

Hello  
We're  
**Sprout**



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# Connect Creatively



**Growth in the music industry revolves around networking.**

It is how creators come across breakthrough opportunities, learn from other talented artists, and expand their creative outlook.

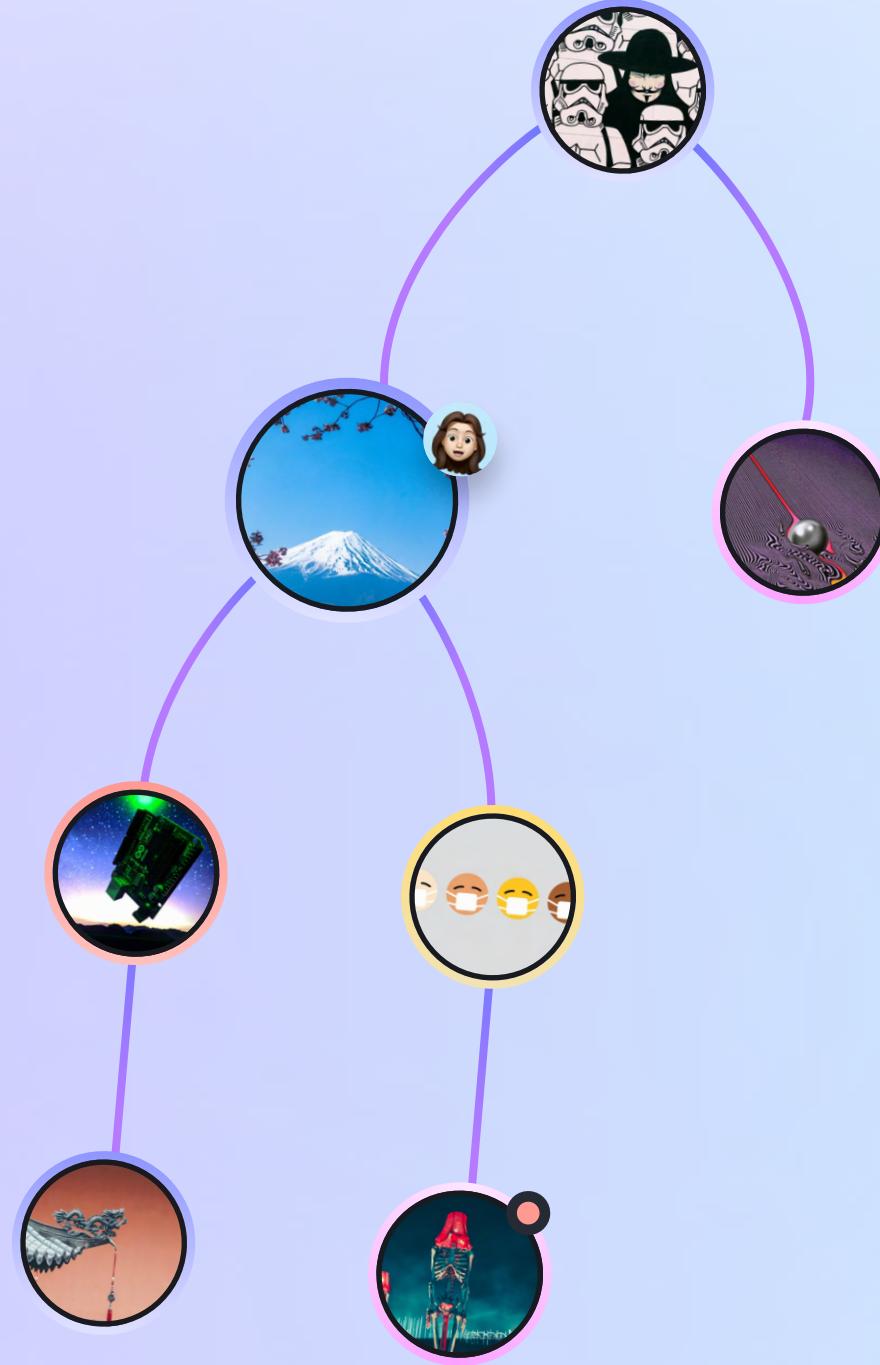
**But small creators sparsely network**

because they feel that it is tedious, disingenuous, "like a means to an end." They sacrifice attending to this crucial component of their success.

