KP Pre-Production Summary STOP Motion Animation 1

NOTE: I _x__ _first_ plan to __x_ Create a short ___ "test" animation using stop motion techniques __x_ 5-10 seconds. No story needed for this one, I just want to focus on the __x_ visuals, _x__motion, and _x__ technical process. THEN I want to ___ describe my feelings regarding how it went _x__ for my blog. I will be specifically addressing the following:

____ Post the finished video to YouTube or Vimeo.
____ Embed the video on your blog page, along with a short writeup of how you created each one and your thoughts on the process. __*__ How did it go? __*_ Was anything surprising to you? __*__ How will this test impact your full stop motion animation project?

GENERAL INFO

STOP Motion Animation 1:

1. **Your name:** Kevin Pointer Sr.

2. **Story idea # 1/ STOP Motion Animation: _Working_ Title & Tagline/Subtitle:**
   "1001" - _Keep on Your Grind Until the Light Comes On_

3. **Linear or Non-Linear?** -- Linear

   a. **If Linear,** summarize:

      i. **Beginning / Exposition:**
      -- ___ Thomas Edison and his trusty black male assistant are passively and very comfortably working in a junk filled lab

      ii. **Middle / Complication:**
      -- ___Thomas Edison in his trusty black assistant in bowties spending months and years of laborious TIME ...... and MORE TIME trying to figure out the hard task of getting the light bulb to come on. They have a lot of frustration and many, many setbacks and many questions! The long time complicates their efforts.

      iii. **End / Resolution:**
      -- ___ Finally, finally, finally the old rusty light bulb flickers several times AND -- FINALLY -- with the ___ visual AND /OR Ambient SOUND representing years of time passing by ----- the old light bulb animates?? into the scene somehow?? and comes one very brightly!

b. **If Non-Linear,** which format are you using? (Book Ending, The Countdown, The Puzzle, or The Beaded Necklace) Summarize how your story will fit that format <===> **N/A** for **STOP Motion Animation 1:**

CREATIVE BRIEF

STOP Motion Animation 1:

1. **What must it be?** In a few phrases: *Creative and engaging*. *Intro* and *Outro*. "*Cut Outs?*". *Modern lab production techniques seem ideal*. *Adobe Stock graphics and/or video* might be appropriate. " *Adobe Stock graphics and/or video* and *Adobe Premiere* most likely will also be used to pull all of the visual, music, and sound elements together. I aim to do the piece pretty well for a stop motion and Adobe Premiere novice.

2. **Who is it for?** Since I work for an electric utility (where Thomas Edison and Lewis Latimore (Edison's assistant) are featured prominently in the lobby) right now I see the audience potentially being for the *general public and my company*. In that regard, I further thought this short stop motion piece might be useful as a creative and different way of my company *paying homage* to the singularly best known, and most prolific inventor and innovators in our industry and the world.

    As a part of larger messaging, and because I plan to feature Edison's African American assistant rather prominently in this Edison piece, also it could be used as a topical light, "icebreaker" vehicle for our DEI, Black History, and "Juneteenth" programs and initiatives.

3. **How long must it be?** 10-30 seconds (60 max), at either 12 or 24fps (frames per second).

4. **What is your objective with the piece?** To provide a mechanism and a reason for me to explore my love for the creative – this time through the creation of this non-linear piece or another completely different linear piece. I have to decide which idea I will actually create a brief stop motion piece on.

    Such stop motion and other animations would show growth and range extending my brand to the audience that is my manager, team, and other groups. As such it would demonstrate and be a natural extension of my writing, graphics, and nascent video skills.

If I'm lucky. it will provide the basis for me submitting something for my company's use or consideration for further development. *Worst case my objective is to at least update my blog and creative portfolio.*

5. **When is it due?**
   Test animation _*__ Due to be __*_ completed AND ___ posted to my blog NLT __ Sunday 2/11/24 by __ 12 midnight EST. (___ 5 to 10 seconds)

6. **What is the overall idea?** My take on a working light bulb maybe taking say "1000 tries" by Edison and his African American assistant, but what is important is the "*100**1***" try to actually get it to work and thereby change the world!

   While the most obvious import of Edison example has to do with the innovation and "invention" of the light bulb, I am more broadly trying to quickly remind all audiences that hard work, perseverance, and stick-to-it-ness, combined with a little luck, can and *does* pay off.

