

DESCENT TO THE UNDERWORLD

Mythic Fiction Book
Cover Style Guide



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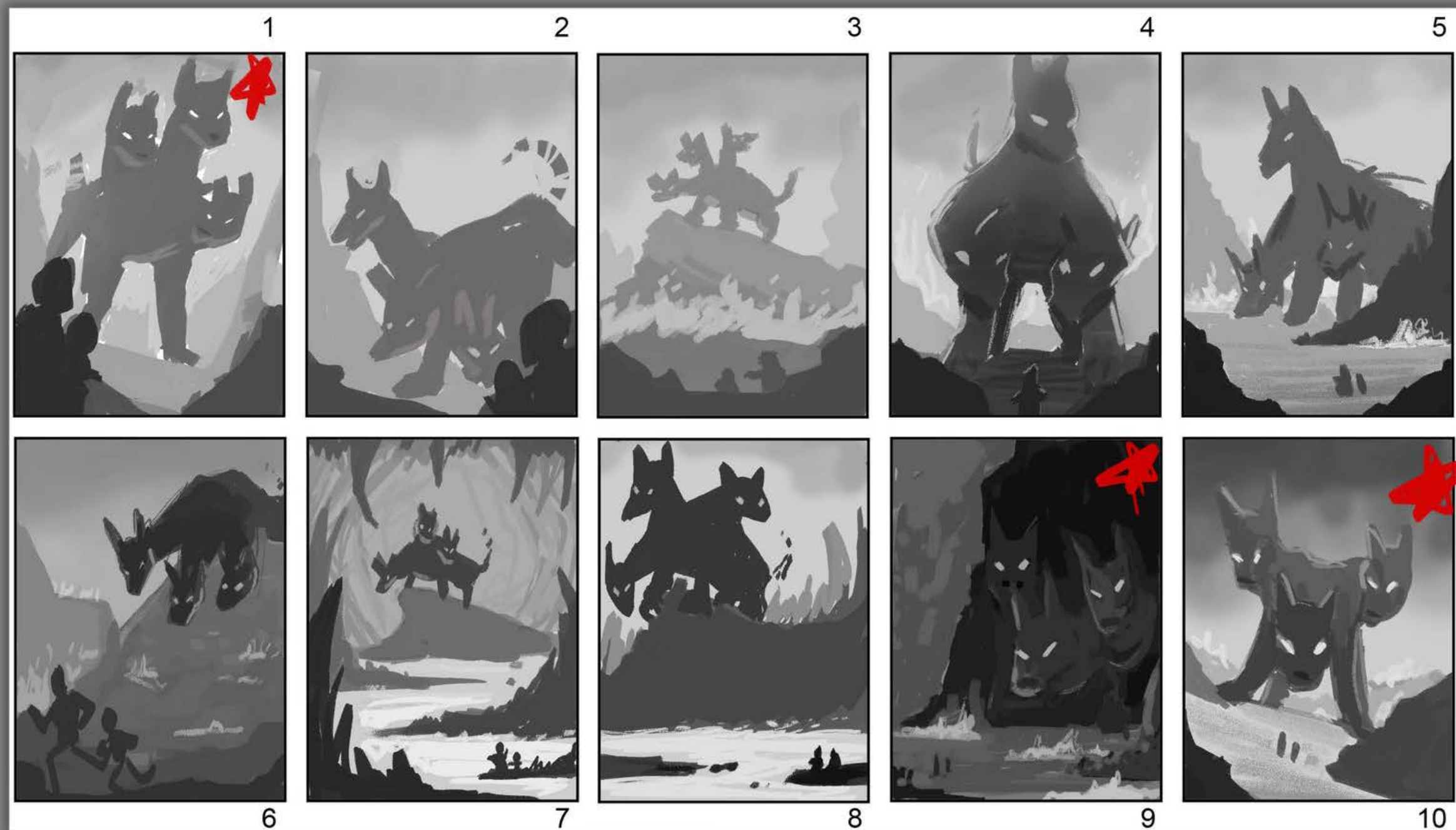
Final Book Cover (15, 16)

IDEATION

My plan for this project was to create a conceptual story of an adventurer who goes into the Underworld on a quest to retrieve a stolen Holy treasure from Hades himself.