We want to change that.

# Networking can feel fun, organic, and exciting.

Sprout: Network through “Music Trains,” chaining short sound bites to each other’s work



# Agenda

 HE Results

 Revised Design

 Hi-Fi Status

 Hi-Fi Demo

 Summary

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**18**  
severity  
3-4 issues



**17**  
changes  
(2 partial)

**26**  
severity  
1-2 issues



**16**  
changes

*Most violated Heuristics*

**H4 Consistency & Standards (14)**

**H2 Match Between System & World (7)**

**H7 Efficiency of Use (7)**

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## ISSUE 1

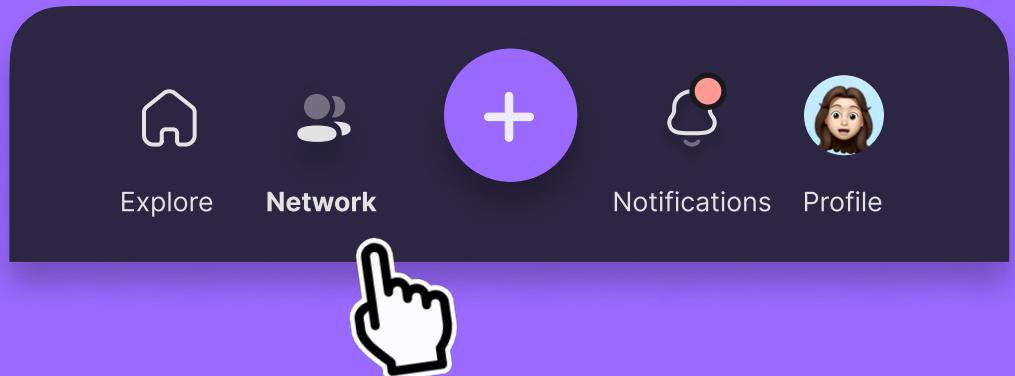
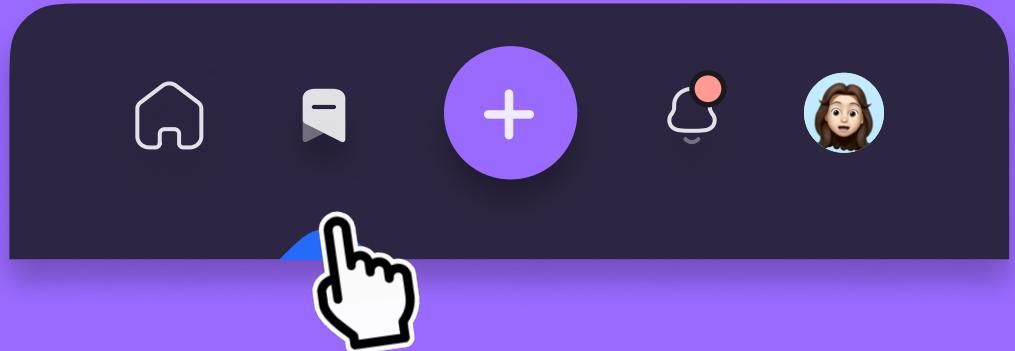
### No messaging system (H2)

Messaging is an essential component of networking, yet starting conversations was not encapsulated in Sprout tasks.

