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UNIVERSITY

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PROJECT

DESKTOP PUBLISHING

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Process

Step 1: Set Up the Document

- **Open Adobe Photoshop:**
 - Launch the application and go to File > New.
- **Document Settings:**
 - Set the dimensions to match the image: 960x768 pixels.
 - Choose a resolution of 300 dpi for high quality output.
 - Set the background color to black or a dark tone.

Step 2: Create the Background

- **Gradient Background:**
 - Select the Gradient Tool (G).
 - Choose a red to black gradient from the Gradient Editor.
 - Apply the gradient from the top of the canvas to the bottom to simulate the dark sky transitioning into a red hue.
- **Clouds and Atmospheric Effects:**
 - Create a new layer.
 - Use the Brush Tool (B) with a soft round brush and a low opacity (10-20%) to paint clouds.
 - Use a red color to blend into the gradient, creating a dark, ominous sky.
 - You can also apply a Filter > Render > Clouds effect and adjust the layer blending mode to Overlay or Soft Light for a more dynamic look.

Step 3: Add the Hand and Eclipse

- **Hand Silhouette:**
 - Use a high contrast image of a hand or draw it with the Pen Tool (P).
 - Place the hand reaching upward. Use Ctrl+T to resize and position it.

- Fill the hand shape with black and apply a subtle red glow using Layer Styles > Outer Glow.
- **Solar Eclipse:**
 - Create the eclipse with the Ellipse Tool (U).
 - Draw a black circle and another slightly smaller circle inside it filled with red or white.
 - Apply blending options: Outer Glow with red and Inner Glow with a dark red to simulate the glow around the eclipse.
 - For added drama, use the Brush Tool with a soft edge to enhance the glow around the eclipse manually.

Step 4: Design the Symbol in the Eclipse

- **Symbol Creation:**
 - Use the Pen Tool (P) or Shape Tool (U) to draw the symbol manually. If it's complex, you can create each line or shape on separate layers.
 - Apply a solid red color.
- **Glow Effect:**
 - Use Layer Styles > Outer Glow to give the symbol an ethereal, glowing effect.
 - Adjust the size and opacity of the glow to your liking, ensuring it blends seamlessly with the eclipse.

Step 5: Foreground Scene

- **Create the Red Water:**
 - Use the Rectangle Tool (U) to create a base layer of the water.
 - Apply a red gradient overlay with varying shades of red and dark red.
 - Use Filter > Noise > Add Noise to add texture, giving the water a slightly grainy effect.
- **Reflections:**
 - Duplicate the hand and eclipse layers.
 - Flip them vertically (Edit > Transform > Flip Vertical).

- Lower the opacity and apply a Motion Blur (Filter > Blur > Motion Blur) to simulate reflection on the water.
- **Character Silhouette:**
 - Import or draw the silhouette of a character.
 - Use the Pen Tool (P) to create a figure holding a weapon, like a sword, and walking forward.
 - Fill with black and apply a subtle red glow around the edges to integrate the character into the scene.
- **Debris and Additional Elements:**
 - Use brushes or small shapes to add debris or bodies in the water to enhance the post apocalyptic, battle torn setting.
 - Apply slight blurring to some elements to create depth.

Step 6: Lighting and Depth

- **Lighting Effects:**
 - Use the Elliptical Marquee Tool (M) to create a vignette effect.
 - Feather the selection (Select > Modify > Feather) and fill it with black on a new layer at low opacity.
- **Depth of Field:**
 - Apply Gaussian Blur (Filter > Blur > Gaussian Blur) to background elements to simulate depth.
 - Keep the main character and foreground sharp to draw attention.

Step 7: Color Grading and Final Adjustments

- **Color Balance:**
 - Add an Adjustment Layer for Color Balance (Layer > New Adjustment Layer > Color Balance).
 - Enhance the reds and blacks for a more dramatic effect.
- **Hue/Saturation:**
 - Use Layer > New Adjustment Layer > Hue/Saturation to tweak the overall saturation, especially in the reds.

- **Sharpening:**
 - Duplicate the final composition layer.
 - Apply a High Pass filter (Filter > Other > High Pass) and set the blending mode to Overlay to sharpen details.



Story

In a quiet town nestled between rugged mountains and dense forests, two brothers, Leo and Max, are thrust into a journey they never wanted. One night, a confrontation spirals out of control, leaving them with no choice but to leave their home behind. Everything familiar is gone, replaced by the uncertainty of the open road.

Leo, eighteen, feels the weight of the world on his shoulders. He's responsible for Max now, his twelve-year-old brother who looks to him with a mix of fear and hope. Leo has always been the carefree one, but now he has to become a protector, a guide, and a source of strength. With just a small backpack of essentials and a handful of memories, they set out into the unknown.

The road is long and winding, taking them through small towns, forests, and vast stretches of wilderness. Each stop brings a new set of challenges: strangers who may or may not be trusted, moments of hunger and exhaustion, and the haunting fear of being found. But it also brings glimpses of kindness—a shopkeeper who gives them food without asking questions, a couple who lets them rest on their porch for a night.

Max, though scared, finds magic in the journey. He's the dreamer, always noticing things Leo misses—the way the stars seem closer out here, the way the forest smells after rain, the shapes in the clouds that drift above them. He tries to keep Leo's spirits up, reminding him that they're in this together, that they're brothers, and that's what matters.

One night, as they huddle by a small campfire deep in the woods, Leo confesses his fears to Max, sharing his doubts and worries for the first time. Max listens intently, and then, with the innocence only a younger brother can offer, tells Leo that he's the bravest person he knows. Leo realizes he doesn't have to carry the weight alone; they can lean on each other.

Days turn into weeks, and their journey becomes a story of survival, trust, and growth. They learn to find comfort in each other's company, creating small routines to feel a sense of normalcy: sharing whispered stories under the stars, drawing in the dirt with sticks, making up names for the places they pass.

The road ahead is uncertain, but they've found a rhythm, a sense of belonging in each other. In the vastness of the world around them, they carve out their own path, fueled by a bond that grows stronger with every mile. They're not just surviving—they're discovering who they are, and maybe, just maybe, what it means to be free.