

Talah
Alatasi



Inspiration

PORTFOLIO

Showcasing Mood Boards and References

Key Reference #1

There are many episodes and moments in Supergirl that have inspired this script, as well as many of my previous films. However, the biggest influence was the show's 100th episode, "It's a Super Life", a play on It's a Wonderful Life. The episode revolves around a magical being arriving at Kara Danvers' house and attempting to help her repair her friendship with Lena Luthor by taking her back to key moments in their relationship. Kara is repeatedly given the opportunity to reveal her identity as Supergirl earlier than she originally did, and each decision creates a new version of reality with increasingly disastrous consequences. Eventually, Kara realises that none of these alternate outcomes are actually preferable to the reality she already has.

Supergirl



Key Reference #1

Supergirl

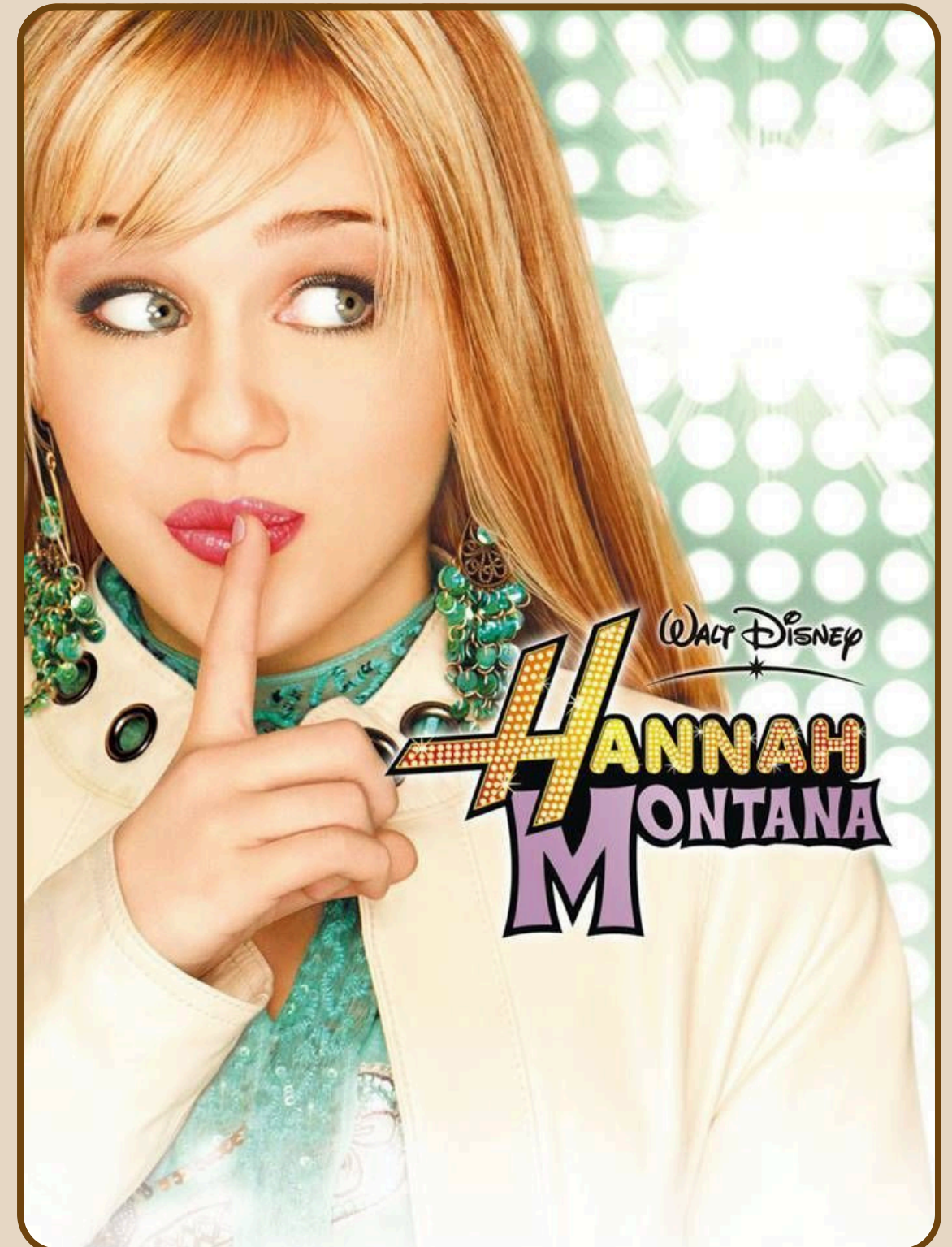
More than anything, what stayed with me was how the episode used alternate realities not as spectacle, but as a way of externalising Kara's internal conflict. It functions almost like a bottle episode, slowing the larger story down to focus on one relationship, one emotional dilemma, and one character's regrets. Watching it helped me realise that the alternate worlds in *Coming Soon* should not simply exist as "what if?" scenarios. They needed to become the mechanism through which Rowen confronts different versions of herself and gains perspective on the life she already has. It also strongly influenced the tone of my script, particularly its blend of grounded emotion, humour, and controlled magical realism.