7. **What is the storyline summary?** For this very short **STOP Motion Animation 1** the storyline summary is Thomas Edison and his African American assistant, Lewis Latimore, working feverishly, diligently, and persistently *over a lot of time* to get their light bulb to actually work ------- only to be surprised, by an ungodly amount of time and effort --- that one day --- on the 100**1** try --- that suddenly it did! *(See the previously outlined and linear Beginning, Middle, End information under note 3 on page 1)*

8. **Elevator pitch:** Remotely. Interested. In. Short. Cool. Stop. Motion. Animations? Leme quickly hook you up with a text message link to my *"1001" - Keep on Your Grind Until the Light Comes On.*

9. **Tagline:** *"1001" - Keep on Your Grind Until the Light Comes On.*

Look and feel description:

==Below ARE TWO LINKS== to some most excellent reference point stop motion animations/and or music that definitely serves as a should guide for the look, feel, pace, and actions that I'm targeting part. **THIS PARTICULARLY FOR THE "HAPPY" FIRST and "HAPPY" LAST STORY BOARD FRAMES ----___ PLEASE SEE THESE TWO "HAPPY" STORY BOARD FRAMES ---- WHICH ARE CURRENTLY ON PAGE 12 AND 13, RESPECTIVELY.** The video, when clicking the link below INSPIRES and amps me up! .... I think it might also animate old and even younger audiences!

"Yes" . . The piece within the link below on several levels lends itself to old timey sepia, dark grey, and even blue and red _old timey_ tones ---- also a light-hearted look and feel employed by filmmakers and suggestive of familiar decades gone by!

- ✓ _____ https://youtu.be/U424m8utJnA?si=CLN3eWO5DQZY54xt
- ✓ _____ https://vimeo.com/194970372

10. Identify classic plot. Ex: Good vs Evil / Overcoming the Monster, Rebirth and Redemption, Rags to Riches, Role Reversals, Buddy Stories, Love Stories, Quest / journeys / Voyage and Return, Ship of Fools, The Rebel / Life Against the Grain, Coming of Age, or "Other" (explain): ➔ _x_ _Overcoming Challenges – In this case The Classic, Universal Challenges that Come with Huge Scientific Breakthroughs._

"OTHER"

NARRATION/HOST:

1. **Who will lead us through the piece?** My _initial_ thought is narration is not needed. . _As a novice, I would want to lean on the stop motion itself carrying a lot of the piece_. However if my thoughts change based on my research, and **if** I have **time** to add narration ------ I think I would like to be the "host" and narrator ---- _nasally voice and all_!

2. **Narration ideas:** Script would need to be developed unless I did a quick, bulleted script on the fly. This is why narration is not likely at all. Besides I think I want to consider judiciously using _other_ mediums and techniques. (e.g. see below)

MUSIC:

1. **What is overall "mood" and "feel" of the piece? "**Old timey" . . . with music suggestive of same. Most definitely see listen to the music of link under look and feel description above.

AMBIENT AUDIO: Ambient audio ideas: *Still need to brainstorm the applicability of this and, if an opportunity strongly emerges, the specifics.*

1. **What is the "location" of the piece? If we close our eyes, where should we imagine that we are?** Back in Edison's original "light bulb" lab ------or maybe not ----- which I believe may have been in one of the back rooms of his house.

STOP Motion 1:

STORYBOARDS (SEE FURTHER DOWN BELOW)

1. **WHAT?** I want to create my visual script using storyboards. *Ideally I want to be sure to map out each "story beat" so that someone unfamiliar with the story would be able to tell what is going on.

