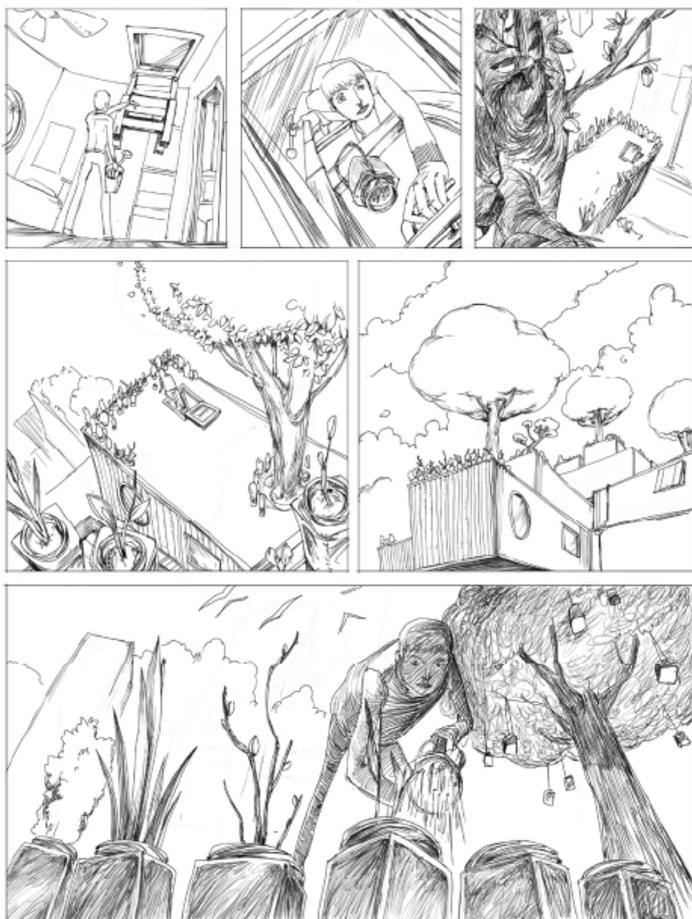


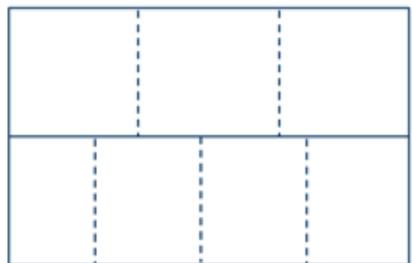
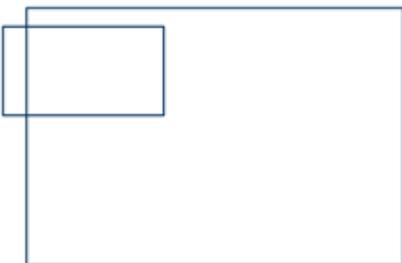
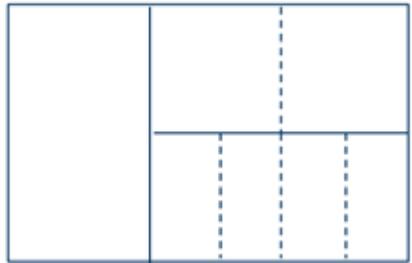
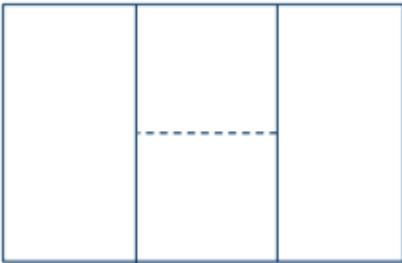
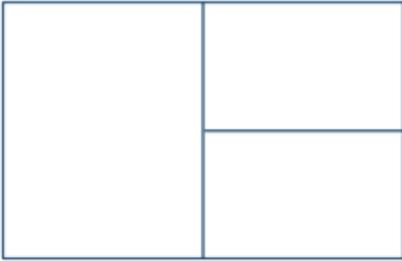
# Layouts & Pencils