Key Reference #2

Hannah Montana

Equally important was Hannah Montana, which was a childhood favourite of mine. Beyond the obvious connection of its protagonist also being a pop star, the show influenced Coming Soon in two specific ways.



Key Reference #2

Hannah Montana



The first was the construction of World One, where Rowen becomes the biggest star on earth within seconds. Hannah Montana is a fake identity created to allow Miley the freedom to live a normal life. Several scenes and episodes explore the difference between how Miley is treated when she is Hannah and when she is not, as well as how those identities affect the way she views herself. This directly influenced Rowen's sudden jump from being a relatively normal person to becoming the axis of everyone's universe. I also believe Hannah Montana is a show Rowen would have watched when she was younger and that it may have influenced her desire to become a pop star. This is why she has a Hannah Montana poster on her wall.

Key Reference #2

Hannah Montana



The second and more direct influence was the episode “When You Wish You Were the Star.” After struggling to balance both sides of her life, Miley wishes she could be Hannah Montana all the time. She initially loves the reality created by that wish, but eventually realises that she has lost her normal life and that the people closest to her have either changed or no longer know her. She then wishes that she had never become Hannah Montana, only to discover that she also hates that version of reality. Her final wish is to undo the wishes entirely and return to her original life.

Key Reference #2

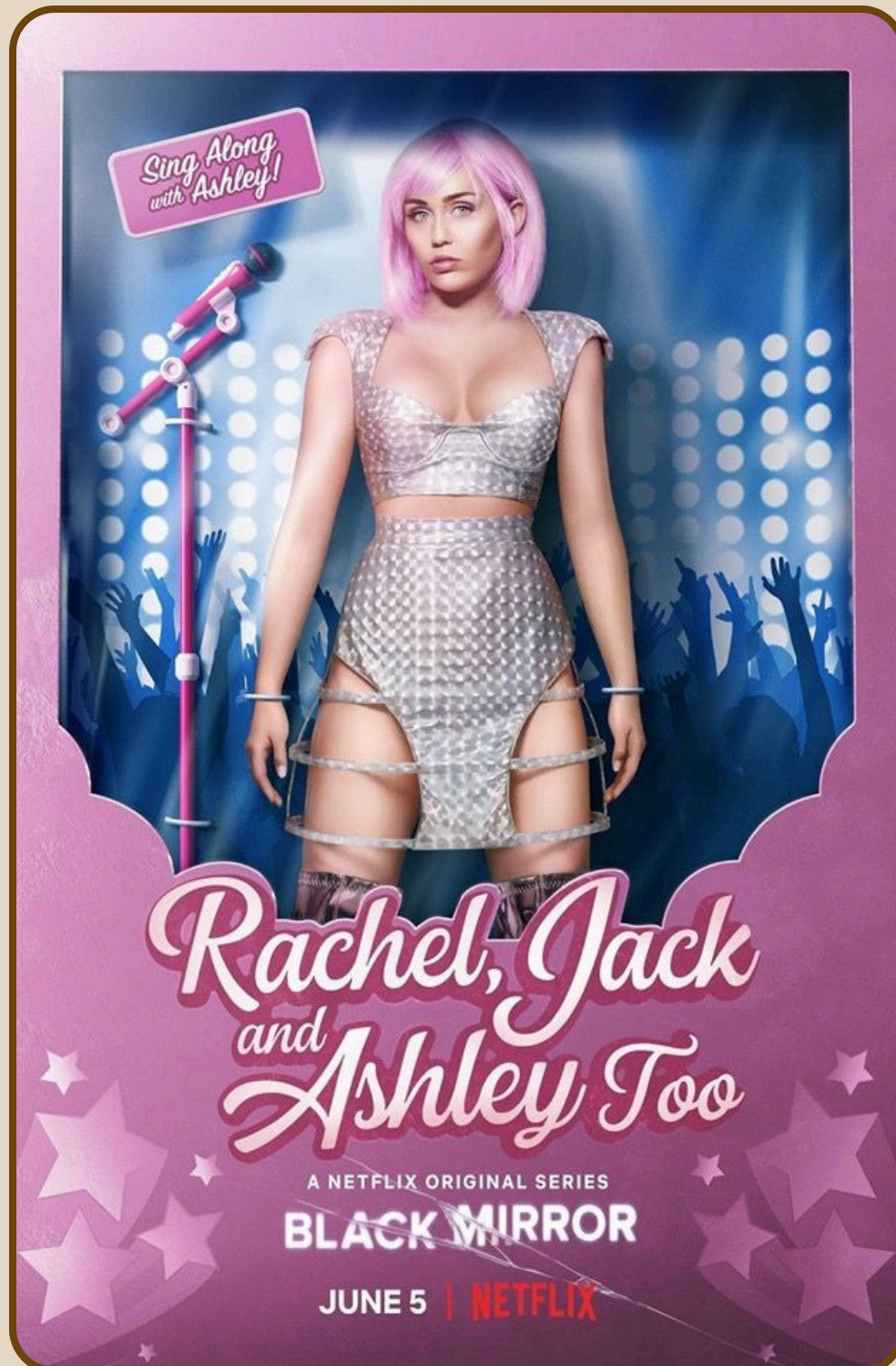
Hannah Montana



