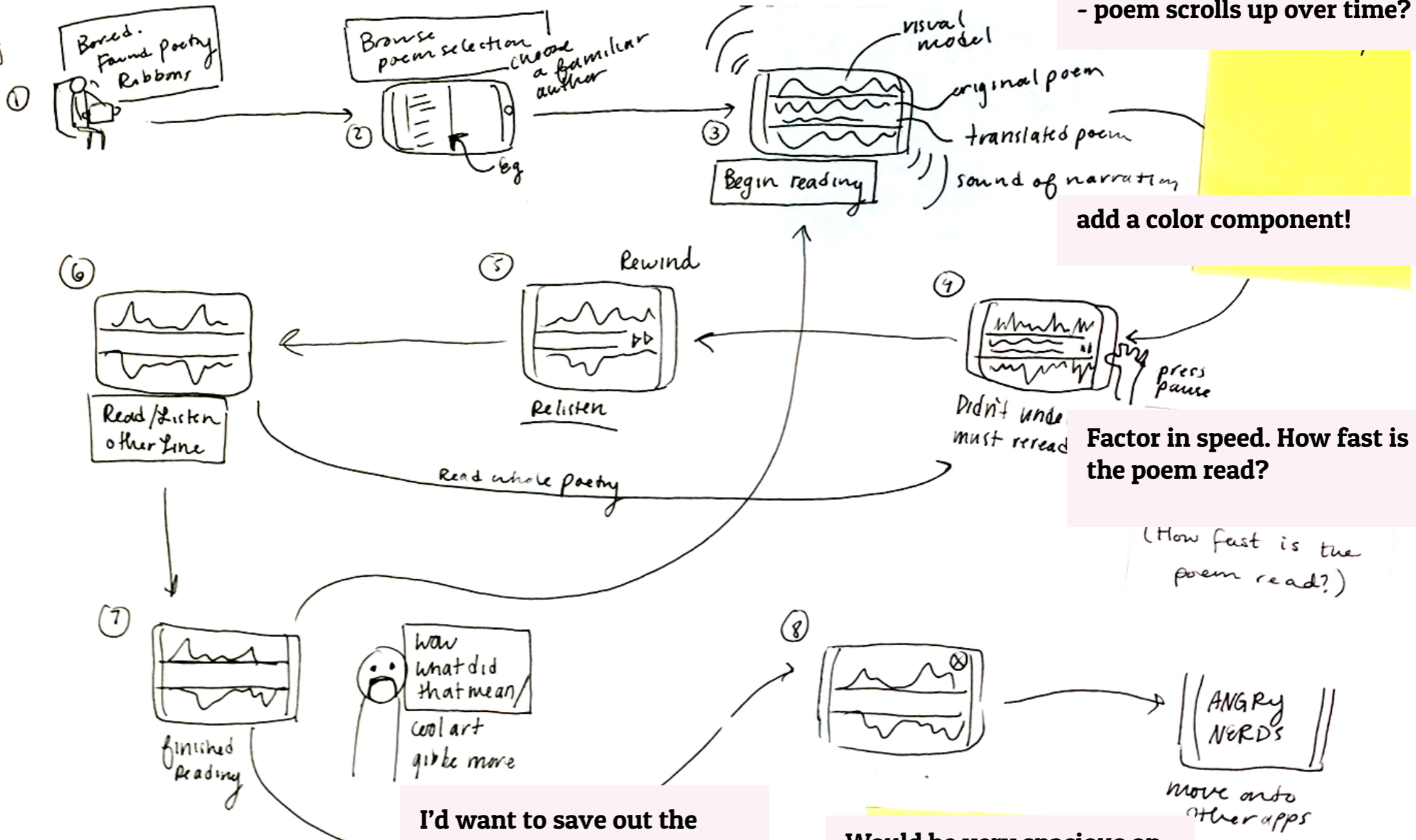
what if I want to keep the visual
save art as a
-png

would be spacious
on the computer

Chilled out,
Feeling relaxed
Full of funny
nighttime

I don't like the line by line.
It doesn't let me see the
structure of the individual
stanzas

- show full stanza
- have highlighted portion that moves over time
- poem scrolls up over time?



add a color component!

Factor in speed. How fast is the poem read?

(How fast is the poem read?)

I'd want to save out the visual as a .png, maybe save it to my desktop

Would be very spacious on the computer

ANGRY NERDS
move onto other apps



WIREFRAME SKETCHING

(and feedback)

Sketching: 10 + 10

Method

Derived from Bill Buxton's Sketching User Experiences workbook

1. State design challenge
2. Generate 10 or more different design concepts of a system that addresses this challenge. Be as creative and diverse as possible.
3. Reduce number of design concepts
4. Choose most promising design concepts as starting point.
5. Produce 10 details/variations for that design concept
6. Present best ideas to a group

Session took place at the Feb 26th 2014 UX club meeting at The University of Texas at Dallas. We generated 5 design concepts instead of 10.