## REVISION 1.1

**Changed tab bar icon from  
“Saved” to “Network”**

- Being able to view, search, and message your connections is of higher priority
- Moved “saved sounds” button to be accessible at the profile page



## REVISION 1.2

**Network tab starts  
with searchable view  
of all connections**



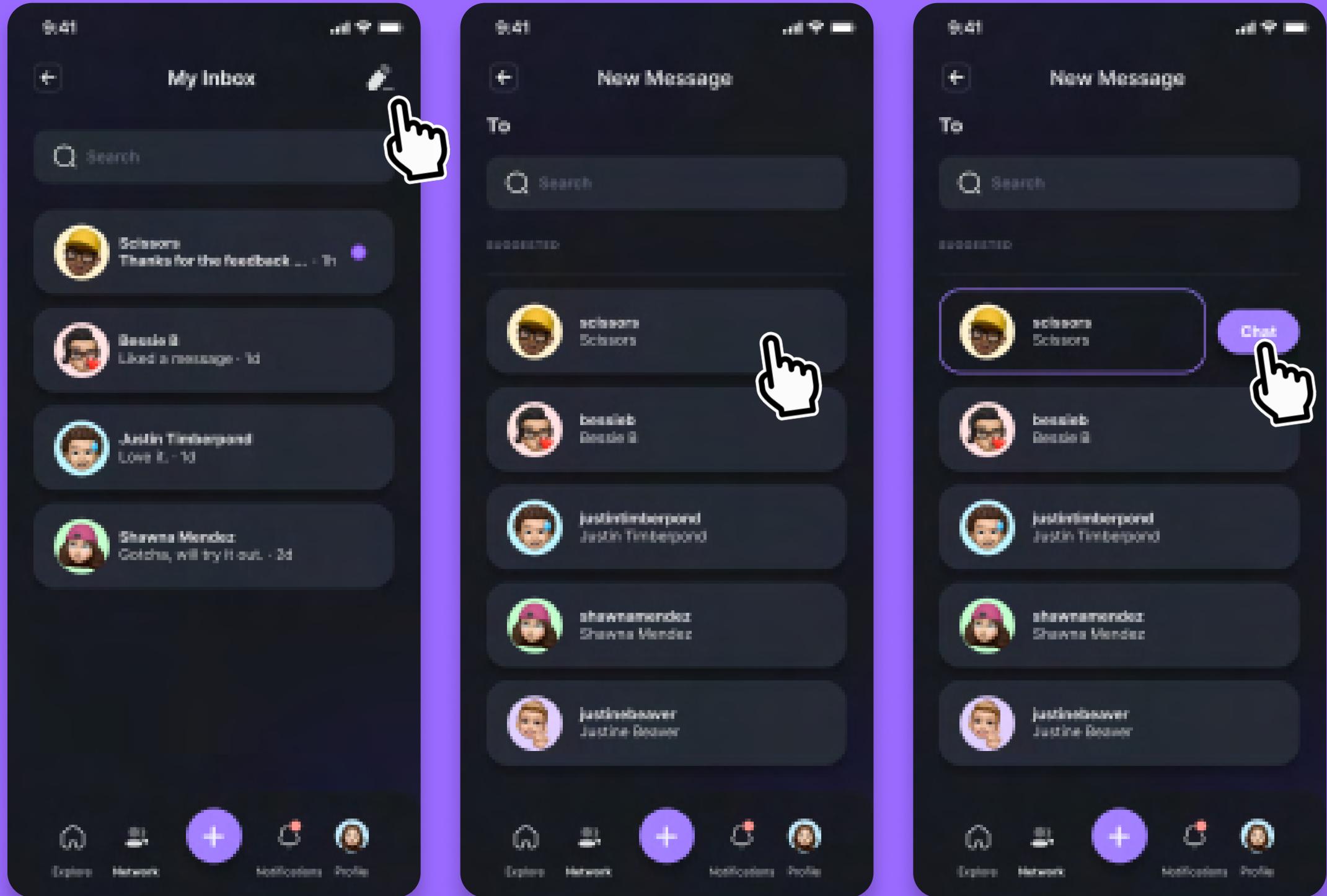
## REVISION 1.3

Top right chat icon navigates to user inbox.