   *__NOTE:__ My storyboard will have boards but will rely heavily on annotations as I am too far committed to inserting such a simpler graphics cartoons, thinking that my drawing skills were lacking.
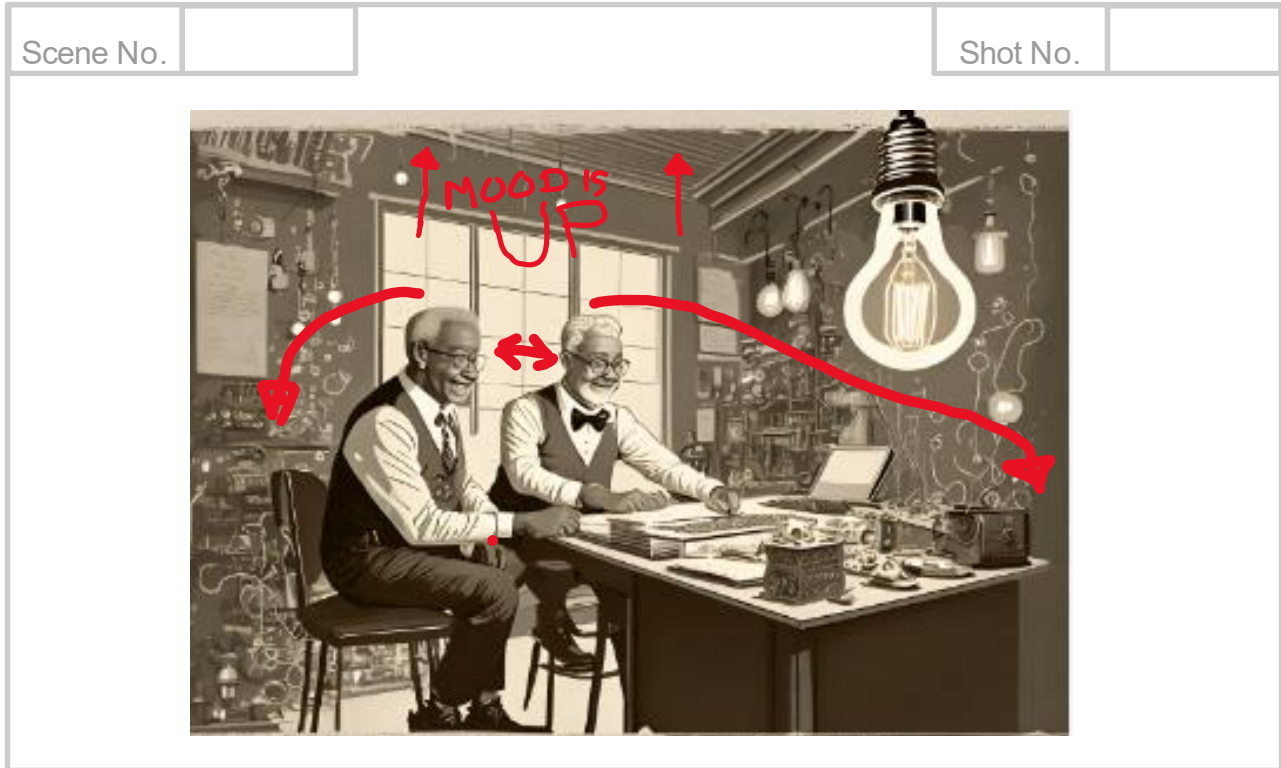
   I also went with inserting graphics cartoons after understanding that this is acceptable and after watching an initial storyboard how to video suggesting that your story board can be anything you want them to be.

   I now believe, however, that my story board attempts should be more effective with less annotations and more simple hand drawings which I now realize that I am capable of producing.

2. **HOW MANY?** See above information in item number one, directly above.

3. *HOW?* Once I've created my storyboard frames, I plan to **insert those images** with hand drawn elements, and full supporting text underneath those images. See below.

Kevin Pointer Sr's Edison "1001":
Keep Your Grind Until the Light Comes On STORY BOARD

==Ideally, I will have an Android version of Stop Motion Studio __INTRO AND__OUTRO IF time – OR __ "LATER".==

Scene No.			Shot No.	

-- ____ Thomas Edison and his trusty black male assistant are HAPPILY and VERY COMFORTABLY working in and EQUIPMENT FILLED lab

(___ Ideally the two men can be seen <u>MOVING</u> ==extremely briefly, if at all== AROUND THE DESK OR LAB)

