Third Eye is a cool little SOAD AU sketchbook comic I spent 6 months on from start to finish (1.31.24 - 6.29.24). This timeline encompasses the full scope of idea generation, story brainstorming, development, and revising, concept sketch generation, drawing, inking, and posting. It is a supernatural story that follows Serj, Daron, Shavo, and John as they open their third eyes and face the unpredictable and sometimes dangerous consequences of doing so. The conflict of the story is driven by numerous interpersonal band squabbles and a certain demonic entity. The idea as derived from a variety of inspirations including a fellow SOAD artist's DTIYS and its resulting contributions, TOOL's song “Third Eye”, and some doodles I had done of Serj with some floating eyes way back in January.

The initial story had very little planning with nothing more than a messy clipboard of general ideas, lore building, and main plot points. After completing Third Eye, I played around with the idea of the other members opening their eyes and what that would look like, and thus the development Third Mind began. This sequel has a darker, more suspenseful conflict-driven plot (rather than a light-hearted and expositional one). Not long after developing a fun twist and epilogue for this part, The Spiral was being patched together across an 18,000-word long Word doc. The writing alone took over a month and resulted in 85 pages of drawings!