# REVISION 1.4

## Users can compose new messages.



# REVISION 1.5

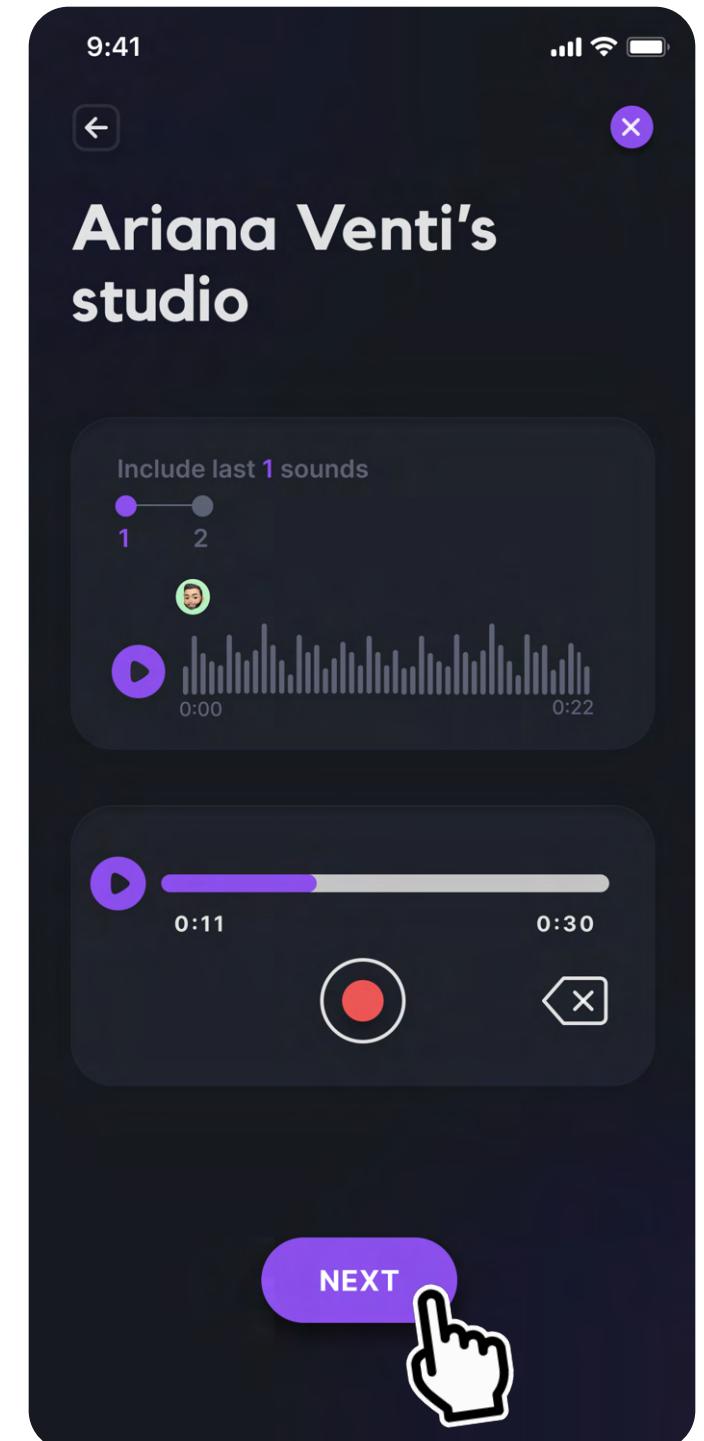