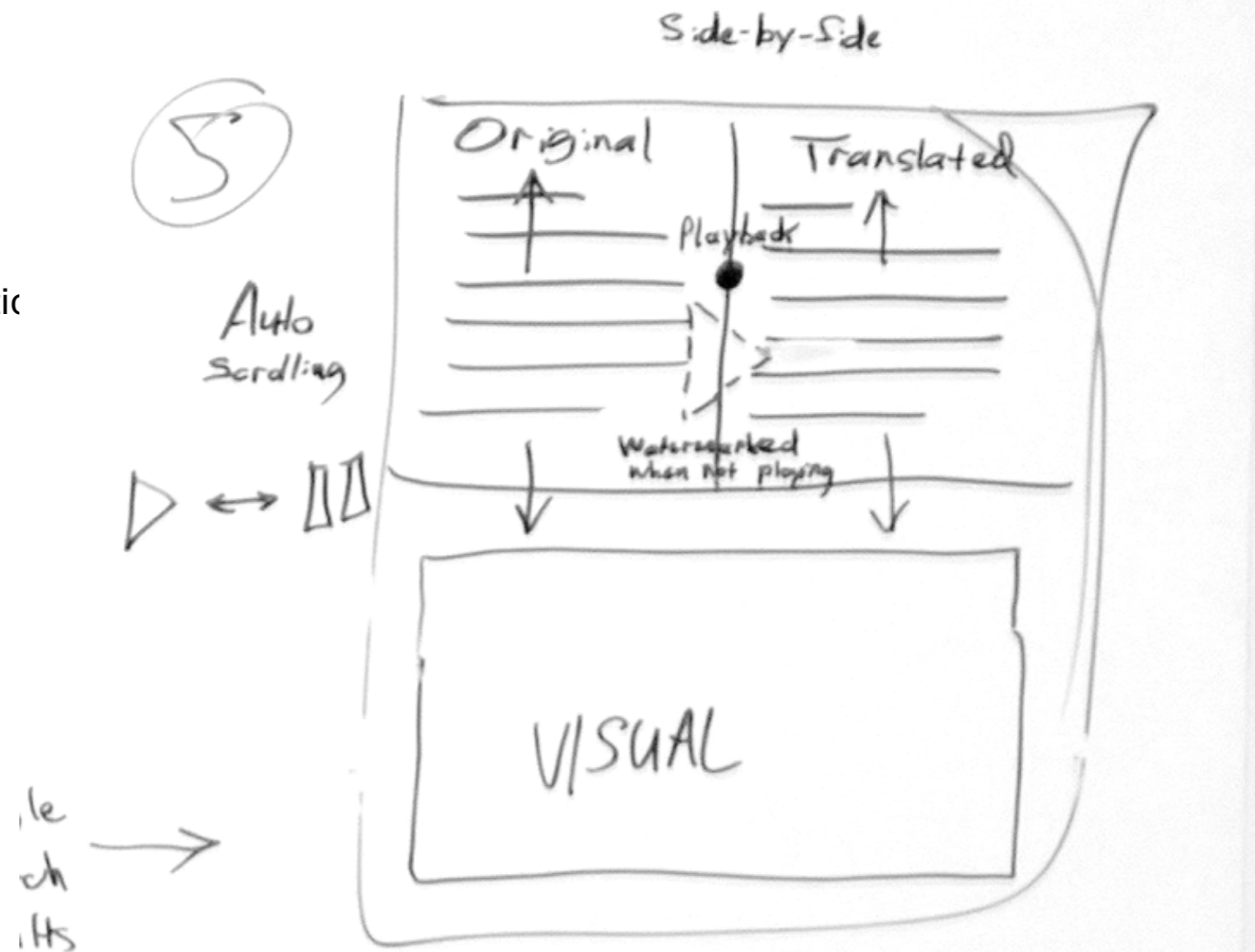
Sketching: 10 + 10

Results: Sketch 1

Narration controlled by watermark play/pause button.

Controls in between visualization and translation.

Original and translated version scroll up as narratic plays.

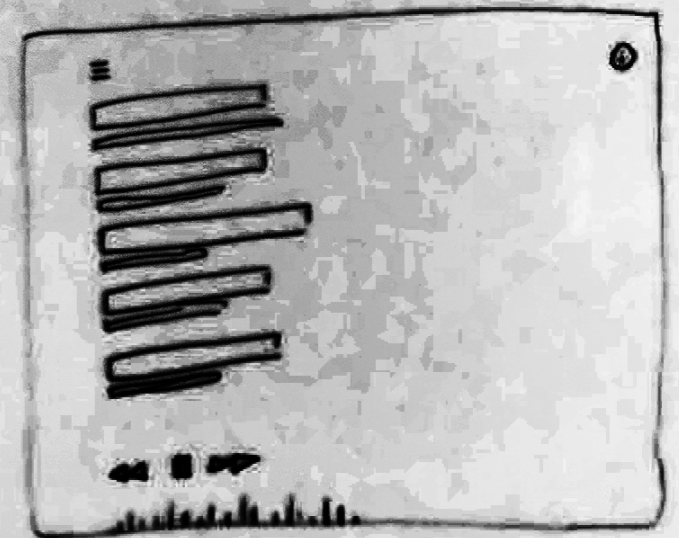
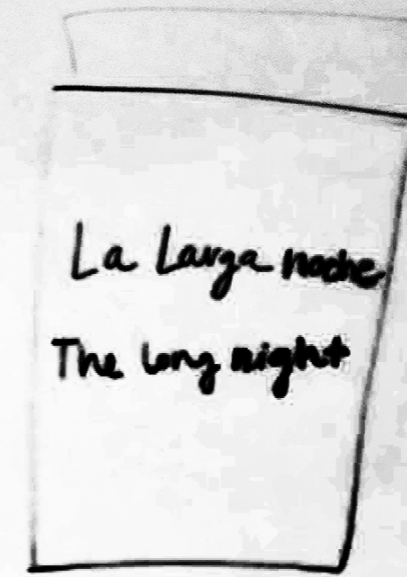
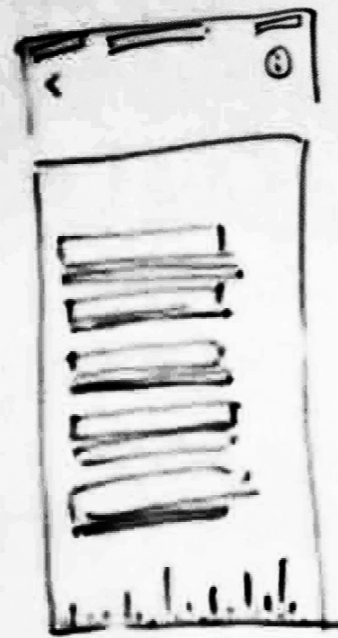
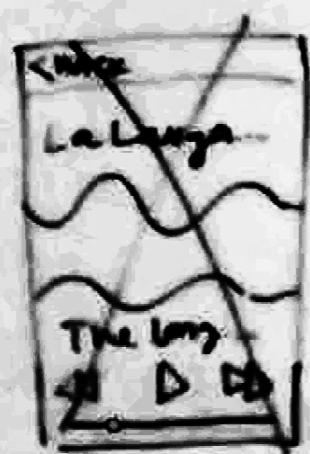