This episode became the structural blueprint for my alternate-world narrative. Rowen first enters a reality of excessive fame and rejects it. She then asks to see the version where she never made the deal with the label, only to reject that life as well. More importantly, the episode does not only examine what excess and lack of fame do to Miley. It shows how those realities change the people around her and threaten the relationships that keep her grounded. That became a direct influence on the relationship between Rowen and Amber.

Key Reference #3

Black Mirror



Although Coming Soon is much lighter in tone than Black Mirror, the series was an important reminder of how much can be accomplished in roughly forty-five minutes. Almost every episode introduces a completely new world, establishes its rules, explores a single central idea, and reaches an emotionally satisfying conclusion within the runtime. Watching the series gave me confidence that a contained runtime did not have to limit the scope of an idea if the narrative remained focused.

The episode that stayed with me the most was “Rachel, Jack and Ashley Too.” Unlike Hannah Montana, which approaches pop stardom from a family sitcom perspective, Black Mirror explores the darker side of celebrity and the entertainment industry. What interested me most was not the technology itself but the questions it asks about authorship, identity, image, and the ownership of an artist. It explores the tension between the authentic person and the commercially desirable version of that person, which mirrors the conflict I wanted Rowen to experience.

Key Reference #3

Black Mirror



Although my script ultimately rejects the cynical worldview that Black Mirror often embraces, the episode reinforced my interest in writing about modern pop stardom as something psychologically complicated rather than simply glamorous. It reminded me that the most interesting conflict was never whether Rowen could become famous, but whether she could recognise herself once she got there.

Also, I found it incredibly ironic and uncanny that Miley Cyrus was cast as the pop star in the episode after watching her be Hannah Montana on the Disney Channel.