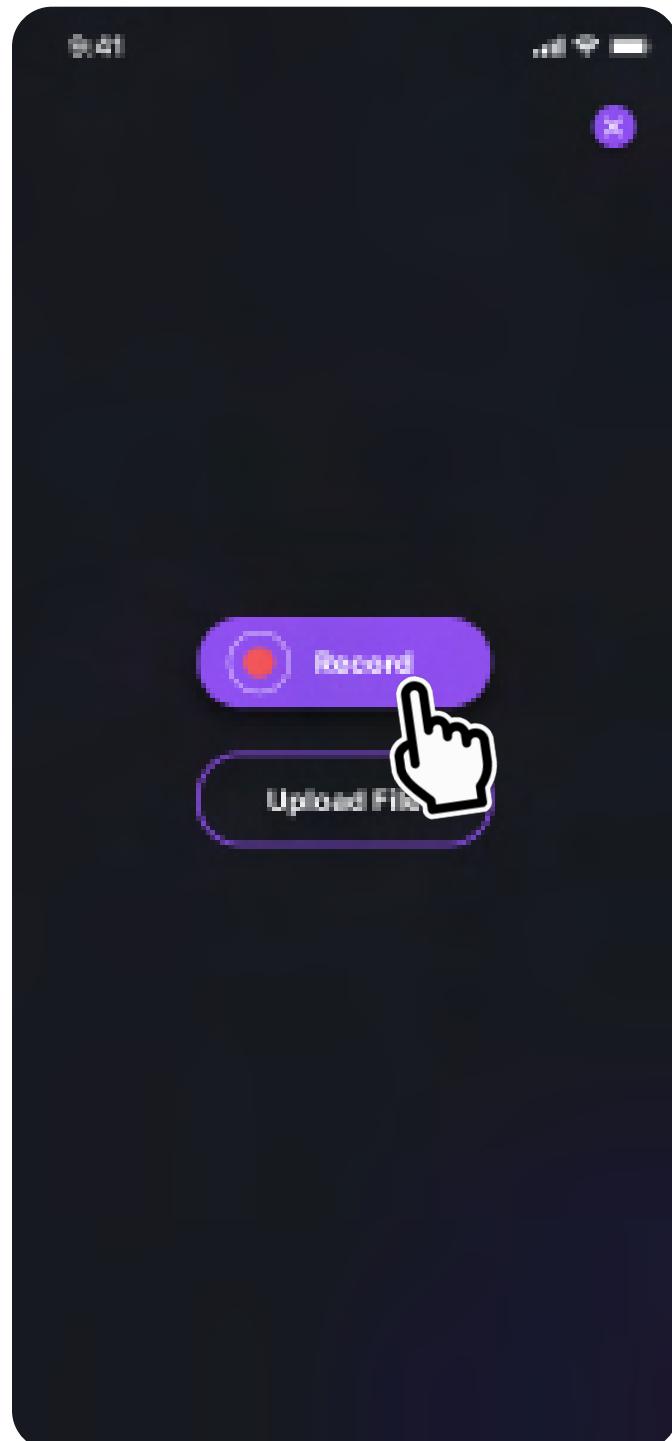
## Messaging environment also accessible from user profiles