(___ Ideally the two men ALSO <u>MOVE</u> TO INTERACT on some level with EACH OTHER! ==extremely briefly, if at all==)
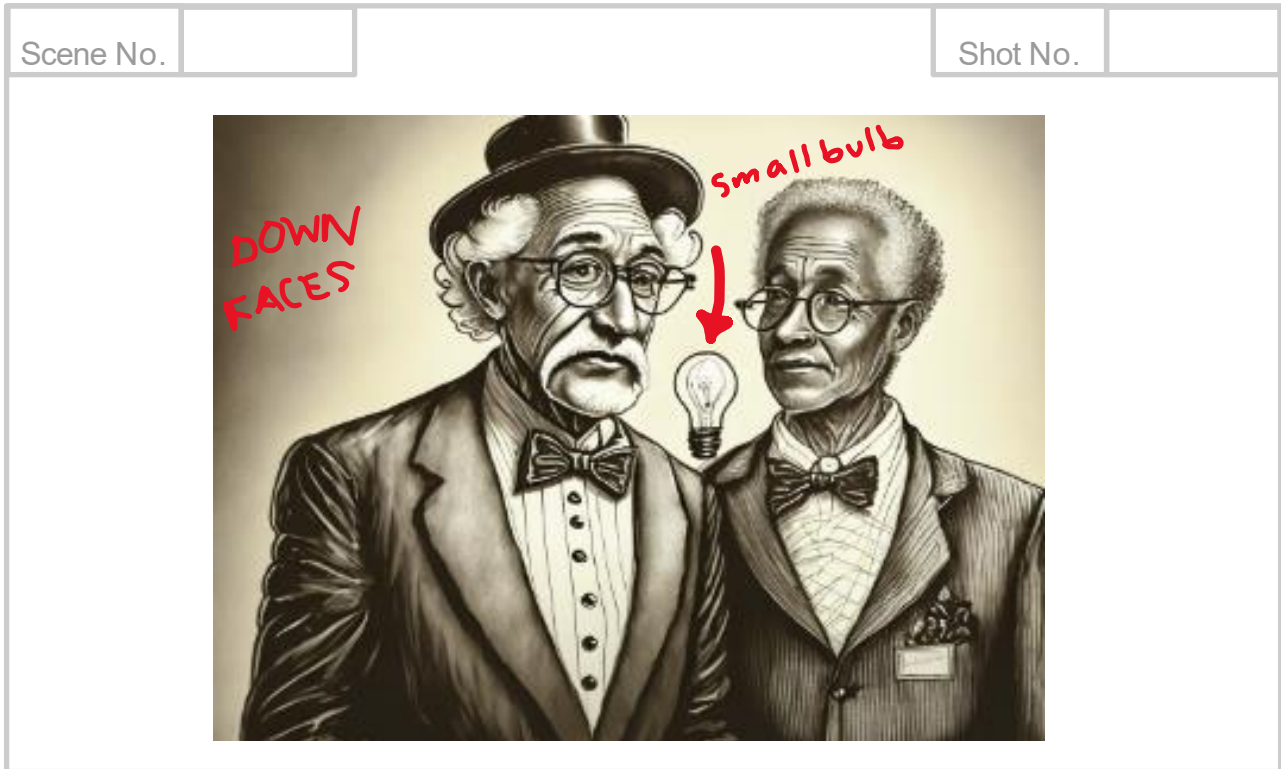
(___ Ideally there is a sense of Happiness even Smiling ---- Perhaps there
 can be some ___pic__ sound/music to ___indicate or underscore the idea of happiness!)

 (___ Ideally THE WHOLE TIME the light bulb in this scene or two?? should be depicted as distinctly being ___ **OFF** …… in this particular scene!)

(***STANDARD SCENE*** <u>***TRANSITION***</u> ------ ___ Ideally --- via ___ Stock footage Curtain Closing OR a more ___ Simple Closing done in ___ Adobe Premiere --- <u>THE SCENE ENDS AND TRASITIONS IN A VERY STANDARD, PREDICTABLE WAY</u>!

Scene No.				Shot No.	

Thomas Edison in his trusty black assistant in bowties spending months and years of laborious TIME ...... and MORE TIME trying to figure out the hard task of getting the light bulb to come on. THERE FACES ARE DOWN … They have a lot of frustration and many, many setbacks and many questions! The long time complicates their efforts.

