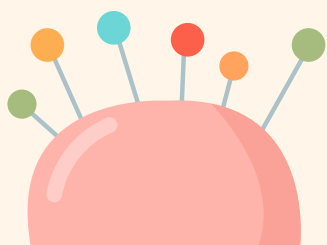
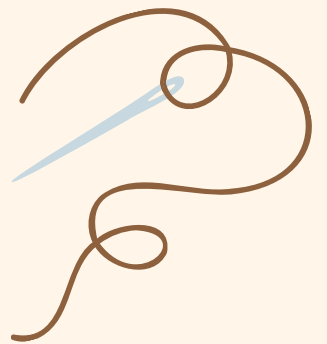
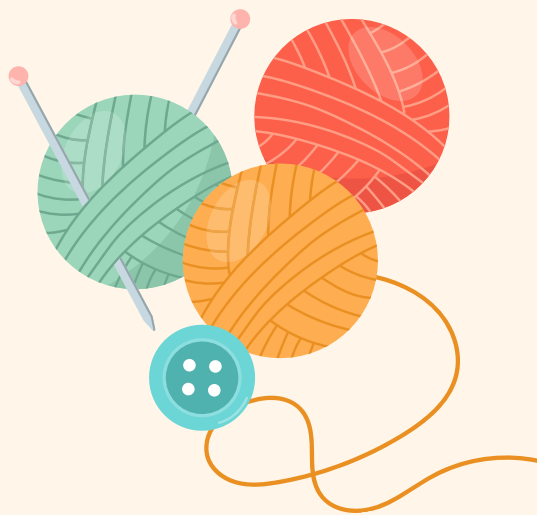
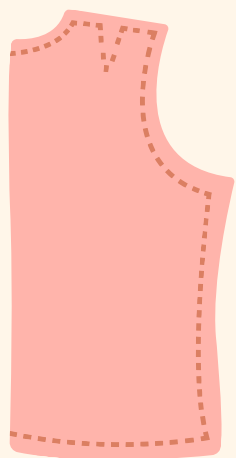
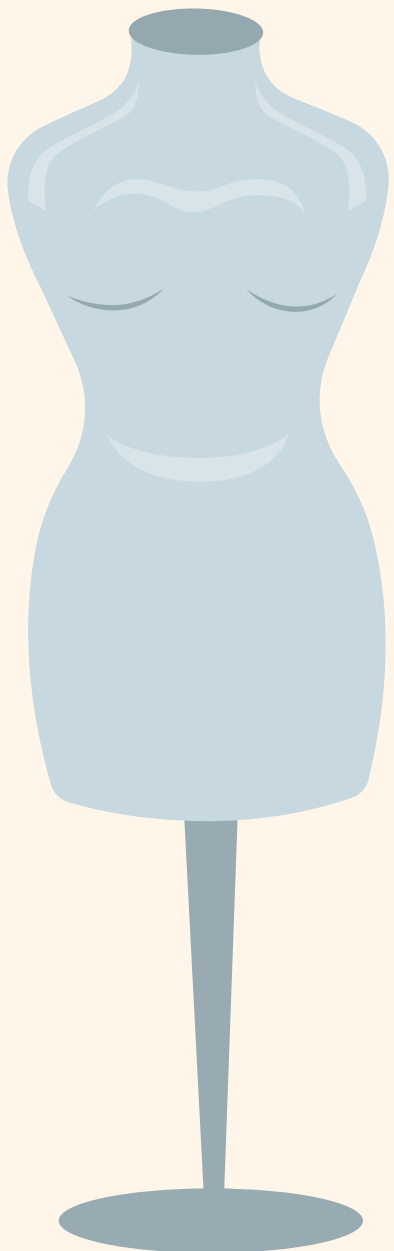


Brown Angel Hair



Series Bible
By: Bianca Desai



What is so intriguing about Modern Family, Jane the Virgin, This is Us? The idea of family. No matter how complicated, confusing, and painful it can be, family is important. Moreover, each family looks different, and this is exactly what makes them each incredibly special. The household in Jane the Virgin encapsulates the dynamics between three generations of Latina women all going through their own journeys. Modern Family's triage of three different families portrays an incredible spiderweb of beautiful and funny moments. And This Is Us conveyed a story of wavering but ultimately unbreakable sibling bonds.