Film References



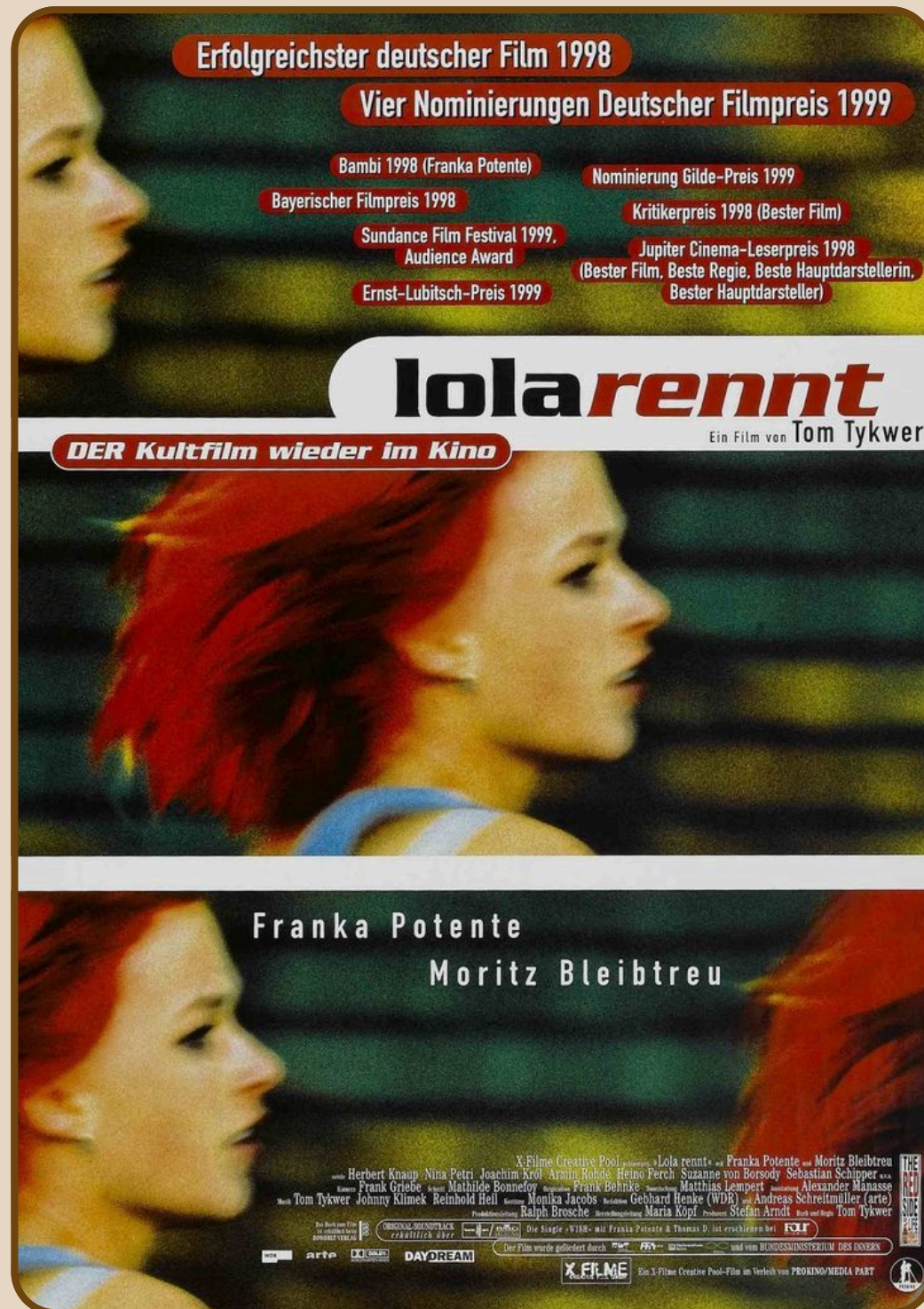
1

Everything Everywhere All at Once is a personal favourite of mine, and I had previously written an essay on it for university. What connected most strongly to Coming Soon was its exploration of regret and the fear of having wasted a life. That reflects Marina more than Rowen. Marina is haunted by the life she could have lived if she had kept going, and the alternate realities force that regret into the open. The film also helped me keep the emotional grounding of my script shared between Rowen, Marina, and Amber, rather than allowing the high-concept structure to overwhelm the relationships.

Film References

2

Run Lola Run mainly influenced the camp and visual style of Coming Soon. I liked how energetic and heightened it felt without losing the emotional stakes. It also helped me think about morally complicated characters and how an ending can still feel satisfying without pretending everything has been perfectly fixed. Rowen does not return from the alternate worlds with a flawless life. She simply makes a more honest choice and accepts that consequences will still follow.