## ISSUE 2

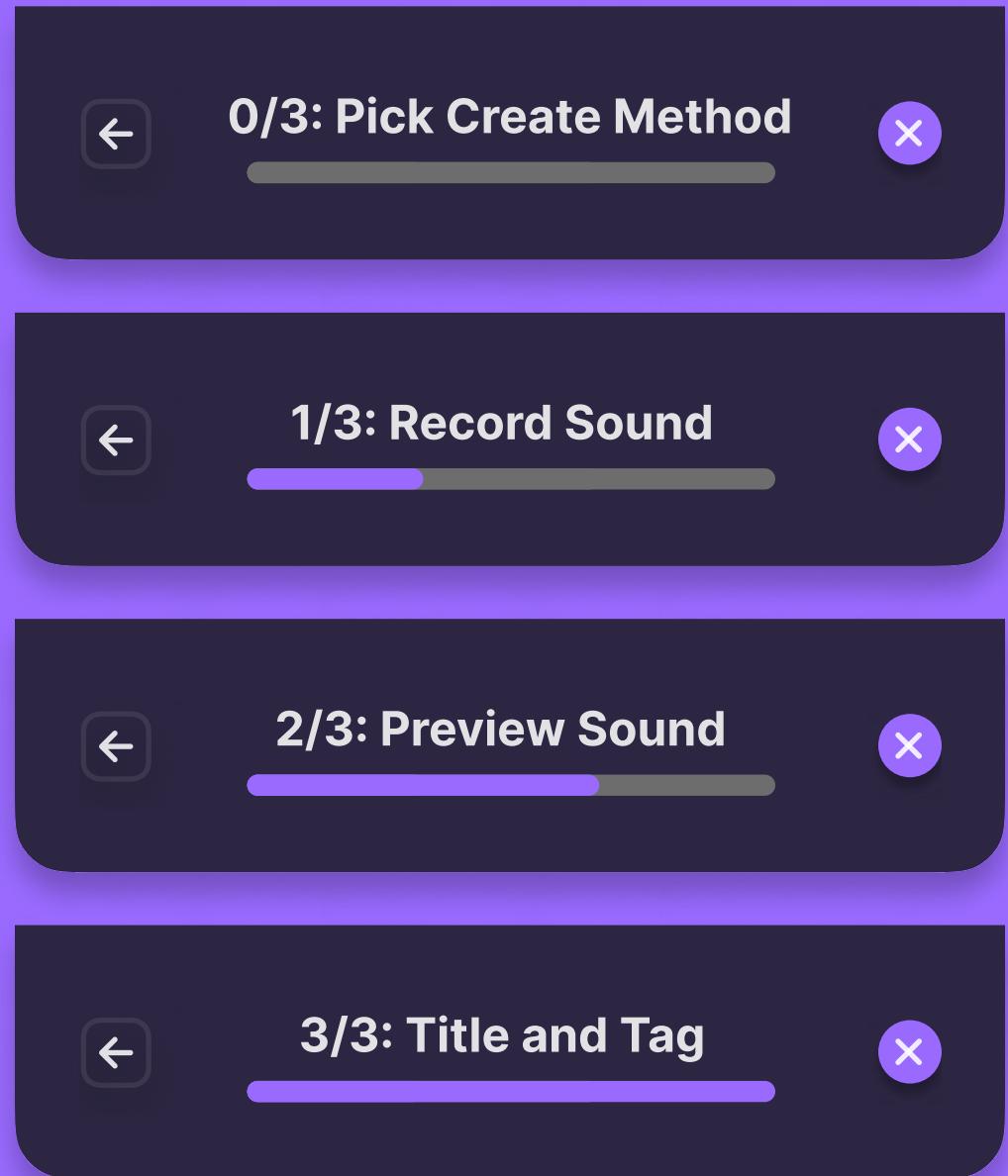
**No indication of system status during sound creation (H1)**