Brown Angel Hair offers similar functionalities in the way that it revolves around family. Broken but filled with love. Tortured with mystery, unresolved drama, and betrayals. Furthermore, BAH (Brown Angel Hair) includes an exciting, fantastical premise that allows for the immersion of perspectives. To be specific, a body SWITCH between the two main characters occurs!



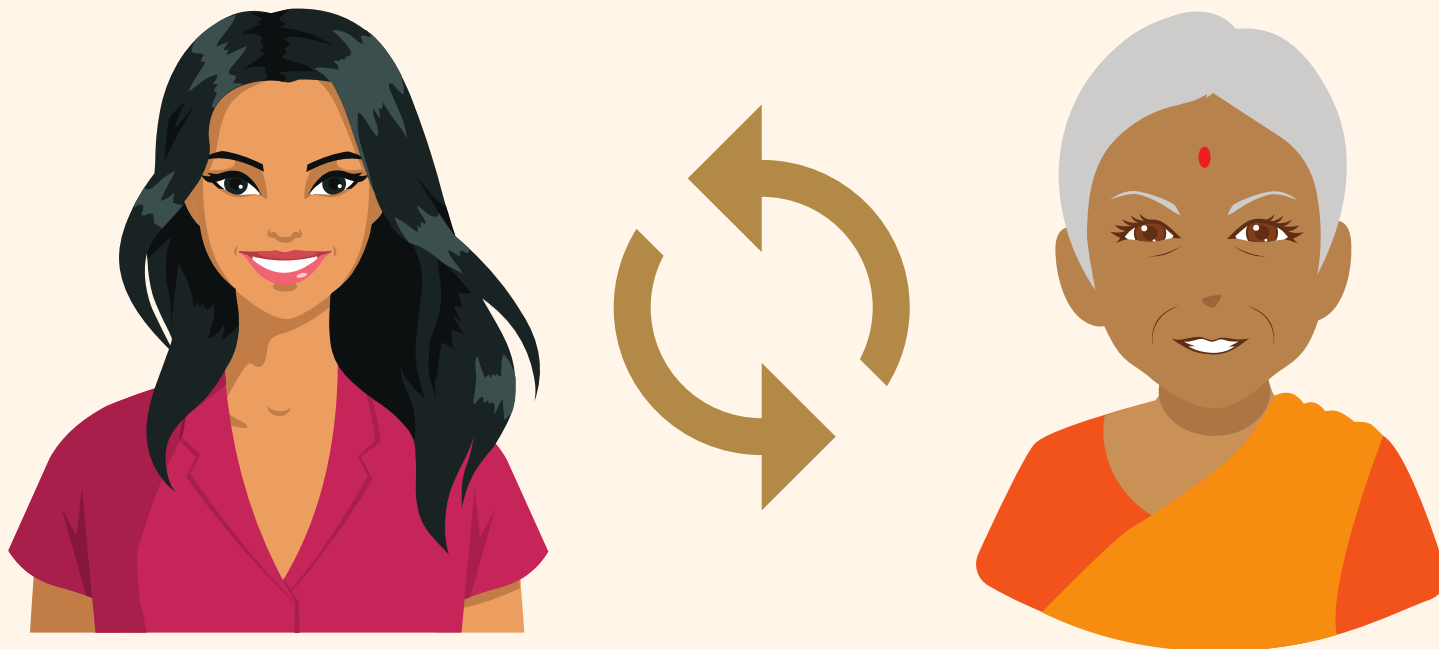
The show follows Alisha, a teenager in high school who is trying to make her way through a tricky world. She feels disconnected from her mother, is struggling with friendships, and is in a rocky area with feeling like everything is just... too... much. Then, we have Avani, her religious 81-year-old grandma who firmly believes she knows best, can single-handedly piss off everyone in the family within minutes, and severely lacks tenderness.

Similar to Freaky Friday and many other body-swap movies, we feel Avani's aura but see it embodied through Alisha and vice versa. The story starts with the two constantly being at odds...with everything. An incident goes a little too far...Avani is hysterical. Alisha is losing it and... BAM. The winds crackle a little too hard. Religious figures rattle. Something happens. The supernatural takes over and the two switch.