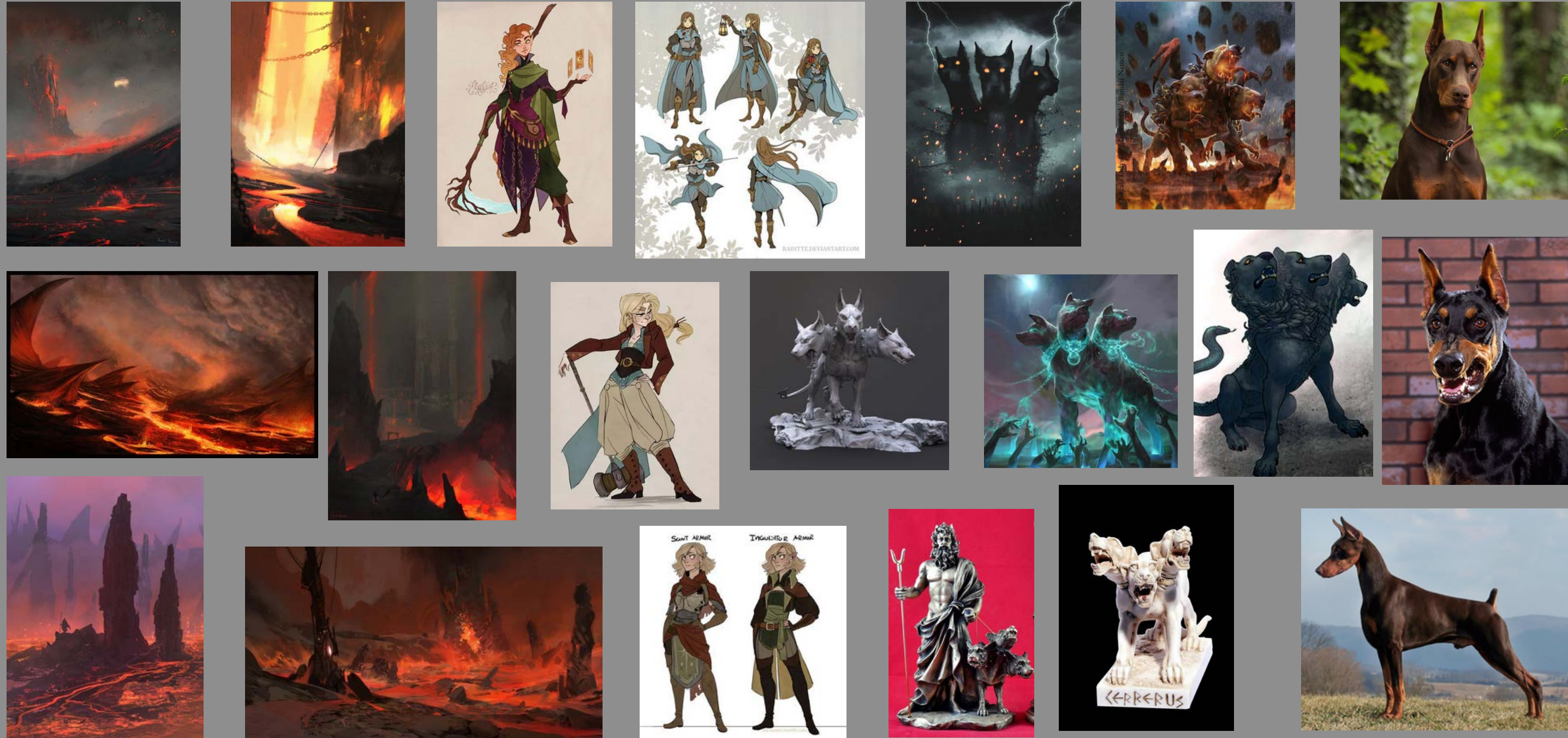
I wanted this book cover to reflect a dramatic moment in the story where the hero character is faced with Cerberus, the three headed hellhound who guards the gates of the Underworld.

