

Who am I?

My name is Canan Ekmen and I am a self taught artist. Not only do I paint in a traditional format but I also spend a great deal of time honing my digital talents. Creating my own fantasy characters and stories is of particular interest to me. My art is mostly influenced by the fantasy novels I read, animations, cartoons, films and series I watch. In my art, I prefer to use muted pastel colors. In fact, I like the look of subtle color changes merging together in a muted appearance. This is reflected in my work.



The Last Fairy of the Lake

In this digital painting, a water fairy emerges from the lake full of lily pads. The fog and branches of the trees surround and suffocate her as she slowly blends in with the background. The only things reminding her that she is still there, are the fireflies flying only around the fairy in a faint contrasting yellow glow.

This water fairy is my original character that I draw often in my sketchbook. She is the last water fairy left in this lake because of the massacre of all the water fairies in the past. In this world, fairy wings are valuable and they sell for high prices in the black market. So the last water fairy of the lake has to live in fear that one day she might also be killed for her wings.



Student

In this piece, a student sits at their desk while the endless darkness behind them grows. The images of what is happening in front of them are distorted, showed by the twisting light that turns into darkness. The only color that can be seen is the red of the blood leaking from their red eye and everything else is gray like a monotone school day.



Fire and Water

The inspiration for this digital painting came from the contrast of the two opposite elements, fire and water. In the painting, Fire is visiting Water while slowly fading and losing her flame, surrounded by an endless field of mushrooms.



Witch Twins

This is a digital painting of two witch characters I designed. These witch twins are studying magic to become powerful witches. They live in a secluded cabin faraway from everyone to study magic in peace.



Alex

This is a character I designed named Alex. He carries the colors of an autumn forest. He is yet to know what his future holds as everything around him shrivels and dies, almost like fall warning the coming of winter. Still, there is something beautiful about the colors that fall brings.



Forest Fire

This piece was inspired by forest fires. The character is grey like ashes and smoke and their hood is red like fire. The character is trying to run from the fire like all of the helpless creatures trying to escape the scorching flames. Wherever they turn the flames surround them and there is no escape. This character I designed has flame in their eyes because they know that wherever they go there is no getting away from the fire.



Blue and Red

This is a watercolor painting I did. I used the colors blue and red for this piece. The color blue turning into red symbolizes the character losing their calmness as the color blue is mostly considered to be a peaceful color while red is mostly associated with anger.