Sketching: 10 + 10

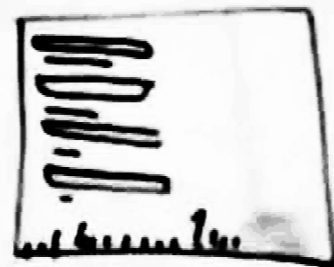
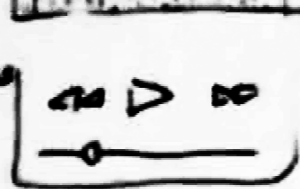
Results: Sketch 2

Mobile app: each line has translated and original language line are side by side.

Visualization along the bottom, or toggle from one visualization to the next.



Sing, Goddess, the Sage of Achilles
Hippocampus, San Agilnon



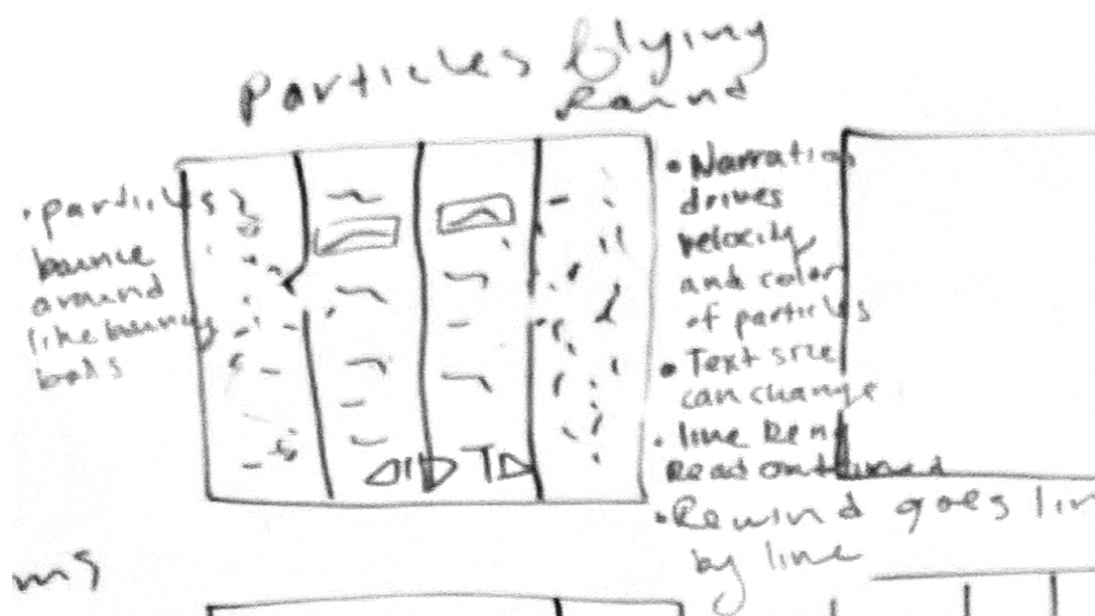
Sketching: 10 + 10

Results: Sketch 3

Visualization is a set of particles which speeds fluctuate move according to sound intensity and rhythm.

Both original and translated texts are side by side in the center. Pause and play button are one and the same.