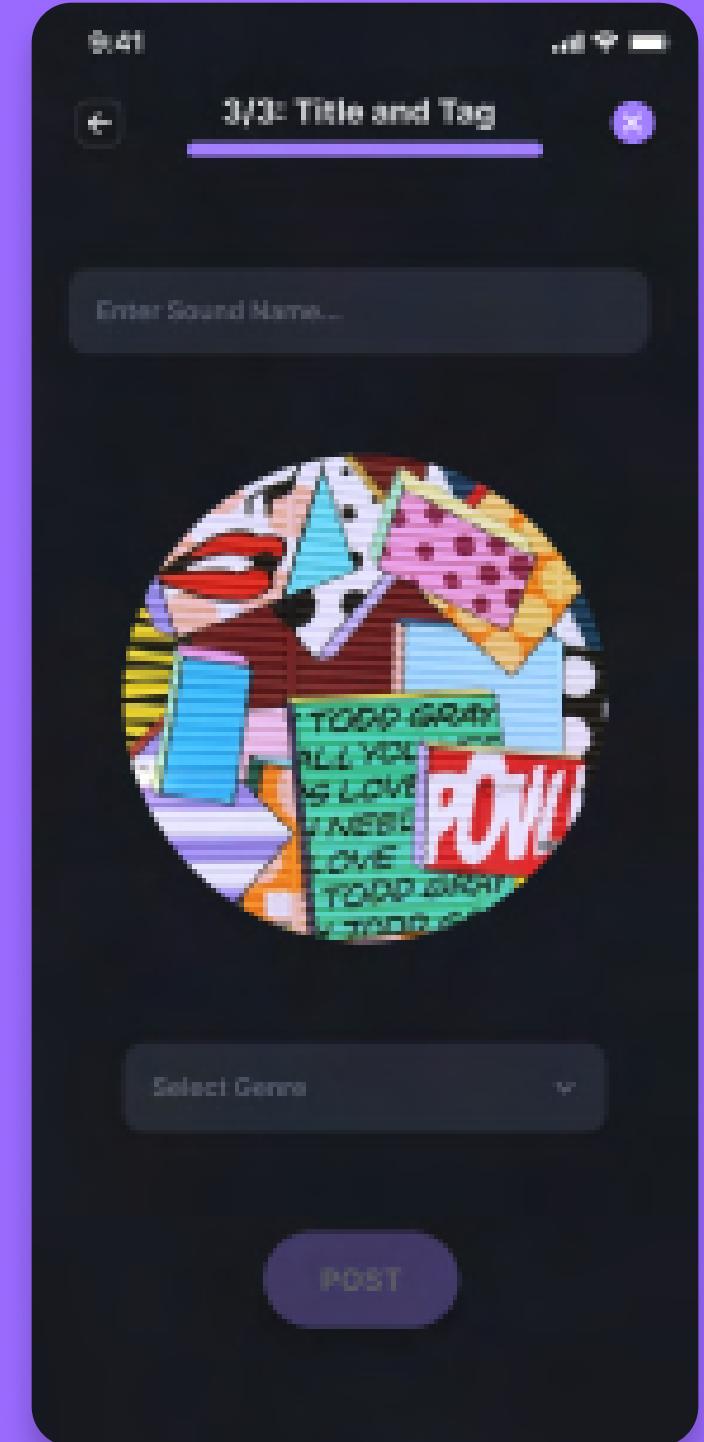
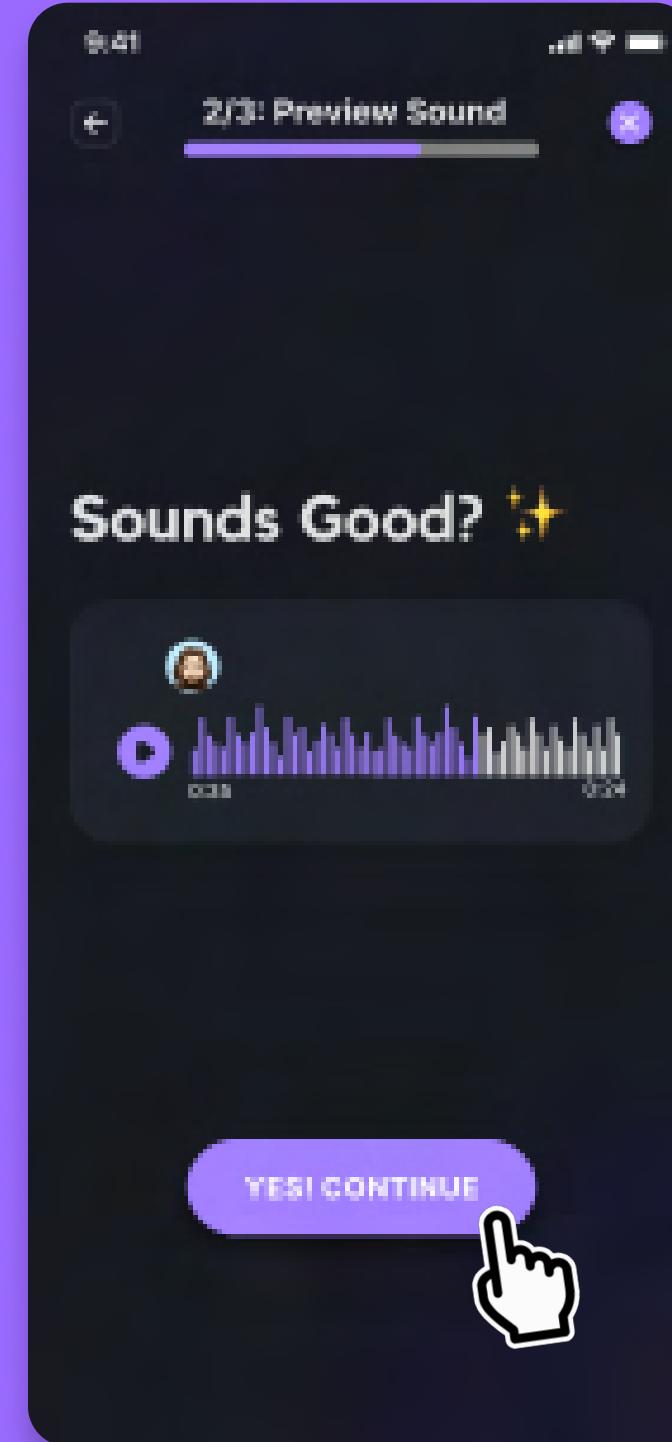