Official Premise

Premise: An Indian granddaughter and grandma switch bodies and must find a way to switch back!

Designing Principle: An 18-year-old teen and her 81-year-old-grandmother are constantly at odds and cannot understand one another. What will happen when they switch bodies?

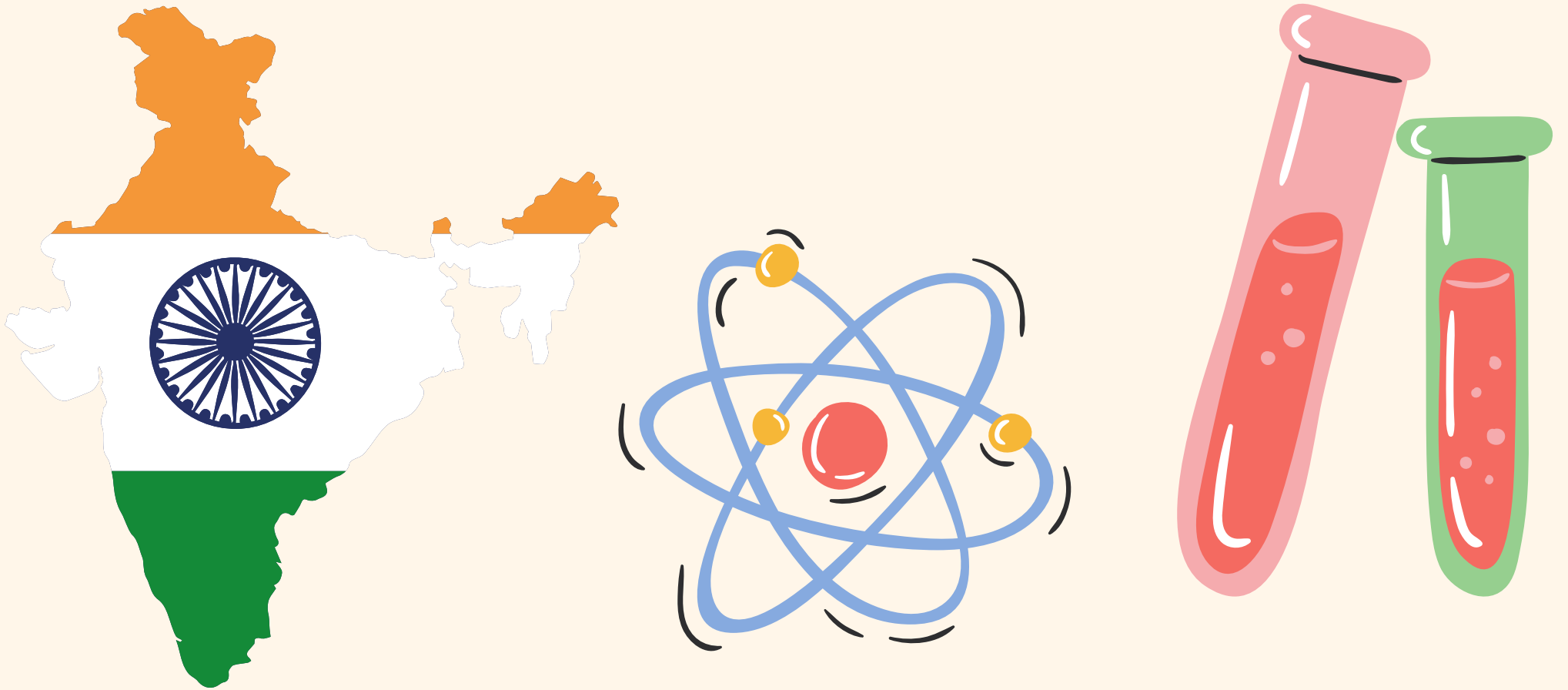


Structure

Brown Angel Hair is a serialized show with a premise pilot. Each episode builds off the last, adding more dramatic tension and interwoven storylines. The pilot introduces us to the tricky home life of the Shah's, showcasing how at-each-other's-throats Alisha and Avani are. We then lead into the two scrambling to survive amidst the body switch. The two must face the difficulties of each other's lives. Alisha gets used to being cranky, having shaky bones, and having to save the day for everyone. Avani gets a rude awakening when she finds out what high school is really like. Throughout the show, we see the two getting a taste of each other's medicine, in a literal sense.

