

Claire Wilcox
Personal Essay

A Passion For Storytelling

I love telling stories, this love is the core of my pursuit of a career in animation. Stories come in many forms and yet are strangely universal. Stories are innately human. They comfort us, remind us of things we don't want to forget, teach us, touch us and provide an escape from reality. This is why storytelling is my love.

If my stories make an audience react and feel connected to each other, with laughter or tears, I've done my job. Isn't that the whole point of art, to make the audience feel something? Making an audience feel is intoxicating, this is what drives me. Maybe it's because we all have a favorite story, often it's a favorite because we discover a piece of ourselves in it creating connections to others.

My second love is visual art, I have been drawing for as long as I can remember. It seems only natural to me that entering the profession of animation is the ideal marriage of my love for stories and visual art. In the professional world of animation, I can draw on my passions to collaborate on stories that will be presented to the world through a medium meant to connect audiences to visually impactful stories.

I strive to tell these kinds of stories. Animation is the perfect medium for this, because it is based in collaboration. It's the manifestation of hundreds of people's personal pieces coming together to make an extraordinary work of storytelling. By sharing in the creation process as a professional animator, I'll get down to the core of storytelling -connection with others. I want to be inspired by the people around me and I want to inspire them. I want audiences to feel like my stories are theirs too.