Rewind and fast-forward is line-by-line



Sketching: 10 + 10

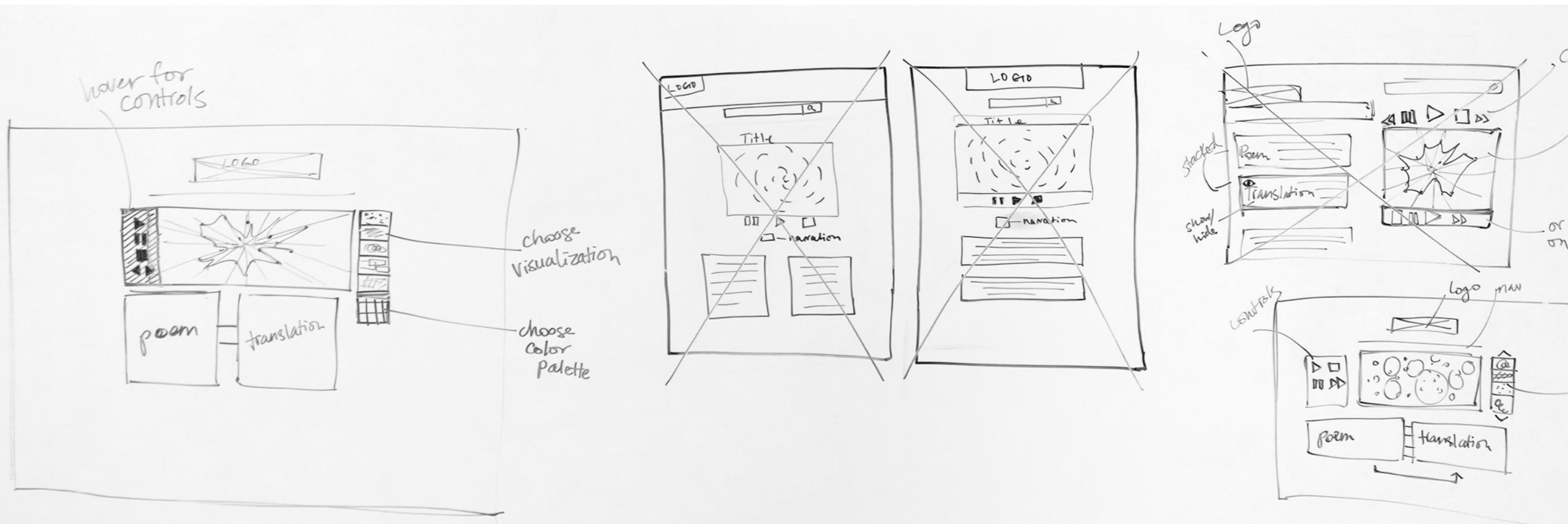
Results: Sketch 4

User can select different visualizations.

Pause and play are on the left hand side.

User can select color palate.

Featured visualization is an exploding nebula.



Sketching: 10 + 10

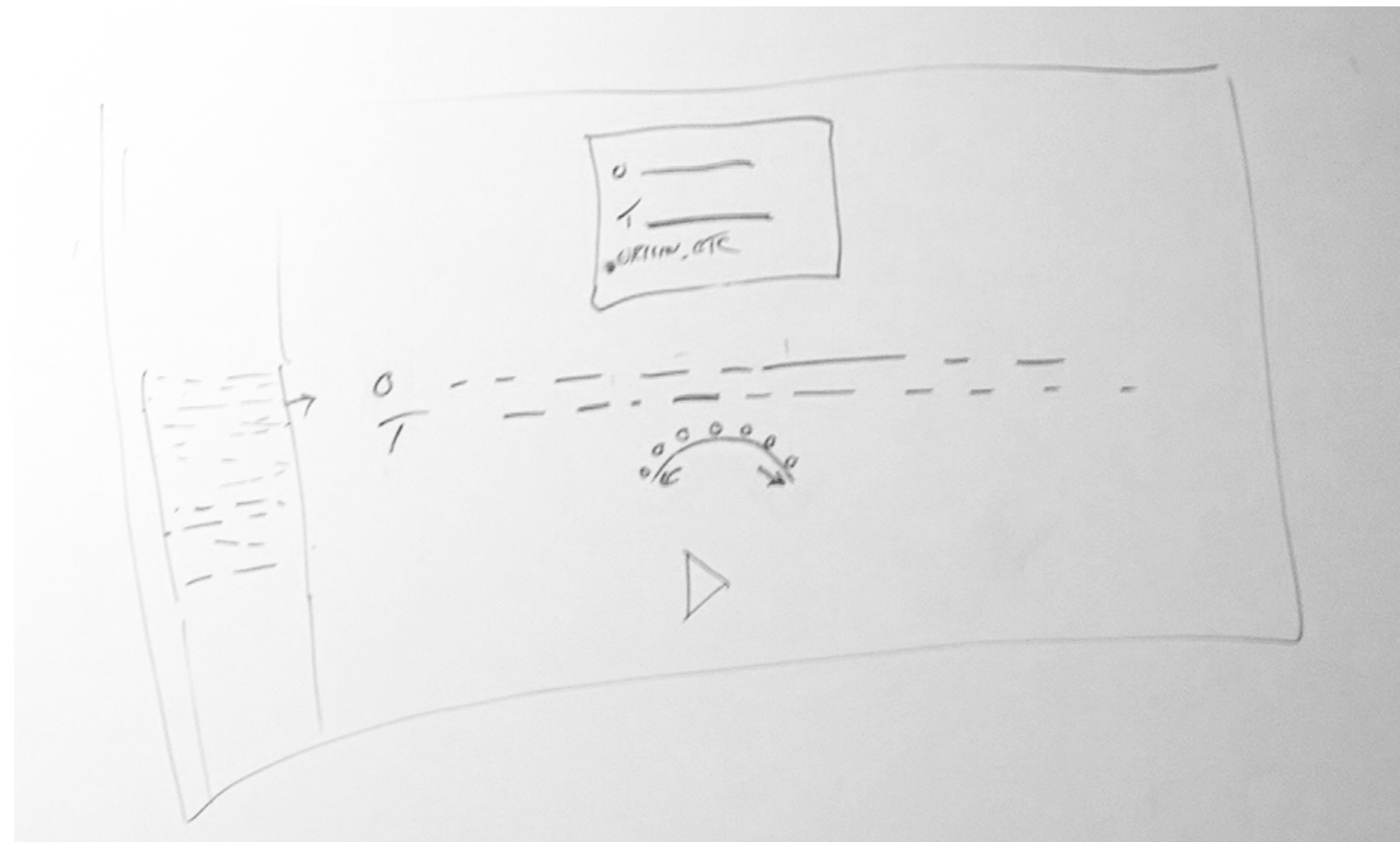
Results: Sketch 5

Narration speed changed by dial in center.

Original poem on the left hand side for navigation purposes.