Film References

2

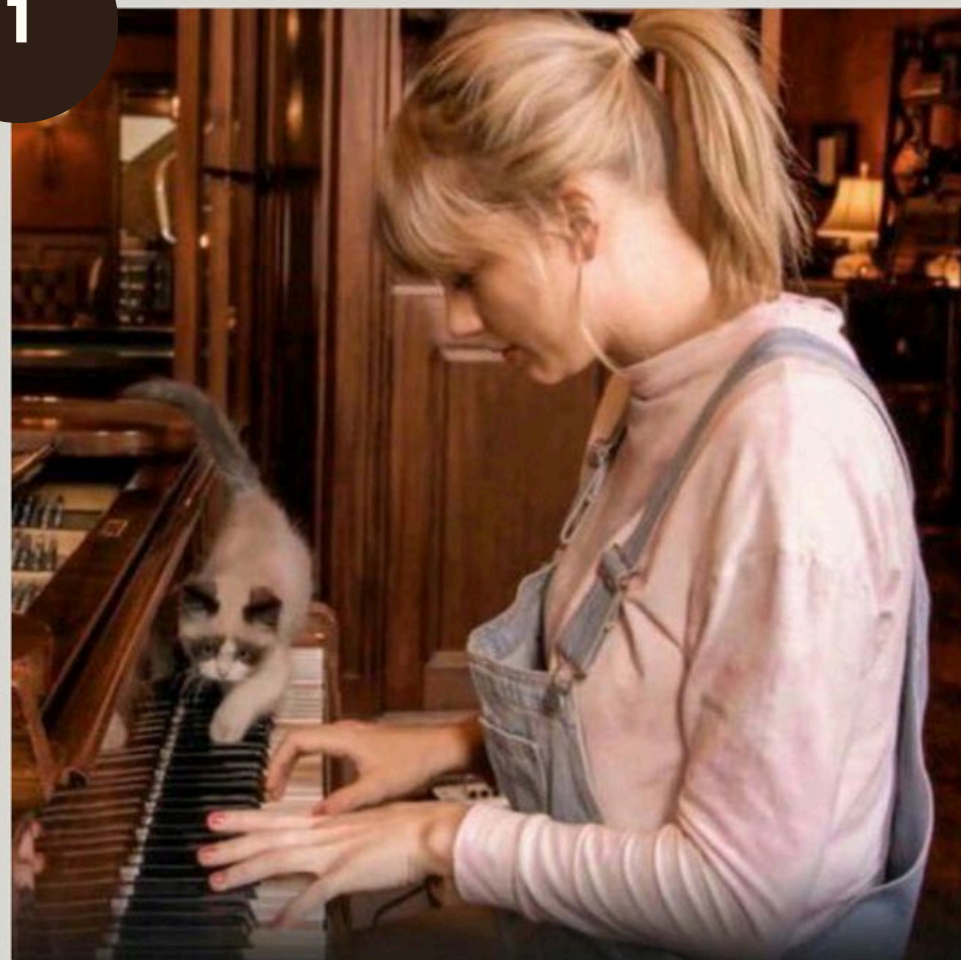
It's a Wonderful Life is a film I have rewatched many times and used as a key reference because it is probably the most recognisable mainstream example of the alternate-life narrative. It also inspired the idea of giving Rowen a magical guide, which eventually became Marina. Most importantly, the film shows how this kind of plot allows a character to return to their original world with a completely different perspective on their life after experiencing an alternate version of it. That became central to Rowen's journey. Marina does not solve her problems for her. She gives Rowen enough perspective to return and make a different choice herself.





