

Perfection

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COVER PAGE

Panel 1: Mili drowning in darkness, reaching for a small light at “the end of the tunnel”. There are papers fluttering all around her filled with doodles, half drawn pages, and crossed out art. The comic name splashed across the panel at the top, lettered: **Perfection**. In the font Chikara Dzuyoku, which is the font that will be used throughout the comic.

ONE

Panel 1: Mili sitting down at her desk from a third person point of view. Her back towards the readers, far view. In her room. The colours are muted showing a negative atmosphere.

INNER MIND: I always thought that I was never good enough.

Panel 2: Closer POV to Mili, now looking over her shoulder. Paper with a scribbled out drawing of a person on the desk, eraser shavings surrounding her desk. Colours are muted showing a negative atmosphere.

INNER MIND: I looked down on myself and my own ability.

Panel 3: Mili centred in the panel, now looking at her frustrated face and body language, tears welling up. Darkness comes in slowly, dark at the borders and squiggle lines to show the static in her head.

INNER MIND: Why were the people around me able to draw so much better?

Panel 4: Transition to Mili standing on a metaphorical staircase and looking up. No colour / grayscale except for Mili herself (Symbolism in her head).

INNER MIND: I always felt this gap between me...

Panel 5: Transition to the top of the stairs, where ambiguous people stand, many steps away (maybe add a gap) from where Mili is standing (Symbolism in her head). "THEM" is emphasised, either through bolding, font change or just capitalizing. No colour / grayscale.

INNER MIND: and THEM.

Panel 6: Zoom into the faces of the people on the top, smug faces looking down onto Mili

TWO

Panel 1: Mili pacing across the room, looking thoughtful / intense thoughts, furrowed brows. Muted colours showing again that negative atmosphere and headspace. (Back to real life)

INNER MIND: I spent a lot of time thinking about how I could improve, if I could become like the others who were at a higher level than me.

Panel 2: Mili looking like a zombie, maybe showing sadness and frustration at the blank paper (directly the same as the dialogue). Darkness comes in again only at the borders (Symbolism for that headspace again, but it is more negative and is taking over her real life). Showing from the previous panels, that up and down feeling of being burnout while going through her thoughts.

INNER MIND: I'd stare at blank papers and be stuck on ideas.

Panel 3: Mili looking frustrated, she's burnt out and curled up in bed crying, with a paper flying away from her hand. Colours become more muted and a darkness emerges from the borders of the panel and spreads very close to her.

INNER VOICE: I didn't have motivation to draw nor could I find inspiration to push myself to try to find good in something I once found comfort in.

Panel 4: Close up into Mili's face, messy hair and tear-filled eyes, snot on her face. In a small voice she speaks. The darkness floods the entire panel.

Milianna: Why me?

Panel 5: Mili in a dark background being swallowed up by the darkness, a hand to her neck trying to claw away from the darkness and negative thoughts. Completely black and white sequence.

INNER VOICE: I felt trapped in my self hate

THREE

Panel 1: Then a sudden brightness from the darkness she was just in. Then a zoom into her face, a look of revelation, relieved(?). A little colour comes out from the muted darkness.

INNER MIND: But then I realized.

Panel 2: The scene comes back to reality and she is sitting on the edge of the bed, eyes wide and her tears are drying off. There is a small twinkle in her eyes. The colours are brighter from the previous panels, when she was still in a slump.

INNER MIND: I don't have to be perfect...

Panel 3: (It goes back into her mind world, showing the mindset change) Mili walking up the metaphorical stairs with confidence, back in the symbolic dream within her mind (Her colours are bright and it is seeping into the monochromatic environment).

INNER MIND: or better...

Panel 4: Mili picking up a paper and pencil.

INNER MIND: or even see them as competition.

Panel 5: Looking from a bird's eye view at her drawing at her desk, an almost finished work of art is displayed.

INNER MIND: I just have to work for myself, and be proud of my self improvement

Panel 6: The people who used to be smug and mean looking down at Mili and holding out their hands (from the POV of Mili).

INNER MIND: Instead of looking at others as people working against me, I should see them as peers going through their own journey, and use them as a point of inspiration.

FOUR

Panel 1: Splash panel, Mili looking proud, happier, freer. She is curled up on a bean bag doodling on a sketchbook. POV third person from the perspective of a TV show, looking straight onto her. Super bright and colourful and little fireworks of ideas and confidence sparking from her head.

INNER VOICE: Maybe I don't have to put myself on a pedestal anymore.