Janani and Vic, albeit not the main ones, are characters that are very important to the story. Janani is Alisha's mother and Avani's daughter. This puts her right in the middle of the two generations and serves for some connection and alienation between the two. Vic is Alisha's cousin visiting from India.

His character allows for a lot of comedic relief. Just like Alisha and Avani, he too is learning how to adapt to a foreign environment - he is visiting from India! His accent is a little wonky and he has a strong love for science. He is the first and only one (outside of Alisha and Avani) to learn about the switch, making him a strong ally.



All the characters are layered, and the audience can see the layers peel as time goes on. For example, Alisha's hard exterior cracks as time passes and she begins to face family secrets and betrayals. One big thing that is dealt with in the first season is Dev, Janani's husband/ex-husband, and his unfaithfulness towards Janani. Avani knew about this and kept it hidden. This is a big pain point for Alisha and she cannot accept that this betrayal was kept hidden for 'the greater good.' This is one of the bigger sub-plots behind the key body-swap element.

Although there are a couple smaller sub-plots, the bulk of the story revolves around the main characters acclimating to the body swap, working towards switching back, and finally switching back! In each episode, Alisha and Avani set out to accomplish something/continue working on something. There won't be a new issue each episode, but rather continuing elements with progressions and updates throughout the episodes. There is a definitive beginning, middle, and end with complete arcs and no loose ends.

A typical episode would run for about 40-45 minutes, on average.

Tone:

Brown Angel Hair can be best described as a dramatic family sitcom. It is funny in that a teenager faces grandma problems and a grandma faces teenager problems. It is action-ey in that microwave fires, fashion competitions, sprinklers, and impromptu car chases take place. It is dramatic in that interpersonal relationships are deeply challenged.

The story fits in humor wherever it can, but the main emphasis is moving the story forward to the final conclusion of grandma and granddaughter switching back.

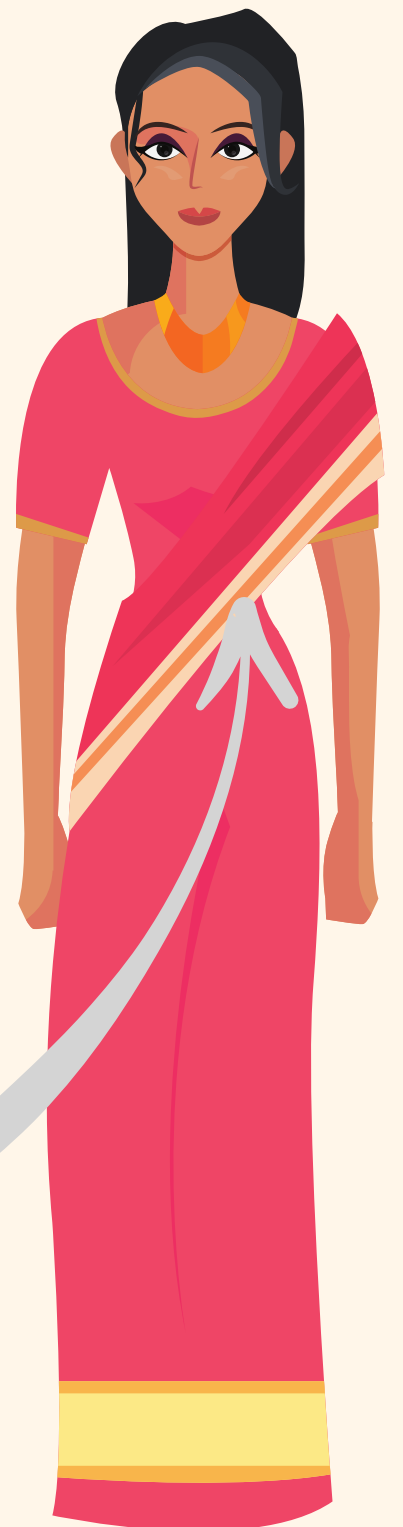
The Indian of It all:

This is a show with a majority Indian cast. This means there are elements related to Indian and Brown culture implemented into the show. They are scattered in the dialogue, actions, and story trajectory. Like Black-ish and Kim's Convenience highlighted Black and Korean culture, Brown Angel Hair aims to showcase the nuances and intricacies of being Indian. Below, I mention a couple of elements particularly related to Indian culture.