THUMBNAILS



I wanted a dramatic and dynamic composition to highlight the intense moment. I ended up illustrating a cover that was a combination of 1 and 10.

IMAGE INSPIRATION



CHARACTERS

Two characters needed to be designed for this project. A human character, and a creature.

I wanted to go with the classic adventurer trope, as well as design an already existing creature in Greek mythology. A lot of research and thought went into creating both these characters to make sure they fit into this imaginary world.

NATHARA DEVELOPMENT



I needed the adventurer character to appear edgy and brave. That's why I went with the color scheme seen above.

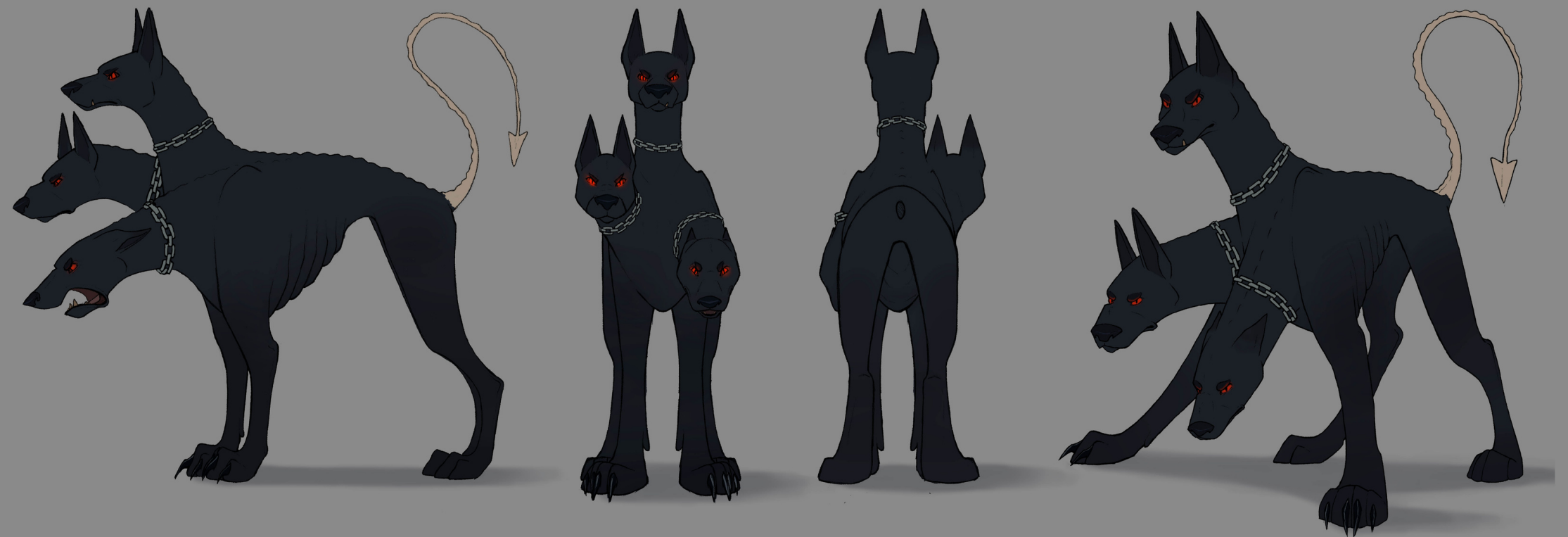
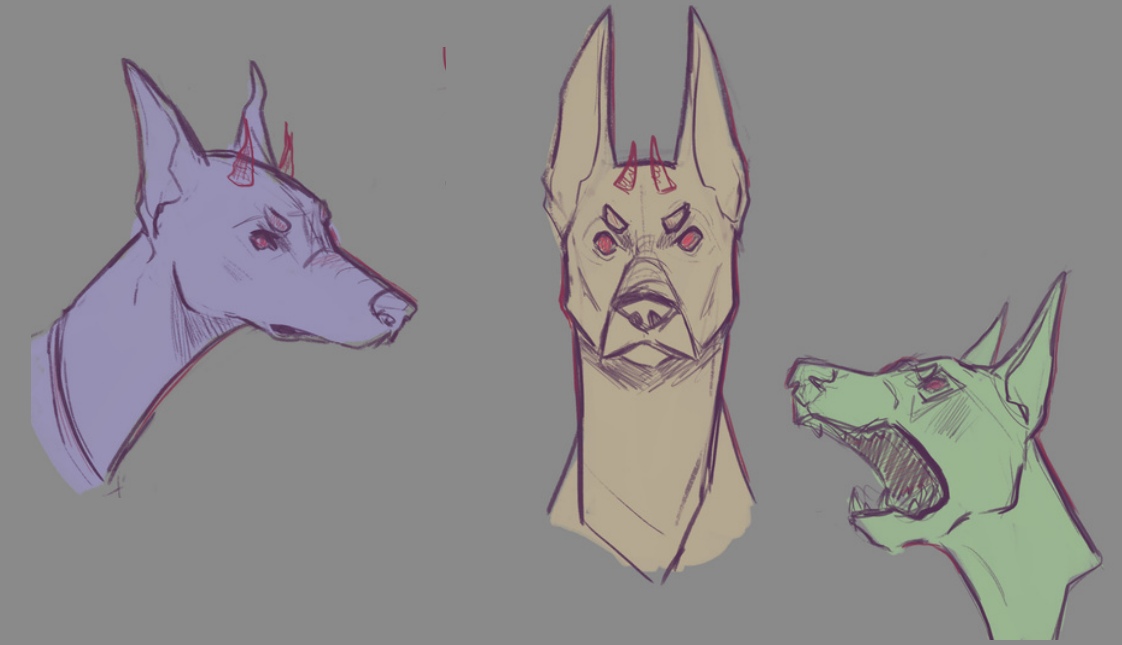
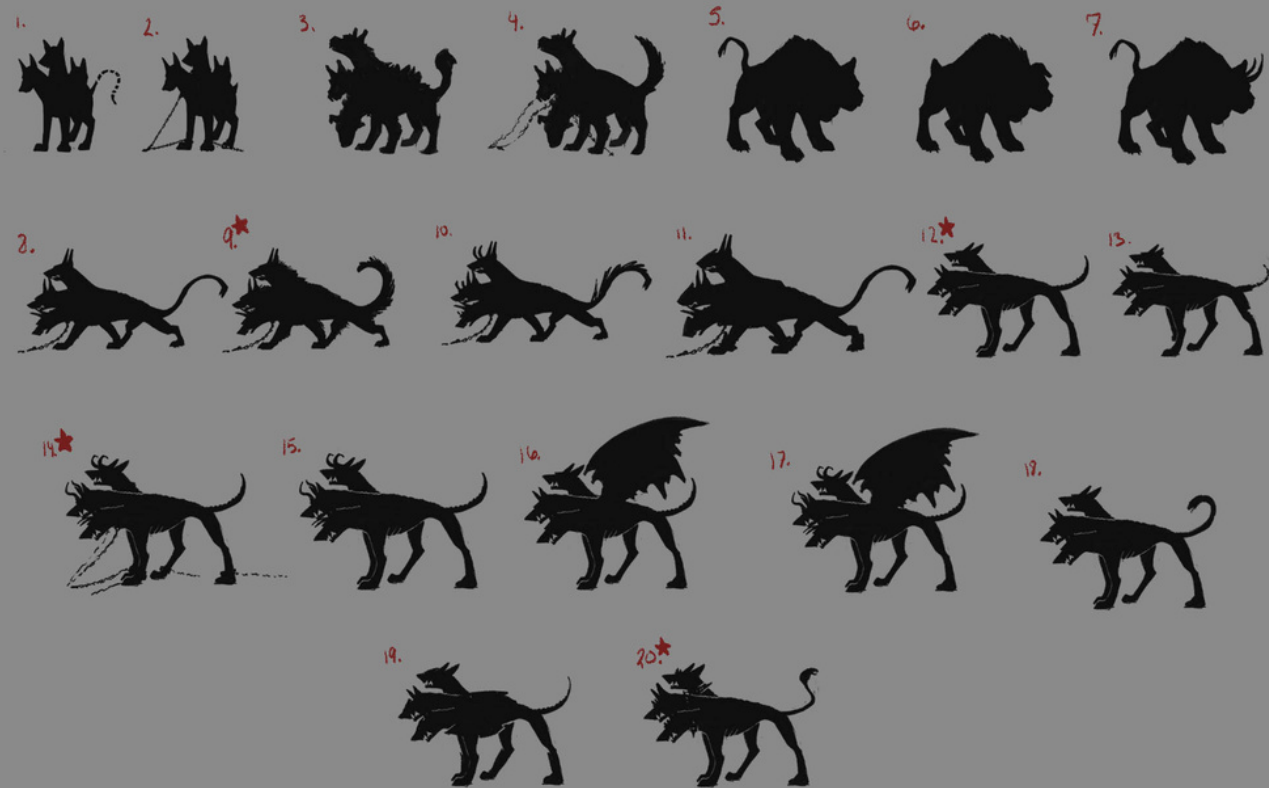
NATHARA

