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30 Day Challenge: Reflection

When I was younger, drawing was a hobby that I did when I didn't have anything to do. I was in elementary when I started to create art because I wanted to make cool looking things, and also because people *told* me I was good and should pursue it--which is admittedly a very poor motivation to jump into something with. Thankfully, in middle school, I found people--friends--with a similar interest in art, but a huge gap in technical skill, me being on the lower end. It was an extremely uncomfortable truth to experience, but a sobering one. Until that point, I'd never felt like art was a skill to *develop*, in ways like fishing, or sewing was. Seeing people more *dedicated* than me opened my eyes to how much really went into being good at something. Now as an adult, I find that I have nothing but respect towards anyone who put in vast amounts of time into any pursuit: whether it be maintaining a collection, or studying consistently. Eventually I've come to find an intense satisfaction when I notice even some growth in my art skills and it's for this reason did I choose my 30-day challenge: I wanted a means to facilitate a more well-regulated practice schedule. Two to three hours a day, for 30 days.

To be completely transparent, I have another reason as to why I chose to do this for my 30 day challenge, and that would be because, even though I really do care about art, I simply have a hard time pacing myself, and practicing at intervals that even resemble consistency. While

I'm confident in saying that yes, I did maintain my schedule relatively well, there were more than a couple days where, looking back, I flaked out on my own schedule and practice routine. There were days where I didn't draw more explorative and challenging things, or I didn't spend as much time on pieces as I promised.

Looking back once more, I'm satisfied with what the entries to my Art Journal, not necessarily because of the pieces themselves, but more so because they speak to a certain thought process that I believe in pretty hard; that every bit of practice counts towards growth. I draw looking forward to the day where I look back on drawings I've done years ago and compare; heck, I actually do that *now*, with the embarrassing art that I've made at 15. But I digress; knowing myself, I feel like even if I chose to do something else for my 30 day challenge, I would've done something similar on my own time *eventually*. Regardless, I'm pretty glad with how my project turned out, and even happier with the developments I've made by the end of it.