Documentary References

1



MISS AMERICANA 2020

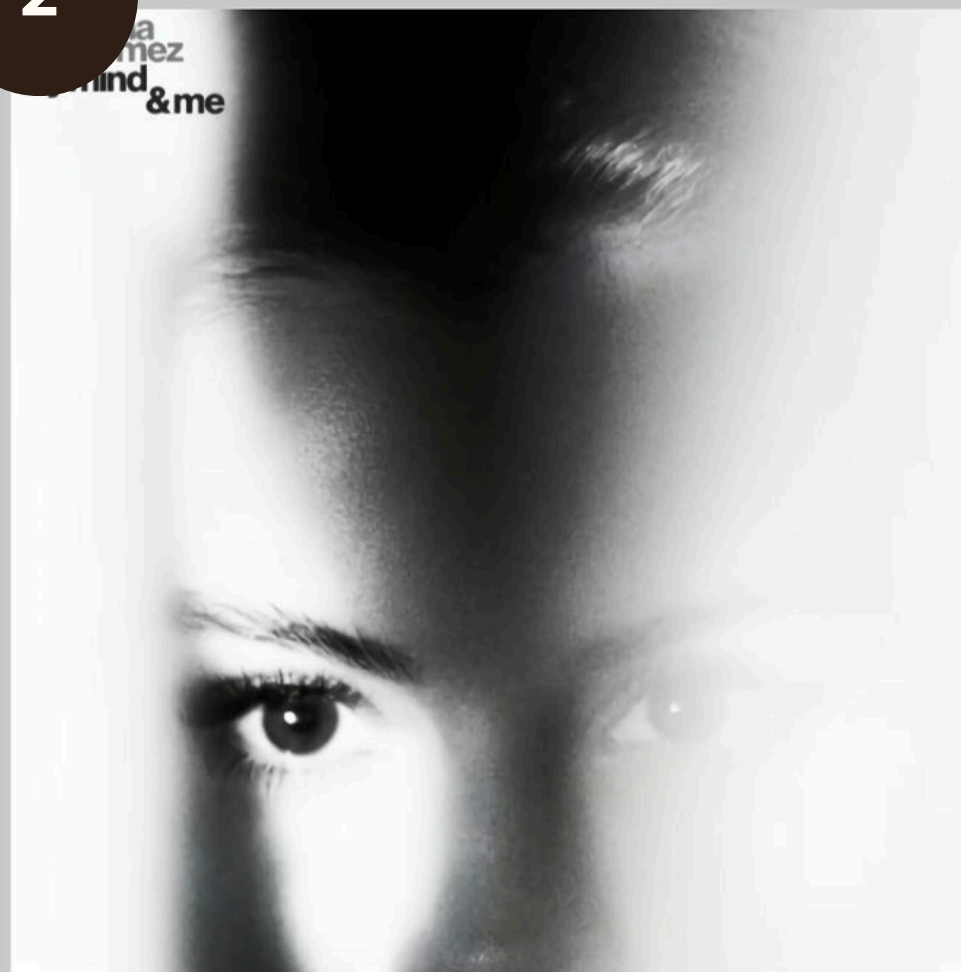
running time 85 MINUTES

directed by LANA WILSON

produced by MORGAN NEVILLE CAITRIN ROGERS CHRISTINE O'MALLEY

starring TAYLOR SWIFT

2



MY MIND & ME 2022

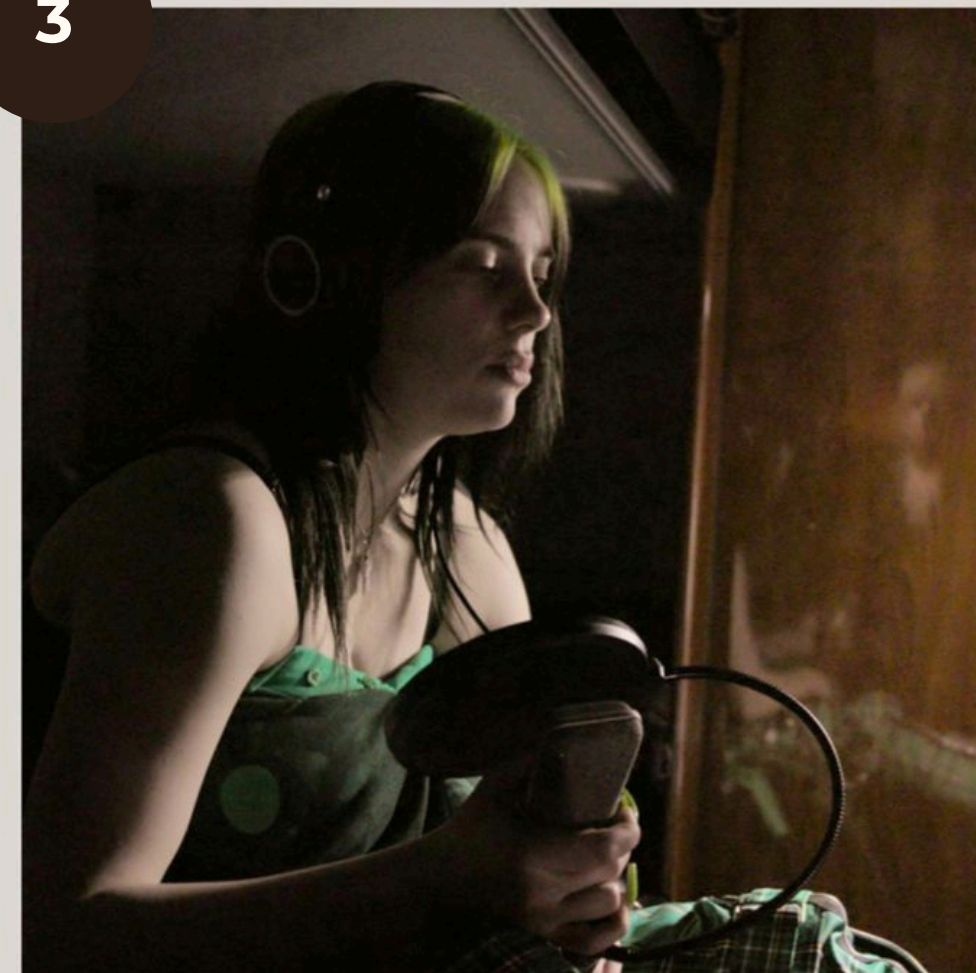
SELENA GOMEZ

MY MIND & ME

INTERSCOPE RECORDS

it's hard to talk and feel heard