(____ Ideally they are NOT smiling --- the *bulb is INTENTENTIONALLY SMALL AND Maybe Off to the Side* ……THERE MAY VERY WELL BE A CLOCK ICON ASSET. The small bulb represents that the inventing challenge is actually *huge* AND TIME CONSUMING. -----
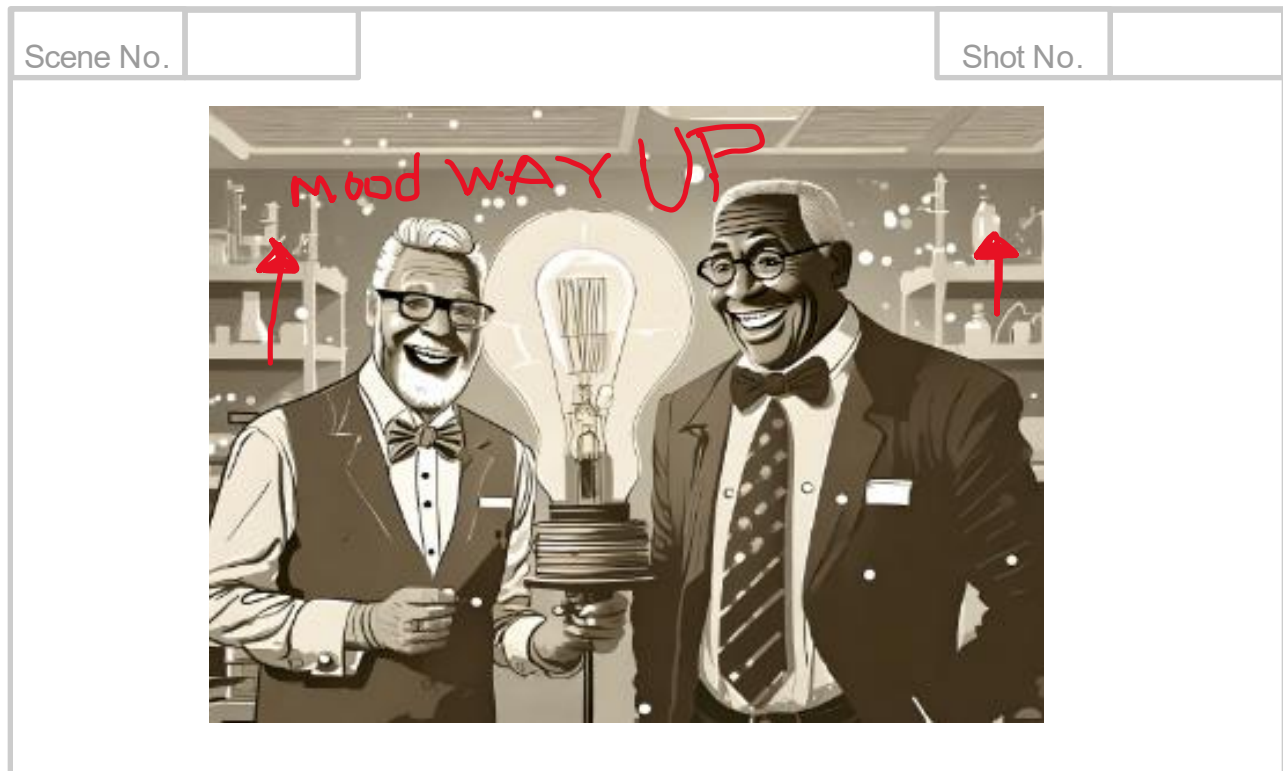
(____ Ideally THE **MOOD** IS REPRESENTED AS BEING **DOWN** ------ they MOVE to LOOK or COME CLOSE to EACH OTHER extremely briefly, if at all)

(____ Ideally they MOVE towards to the "Camera" extremely briefly, if at all)

(____ Ideally they MOVE AWAY VERY BRIEFLY extremely briefly, if at all)

(**STANDARD SCENE** TRANSITION ------ ____ Ideally --- via ____ Stock footage Curtain Closing OR a more ____ Simple Closing done in ____ Adobe Premiere --- THE SCENE ENDS AND TRASITIONS IN A VERY STANDARD, PREDICTABLE WAY!

Scene No.			Shot No.	

-- _____ Finally, finally, finally the old rusty light bulb flickers several times AND -- FINALLY -- *with the ___ visual AND /OR Ambient SOUND representing years of time passing by*: AND. THEN. PURE. HAPPINESS. SATISFACTION. AND. JOY. !!!! ----- the old light bulb *animates/vibrates??* and comes on very, very brightly!

(Ideally they are BEYOND smiling --- EVEN LAUGHING !!!)

(Ideally the mood / and or ___ music and/or ___ ambient sounds__are UPBEAT !!!)

(___ Ideally, AGAIN, they MOVE to LOOK or COME CLOSE to EACH OTHER extremely briefly, if at all)

(___ Ideally, AGAIN, they MOVE towards to the "Camera" extremely briefly, if at all)

Scene No.				Shot No.	

 I think it might be really cool, if I can with everything else that this novice needs to learn and do if I can --- WIZARD OF OZ STYLE --- ALL OF A SUDDEN INCORPRATE a big pop of COLOR AT THE END of this piece!!! --- Not sure how well that would translate to this animated stop motion piece where I anticipate using paper cut outs.

IF NOT COLOR SINGULARLY …… FIND SOME WAY _____ **FOR EXAMPLE**, USING MUSIC <u>AND</u> COLOR TO DRAMATICALLY UNDERSCORE A "FLICKERING SHIFT **FROM** Edison's/ Lattimore's FAILURE to get their light bulb working ---- **TO** their ultimate DISCOVERY and SUCCESS!!!!

<u>**DECISION POINT:**</u>_____ TRY EMPLOYING THIS COLOR TECHNIQUE AS A SEPARATE FRAME LIKE THE GRAPHIC DIRECTLY ABOVE ?? ---- OR, ALTERNATIVELY, __ INSERT COLOR BULB ABOVE INTO FRAME BEFORE THIS ONE? ---I'M CURRENTLY THINKING THE FORMER ----I.E. DO A SEPARATE FRAME AS IN THE ABOVE PICTURE!

END OF STORYBOARD FOR STOP MOTION ANNIMATION