Dupattas:

The dupatta, also known as chunni, chunari, and chundari, is a lengthy scarf used by women in the Indian subcontinent to cover their shoulders and head. The dupatta is currently most frequently worn over the kurta and gharara as part of the women's shalwar kameez ensemble.

Avani's daily outfit consists of an Indian shalwar kameez with a dupatta. Alisha is fashion-obsessed but does not appreciate the nuances of the traditional Indian attire. This is explored more in the series as Alisha embarks on her own fashion competition crusade.



This is the dupatta (scarf)

Deities/Gods:

The supernatural occurrences are tied to religious aspects. In the script, there is a heavy focus on Hinduism. Hinduism is monotheistic but has many deities that can take the s Hinduism is a monotheistic religion since Hindus believe there is only one supreme god, who takes on many different forms and traits that radiate from Him. The story mentions one God in particular, Krishna.

In the script, the body switch occurs as a result of Vic accidentally offering Prasadam to the Gods. Prasadam is a religious offering of food or water to a deity. The offering is thought to be consecrated when the deity 'consumes' it and then gives it back in the form of some sort of action/service. The worshipers then distribute and consume the offering.



Prasadam example



Krishna example

Elders in Indian Culture:

The caregiving of aging parents is highly valued in Indian society. In addition to having respect and regard for the elderly, there is a strong sense of duty to take care of one's parents. This idea is challenged when Janani considers sending Avani to an old folk's home. This family is unique in the way that they have already challenged some of the norms of Indian culture and perhaps Western society in general (husband and wife are separated, mother's parent living in the same house, cousin permanently 'visiting', etc.)

Despite their abnormal family dynamic, there is still a strong pull to check the other 'boxes.' The strongest pull out of all being Avani, the oldest in the family. Despite the quirkiness of the family, she wants to maintain certain pillars of the culture that may be hard to do so. The biggest one? Hiding the fact that her son-in-law is a cheat. Avani plans on keeping this news from her daughter for as long as possible and chalk up the reasoning to separate to something else. This is all done to save face, a way "to keep others from losing respect ...or to avoid embarrassment."

The Audience:

The show specifically scratches the itch of people who like watching family dramedies. Even more specifically, people who like to explore shows with diverse casts and supernatural elements. Viewers of *Never Have I Ever*, *Modern Family*, and *Wednesday* are some examples.

The show can be viewed from ages 13-60 (and, potentially older). The subject matter of "Modern Family" does not contain a lot of blood, gore, or excessive vulgarity. The show's official rating is aimed to be TV-PG.

Location/Setting:

The story is set in Michigan suburbia. Small town, big drama.

The Shah House: A perfect meld between Indian and American culture is the best way to describe the art direction of the general chi of the house. Specifically, we see the interior of the family members' rooms a lot.