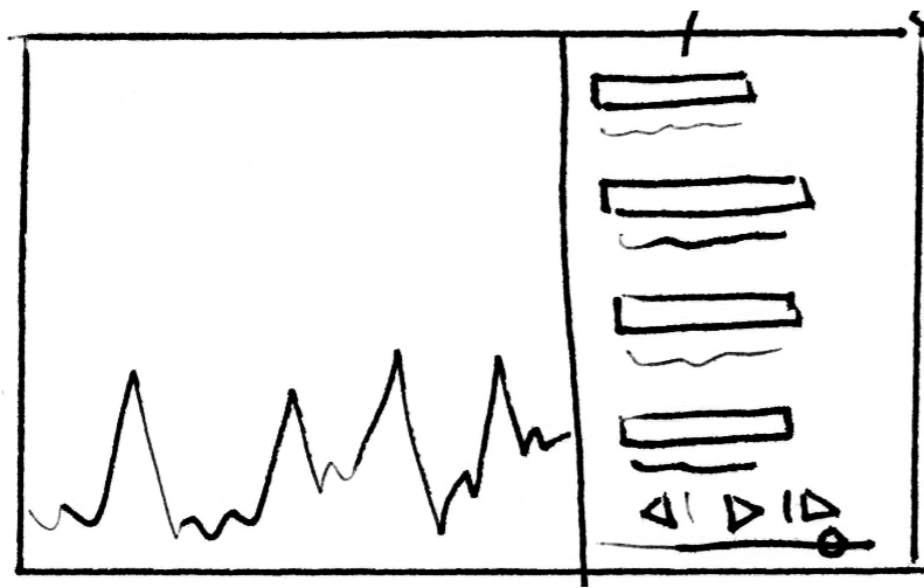
Top area has browsing to look up word origins.