Story and Art by Edison Yan  
Excerpt from *Exploded View* Anthology

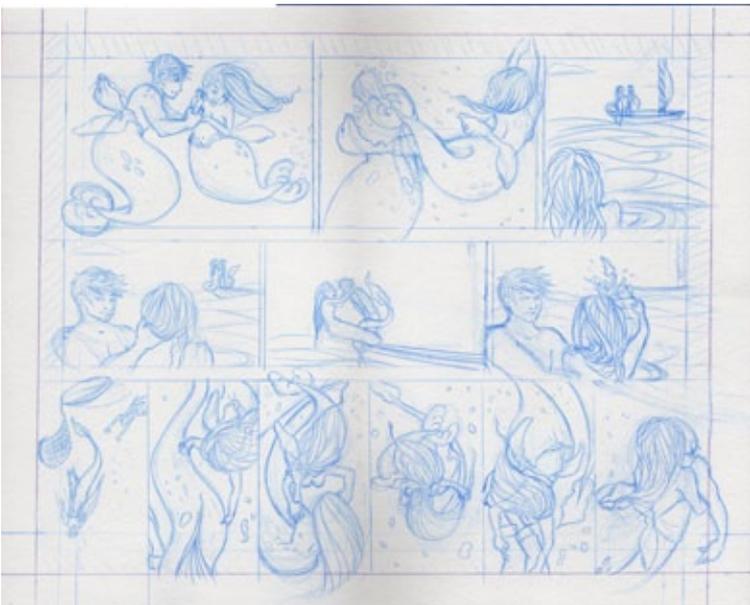
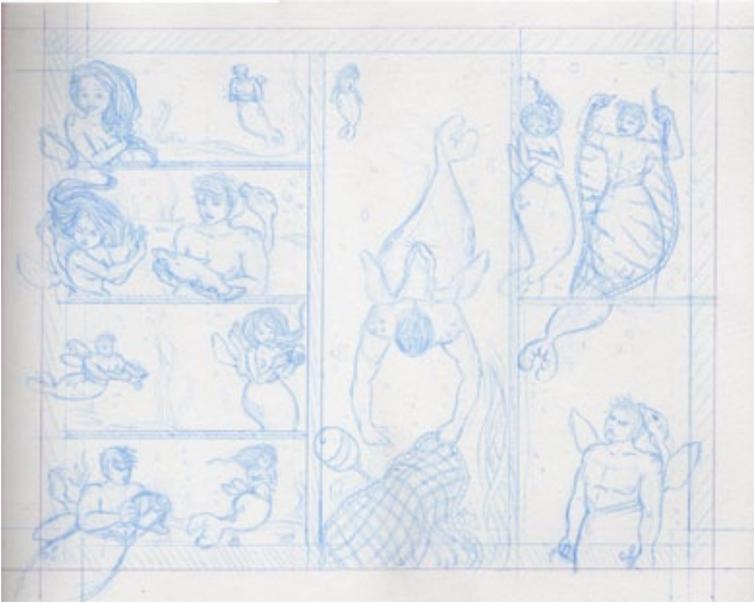
## Types of Layouts

Here are eight basic panel layouts that can be used to break-up a page to tell a story. They can appear in whatever shape and style best meets the artist and story demands and establishes location and mood.



## Spacing and Number of Panels

Border thickness can tell how quickly an action happens and help the reader navigate through the panels. Careful, too many panels on a page can confuse the reader.

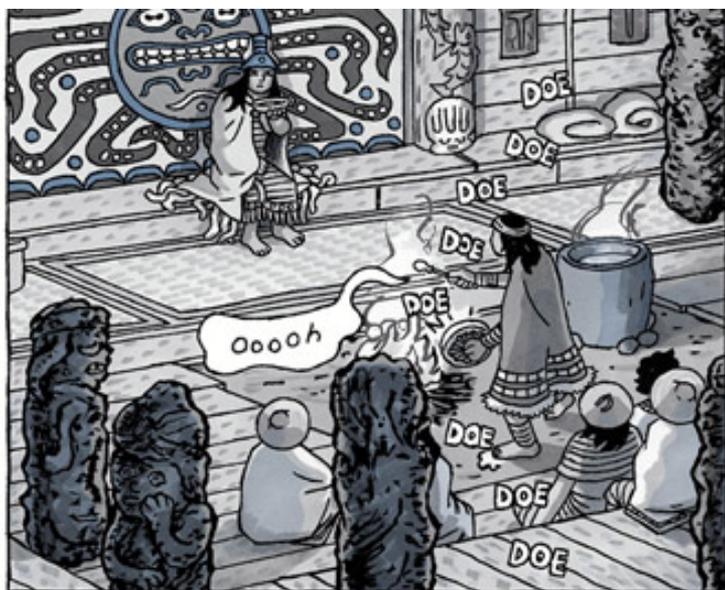


Story and Art by Christine Eberle  
Excerpt from *Waterlogged* Anthology



## Using Text to Direct the Reader

Dialogue in a story can be used to create flow from one panel into the next. In this page, the beat of a drum leads the reader into the next panel while the scene is established.



Story and Art by Jonathan Dalton  
Excerpt from *Waterlogged* Anthology

## Have Fun with Layouts

The panel border is one continuous line that separates each panel and connecting from one page to the next. In the end, you can string up the pages and see the line start to finish.