when you always feel like a burden

3



BILLIE EILISH: THE WORLD'S A LITTLE BLURRY

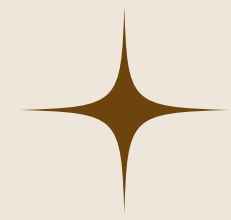
2021

running time 2h 20m

directed by R.J. CUTLER

produced by R. J. CUTLER ANTHONY SEYLER TREVOR SMITH

starring BILLIE EILISH



Musical References for Rowan

1



Olivia Rodrigo

2

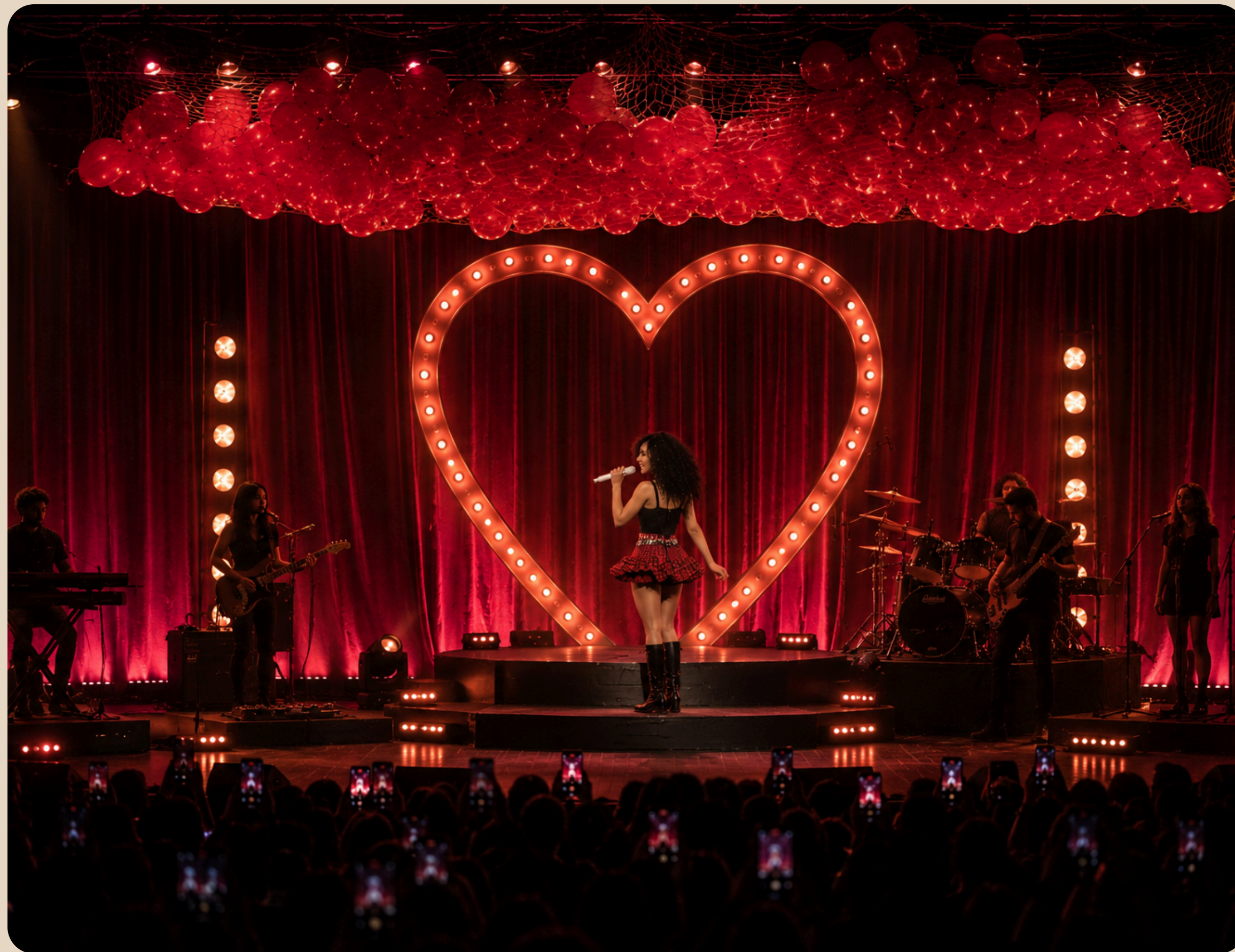