Original and translated lines shown side by side

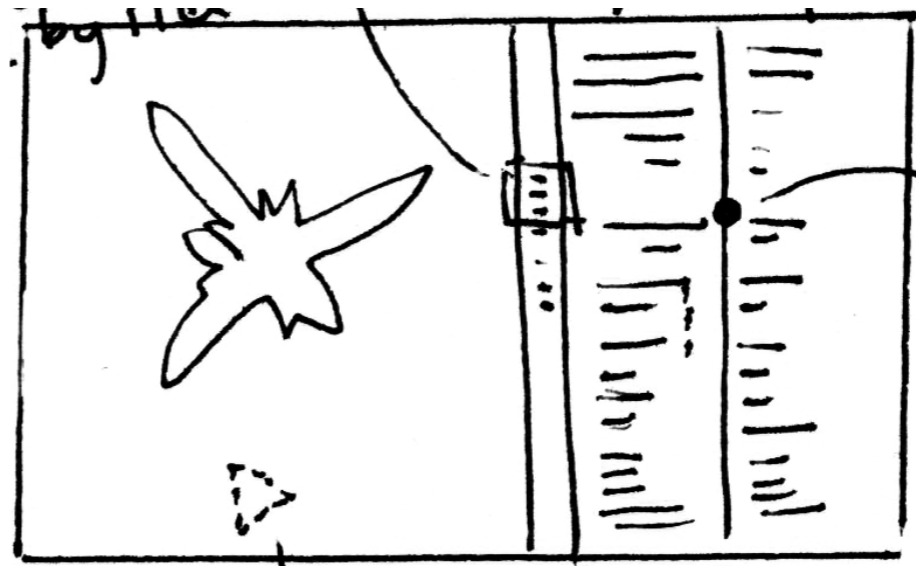


Lo-Fi prototypes

Translated and original shown one on top of the other

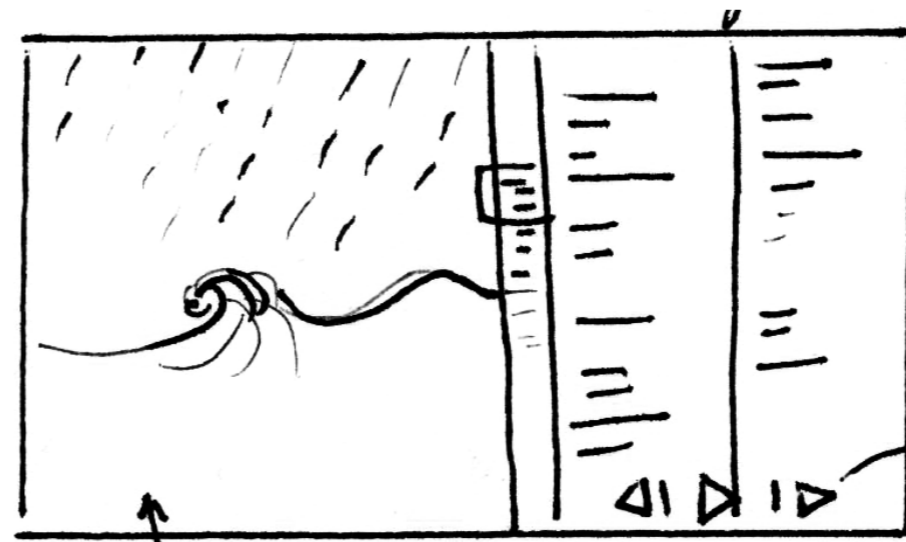


Shows overview of poem, allows scrolling



Translated and original shown side-by-side

Bouncy balls

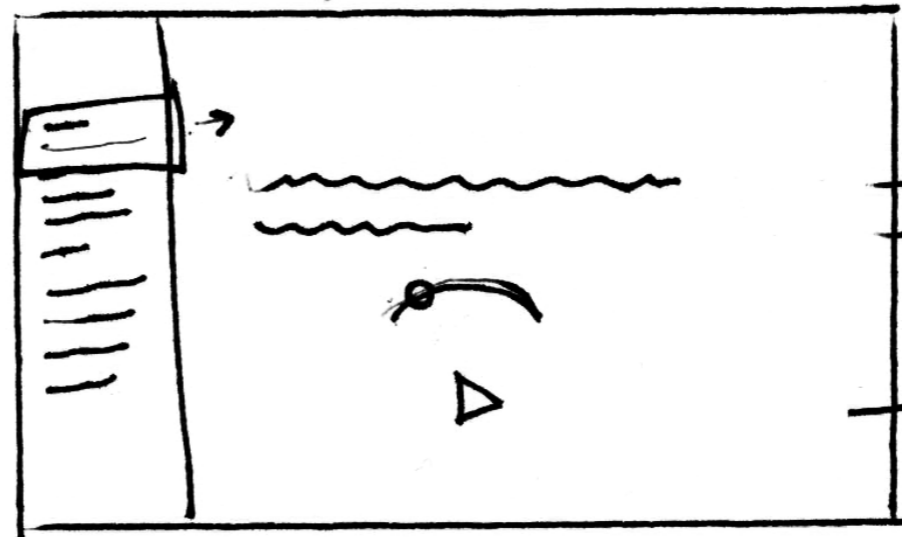
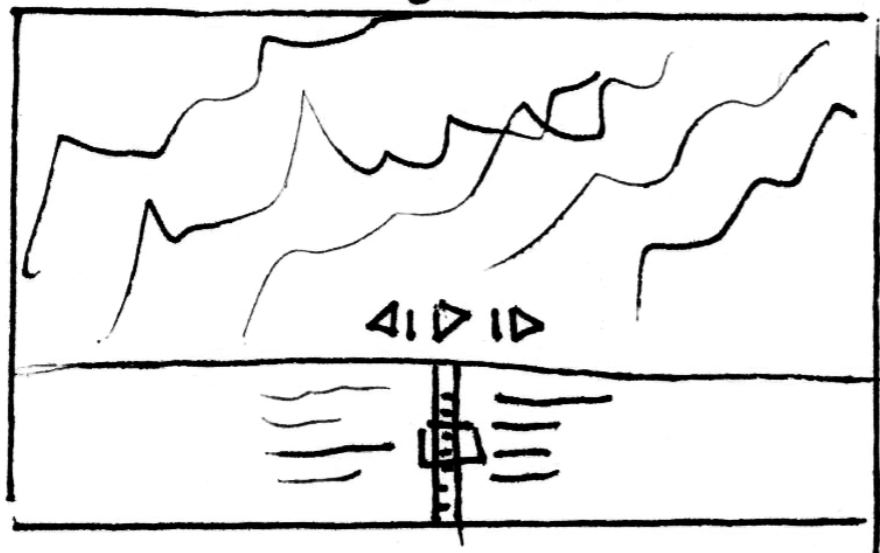


Allows changing of lines

These move poem forward one line.