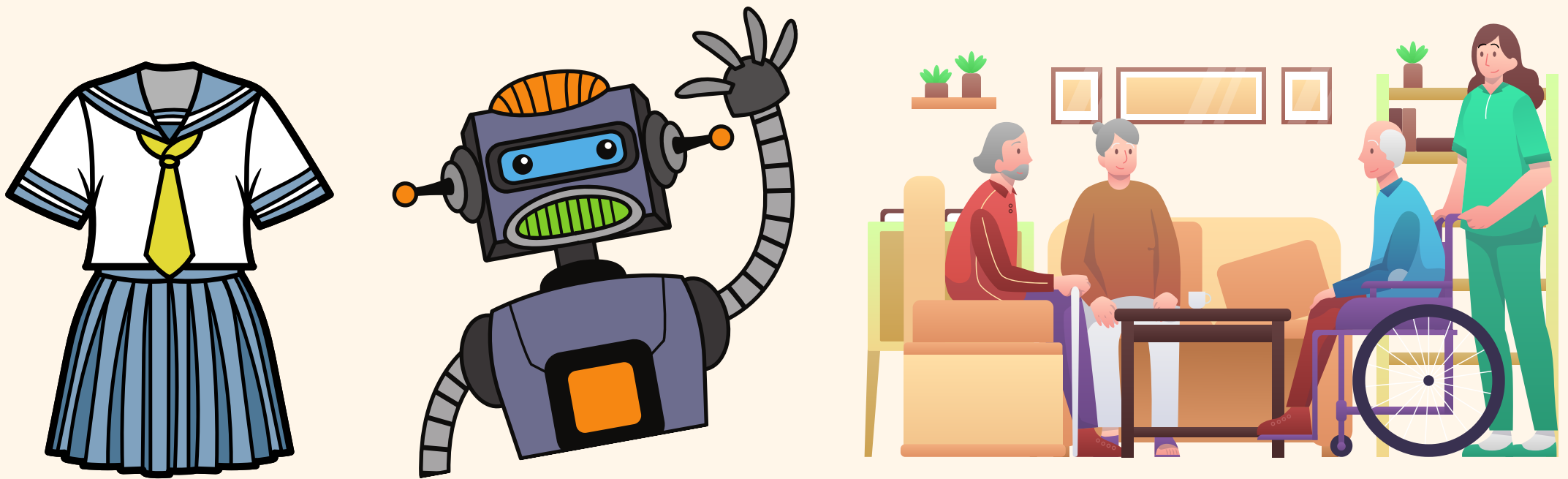
Avani's room is filled with religious figures or the images of religious figures. Gods plastered onto hung-up calendars, small picture frames of Gods, and prayer books. Besides this, the room is very minimalistic and only contains family memories, for example, the poem Alisha wrote for her back-in-the-day (important symbol that comes up later on).

Alisha's room is filled with fashion inspiration from the greats. Vera Wang journals, *Vogue* Magazines, Calvin Klein outfit cutouts. There are also various materials from which Alisha makes her own dresses. Scissors, needles, so much cloth. Pins, pins, and more pins. And because of that - band aids, a little Neosporin, and more band-aids.

Vic's room is all about science but also indicates someone who recently moved in. He's always got a minimum of two robot projects in his room. The three - Vic, Alisha, and Avani - hang out in one another's rooms for a large part of the series. Whether they are scheming, fighting, or simply having nervous breakdowns, a lot of the congregations happen in either Alisha or Avani's rooms.

The High School: The high school is hoity-toity, uppity, and snobby. It is a private school with a smaller number of kids. Everyone wears uniforms to school, and this is something that drives Alisha crazy, her being the fashionista she is. The school setting informs a large part of the drama as both Vic and Alisha have their own issues dealing with the highs and lows of high school social dynamics. The students are all in some sort of group, making Alisha feel lost. Vic is happy with his nerd friends, but still longs to be accepted by his cousin.

The Nursing Home: The nursing home is another setting that, surprisingly, is only visited by Alisha when she is stuck in Avani's body. The setting introduces Alisha to crocheting which inspires her fashion competition pieces. It also shows her the cruelty of older people and why some of them are the way they are.



Story World:

There is a child's world of which Alisha and Vic usually inhabit and an adult's world of which Janani and Avani usually inhabit. The child's world includes the torment of growing up, puberty, bullies in high school, and being your perfect self (or trying to, at least)! The adult's world includes taxes, careers, housework, laundry, cooking, and making serious life/financial decisions. Because of the body swap, we see these two worlds collide with one another.

Themes:

Here are some of the themes surrounding the human condition that are explored in the story.

1. Generational gaps
2. Cultural assimilation
3. Friendships
4. Familial ties
5. Teenage angst
6. Adult responsibility and stress
7. Issues that come with aging
8. Prioritization of Family
9. Sacrifice
10. Love, commitment
11. Unfaithfulness



Future of the Story:

There are many aspects of the first eight episodes that can be explored more in future episodes. For example, during the last couple of episodes, Dev attempts to poison and subdue Avani. He also gets aggressive with Janani, causing Alisha to hit him on the head. What happens to him? Does he survive the blow to the head? Does Janani leave him? The aftermath of grandma and granddaughter switching back can also be explored more in future seasons.