Her name meaning "one who holds the ability and power of serpents" from Scottish origin, Nathara (23 years old) is a brave and proud swordswoman who lets her temper and arrogance get the better of her more than she'd like to admit.

Raised in a small village in southern Europe, she learned how to fight at a young age. She received her serpent tattoo when she turned 16, vowing to endure the great quest of retrieving the stolen Holy treasure from the Underworld, and not returning home without it. Of course, fame and fortune being her sole motivation for this quest, she endures many challenges where her own emotions get in the way.



CERBERUS DEVELOPMENT



My main goal for designing Cerberus was to make him angular and skinny. I heavily based his design off a Doberman

CERBERUS

Based on Greek mythology, Cerberus is Hades' protector of the Gates of the Underworld.

His glowing red eyes see all as he makes sure no souls escape the Underworld.

Never has he had to protect them from anyone coming in though.

This Hellhound stands at 17 ft tall, very much able to crush anyone or anything in his way.

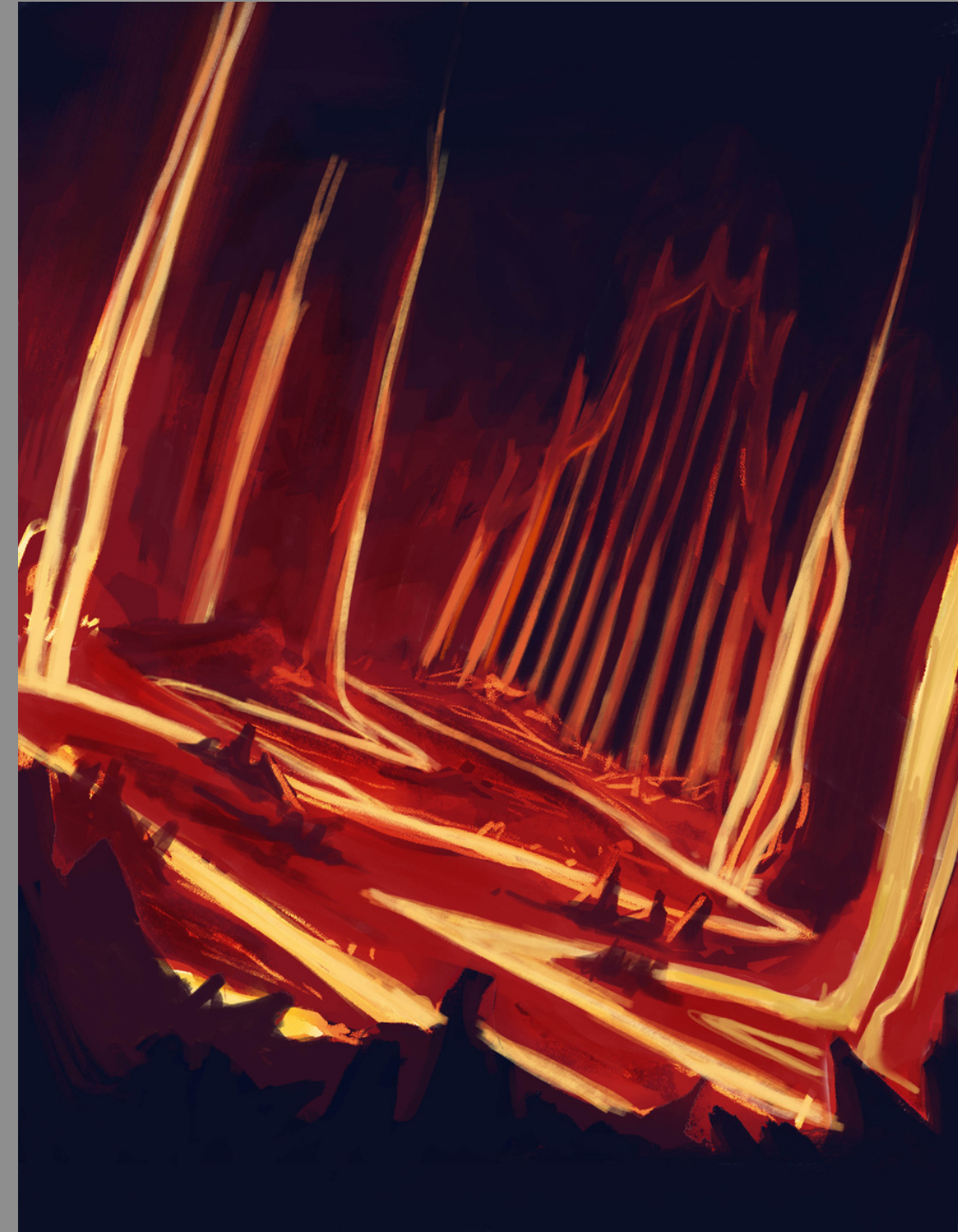
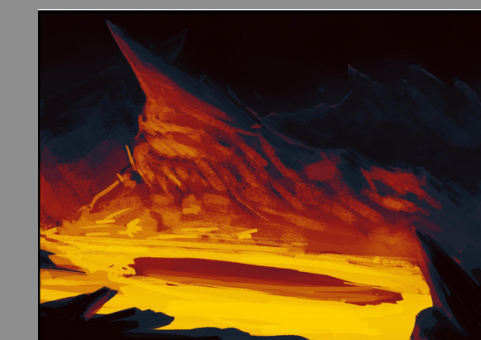
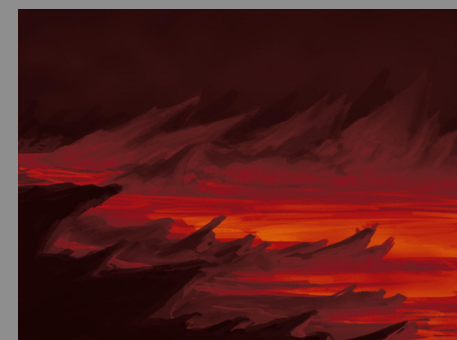
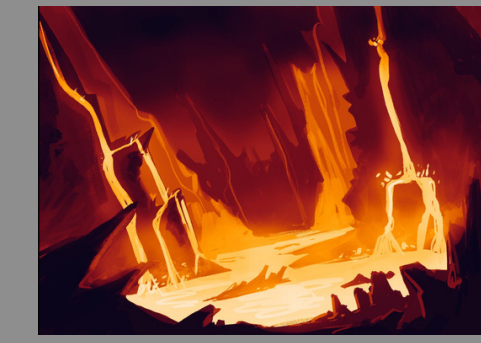
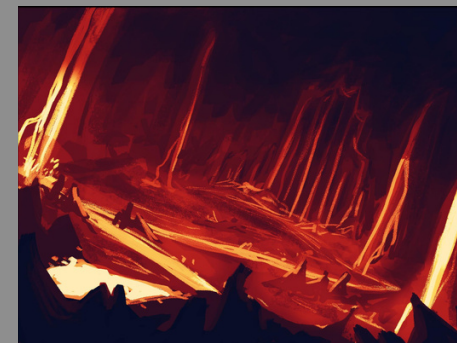
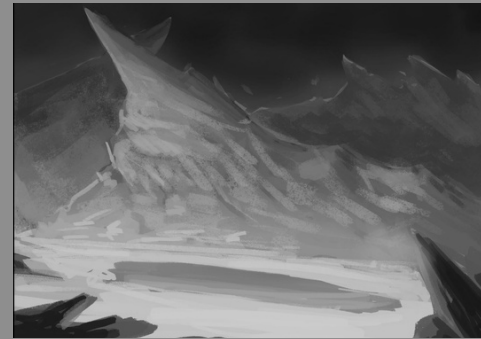
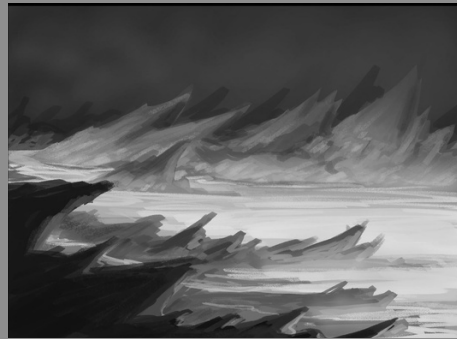
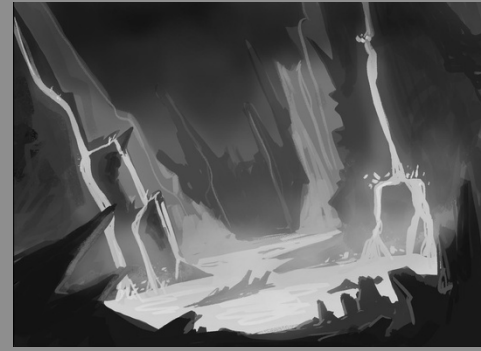
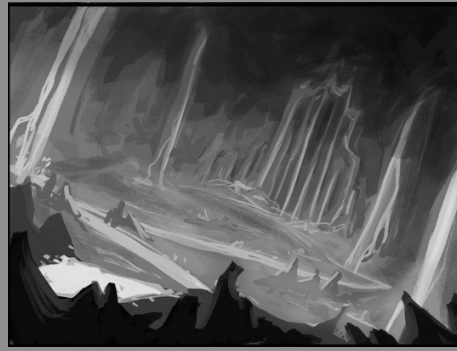