Lo-Fi prototypes

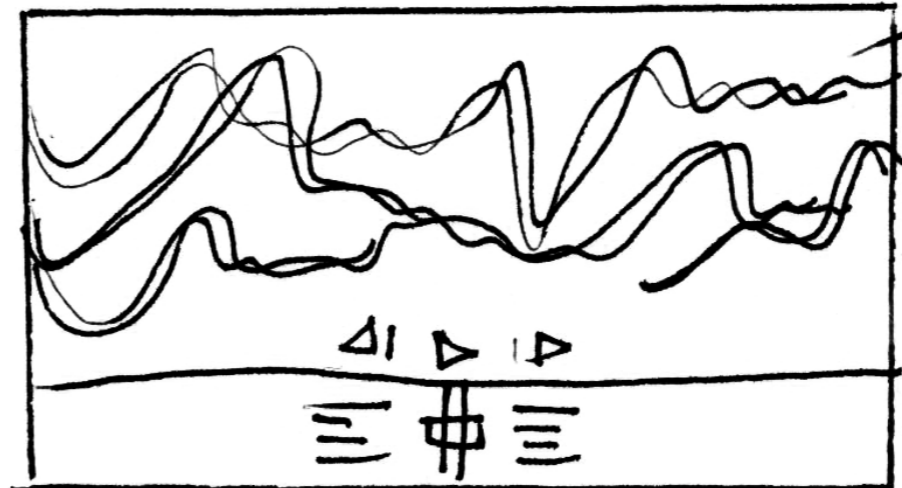
3D waveform



Original line and translated line shown individually

Speed can be adjusted

lightning

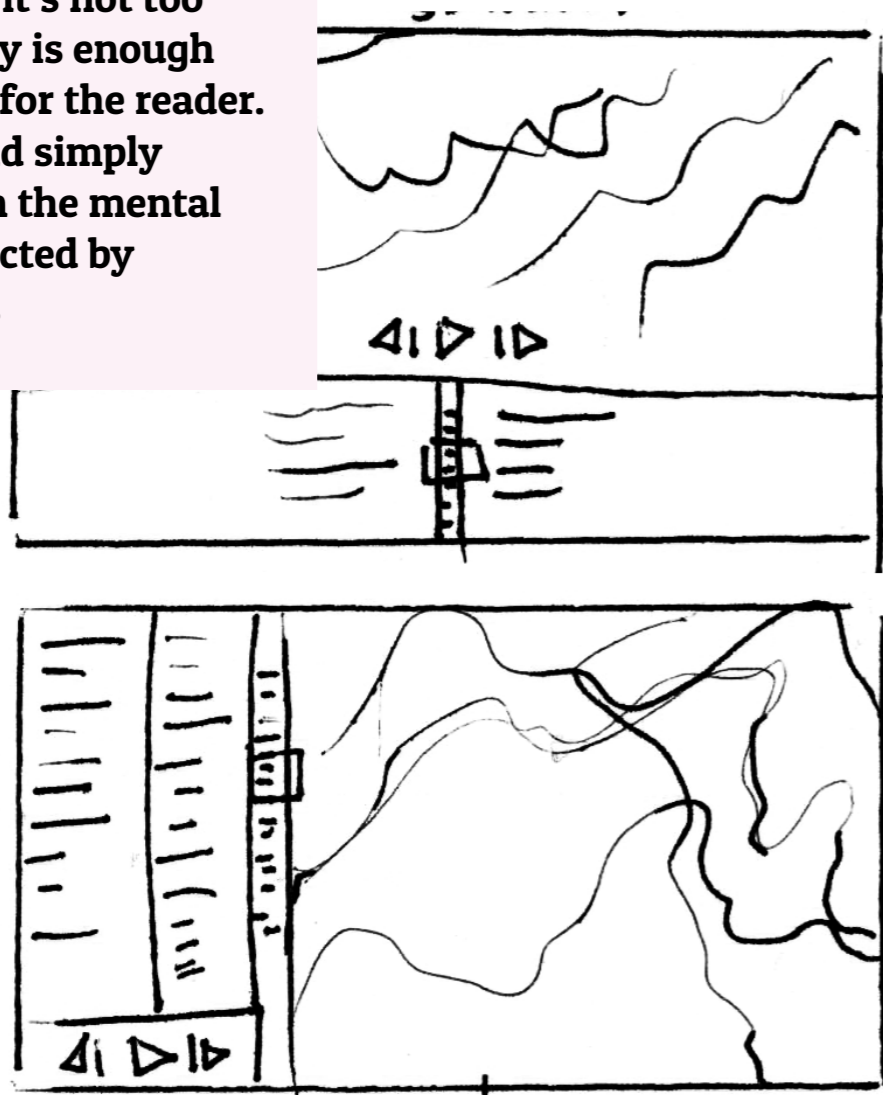


Ribbons blowing in wind

Feedback

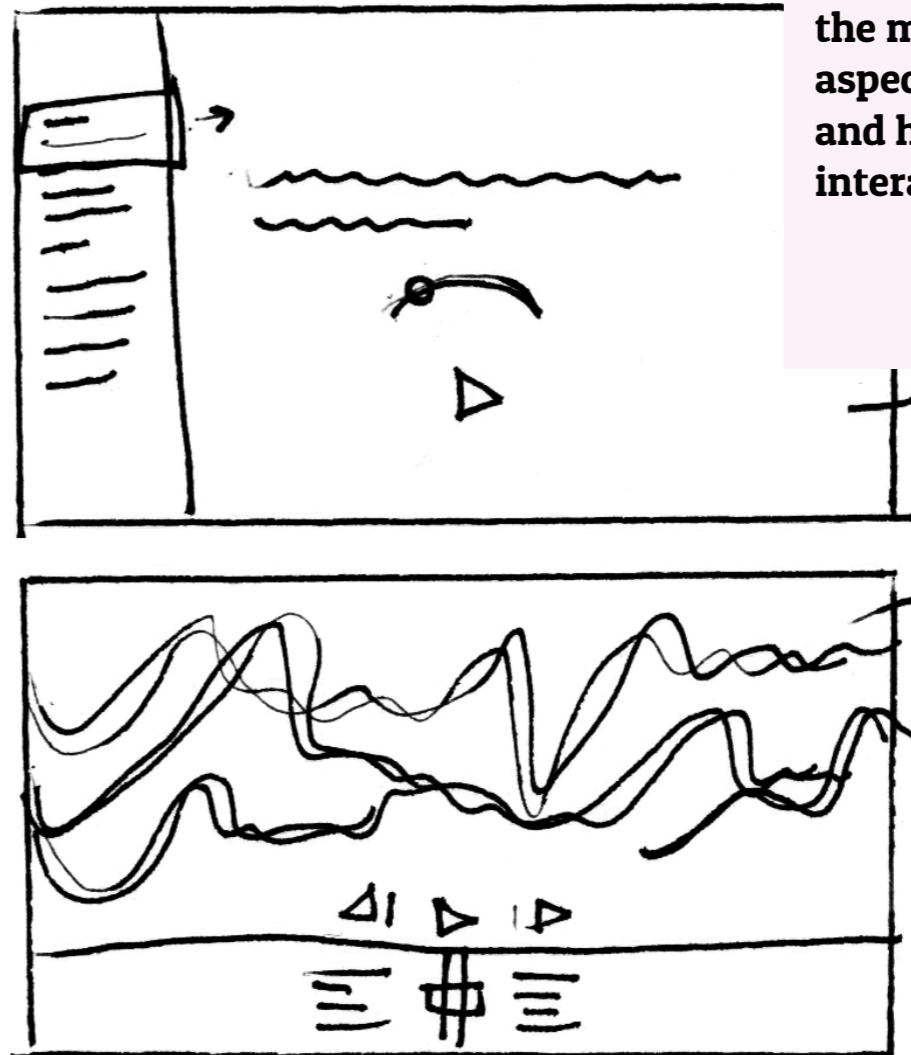
2ND FAVORITE!

Just because it's not too flashy. Poetry is enough information for the reader. Visuals would simply distract from the mental images projected by imagination.