Story and Art by Oliver McTavish-Wisden  
Excerpt from *Concept* online comic

## Layout for Emotion

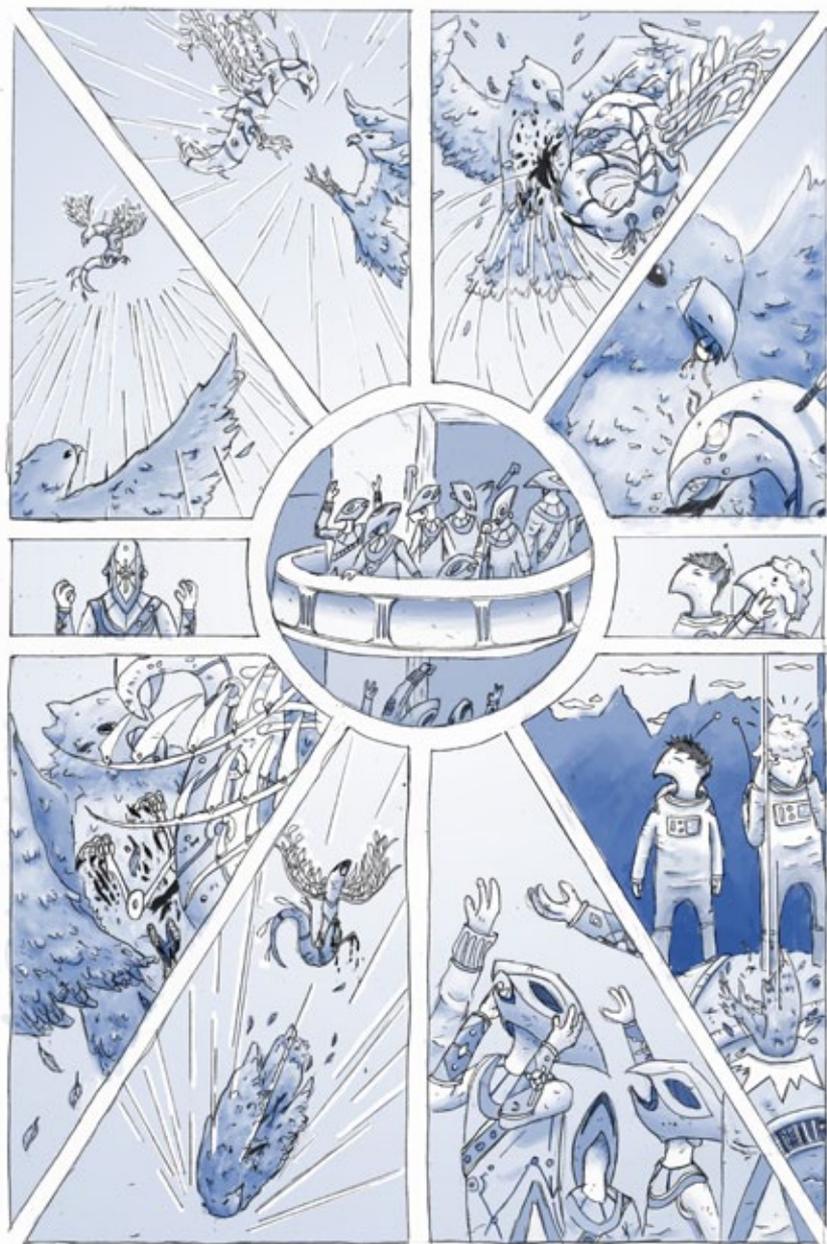
Use the layout of your page to set up the mood you want your reader to have. Make sure that your characters can show their expression or reaction to what is happening in the story.



Story by Aliena Shoemaker. Art by Chloe Chan  
Excerpt from *Exploded View* Anthology

## Experiment

Panel layout tells the story just as much as your drawings do, try new things and make the story more interesting to the reader.



Story and Art by Oliver McTavish-Wisden  
Excerpt from *Waterlogged* Anthology

## Panel Division

Panels can take a variety of forms, such as: defined lines, circles, squares, shapes of objects, and symbols. Panels don't have to be defined by lines; they can float freely within a page using the white space around to separate each scene.



Story and Art by Victoria Sticha  
Excerpt from *21 Journeys Anthology*

## Characters Outside of Panels

To create a sense of action or add emphasis, a character or object may appear above multiple panels within a page.



Story and Art By Edison Yan  
Excerpt from *Exploded View* Anthology

## Establishing Shot

There are many ways to establish a place or character. Here we have panels that overlap the main scene to show a mood or location; this helps the reader see where the action is happening.



Story and Art by Mara Coman  
Excerpt from *Giants Of Main Street Anthology*



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