OLivia Dean

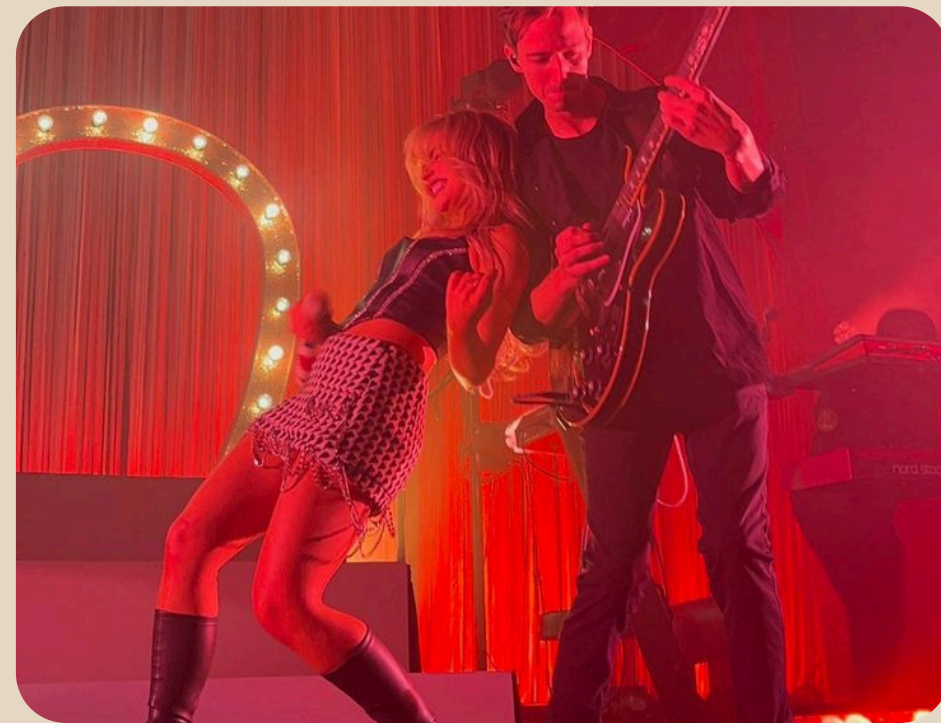
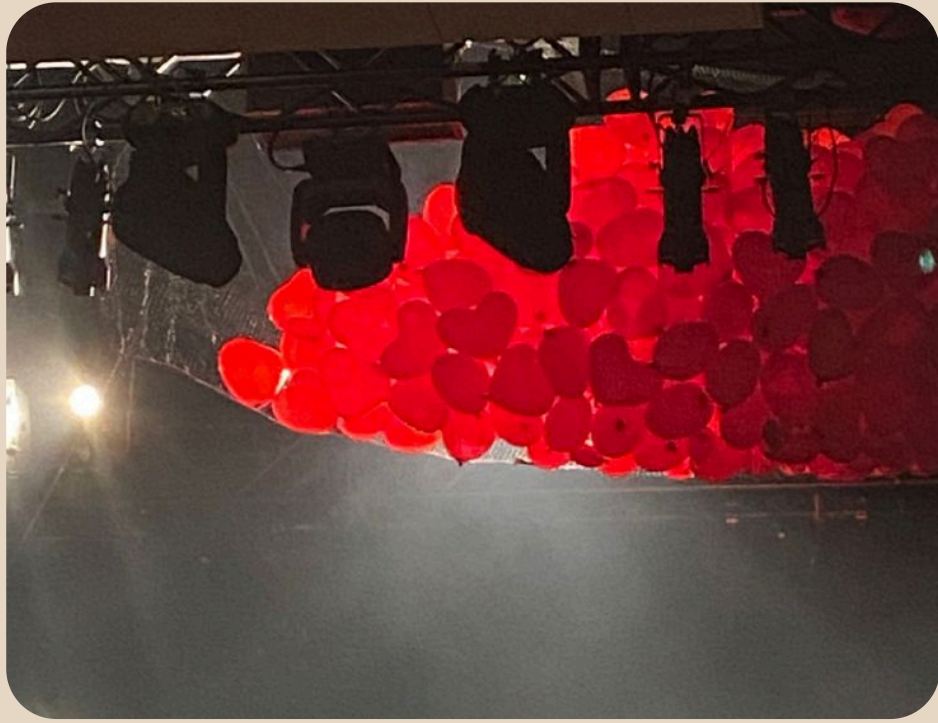
3



Sabrina
Carpenter



Stage Design - Warfield



Stage Design - Warfield



Mood Board - Marína Bell



Mood Board - Marína Bell



Mood Board - Rowan Hale



Mood Board - Rowan Hale



Mood Board - Rowan Hale



Mood Board - Sabrina





That's all Folks!