ENVIRONMENT

The main environment for this story is the Underworld. I wanted my rendition of Hell to be sharp and hot, based off the classic idea of what the underworld is. Lots of fire and lava.

I wanted to portray an environment that looks so hot and dry, someone could easily imagine how uncomfortable it'd be to be there.

ENVIRONMENT DEVELOPMENT



UNDERWORLD

This is the location where Nathara encounters Cerberus for the first time. The deepest part of the Underworld, right in front of the gates. Past the gates is what Nathara came for; the Holy Treasure.



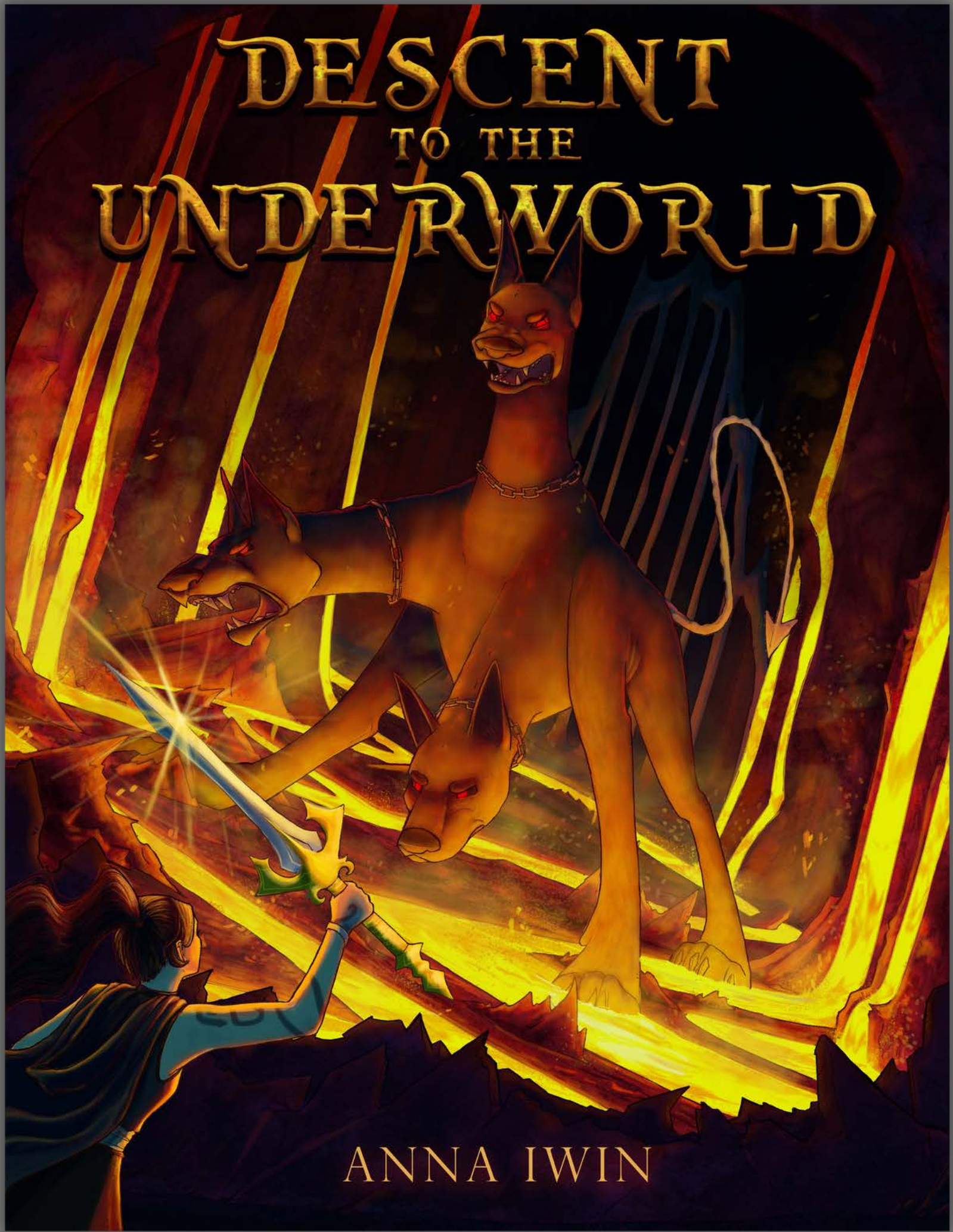
ASSETS

The sword, necklace, book, dagger, coin pouch, lantern, wildflowers, bottle of poison, compass, and bag are all items that either belong to Nathara or her home.

The other ten are assets from the Underworld.



FINAL BOOK COVER



THANK YOU!

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