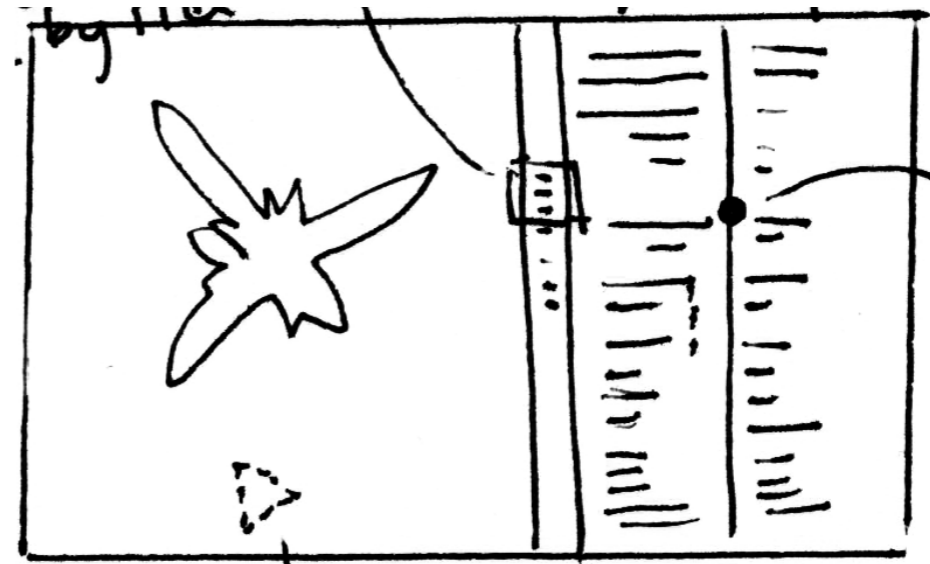
FAVORITE!

I personally like this one the most due to the reading aspect. It's visually pleasing and helps the author-reader interaction.

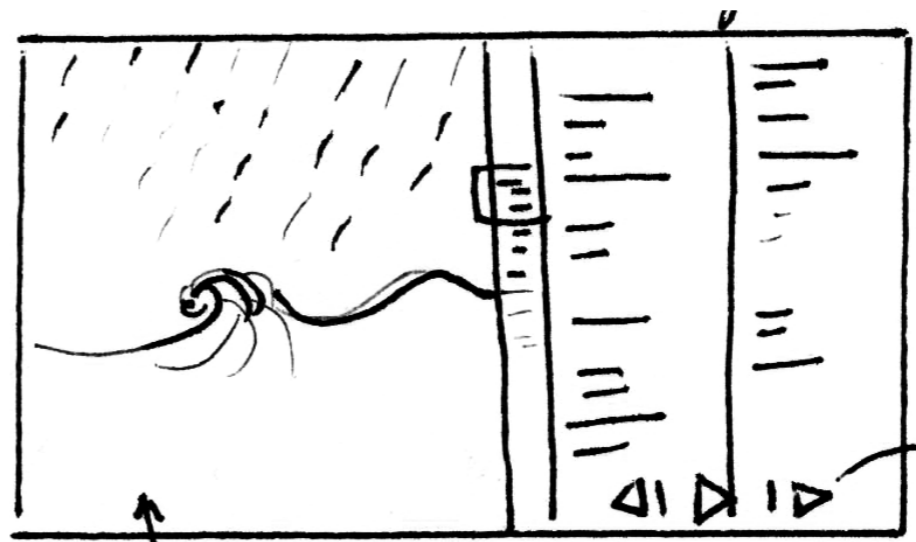


Feedback

I don't like the flashy visuals in these....



Bouncy balls



Feedback

WHAT I DIDN'T LIKE

- **Flashy visuals**
- **No video options**
- **No customization**
- **Interface not very flexible**

WHAT I DID LIKE

- **Translated poem is right next to the original**
- **we get to hear the audio of the poet**
- **The text is highlighted as we read along**
- **The scrollbar on the more vertical mock-ups**

MY SUGGESTIONS

- **Ambiance option for user. Some people like to listen to ambiance or instrumentals when reading poetry; some poets use ambiance in their performances**
- **Links or video option if there is a performance of the poet. Poetry is best felt by viewing the performance of the poet.**



Feedback

An important note:

Students want *control*.

**Too many or too few
modes of interaction will
disrupt their immersion.**

This sentiment has appeared twice in feedback sessions

The background features a globe with a red overlay. A horizontal band across the middle shows a torn paper effect, revealing a white surface with faint, illegible text. The text "CURRENT STATUS" is printed in white, bold, uppercase letters across this band.

CURRENT STATUS

Current Status

I am currently building the minimally viable product with audio, text, and lines highlighted.

- Building JavaScript classes for each entity - audio, poem text, user interface - and mechanisms to tether each mechanism together.
- Using Web Audio API to set up audio playback
- Using Bootstrap for initial framework and icons

Current Status



Poetry Ribbons

Juventud Pablo Neruda

Future Visualization

Original Text	Translated Text
Un perfume como una acida espada de ciruelas en un camino, los besos del azucar en los dientes, las gotas vitales resbalando en los dedos, la dulce pulpa erotica, las eras, los pajares, los incitantes sitios secretos de las casas anchas, los colchones dormidos en el pasado, el agrio valle verde mirado desde arriba, desde el vidrio escondido: toda la adolescencia mojangose y ardiendo como una lampara derribada en la lluvia	A scent like a sword forged with the acid of plums found by a road, the sugary kisses that linger in the teeth, the drops of life sprinkling on the fingertips, the sweet erotic heart, the yards, the haystacks, the inviting secret rooms in the vast houses, mattresses sleeping in the past, the raging green valley seen from above, from a hidden window: adolescence all flickering and burning like a lamp knocked over in the rain.

⏪ ⏩

Windows taskbar: 4:44 PM 3/18/2014