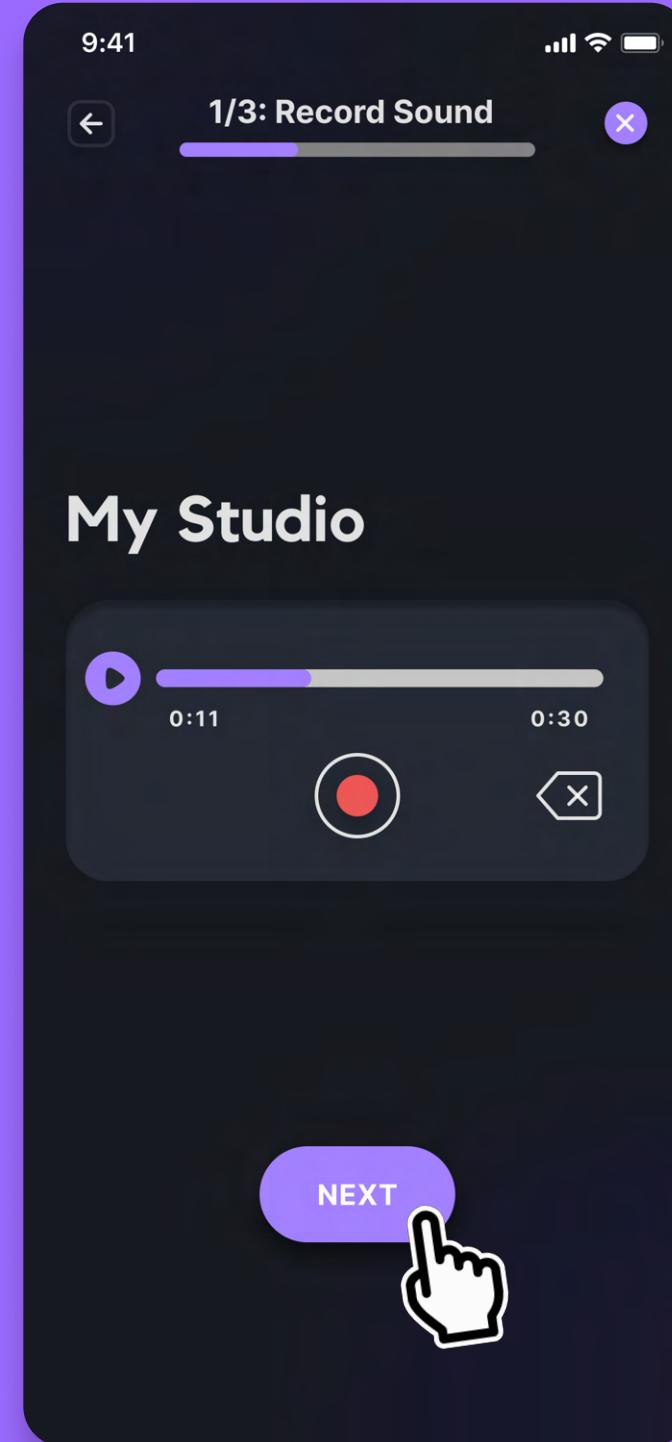
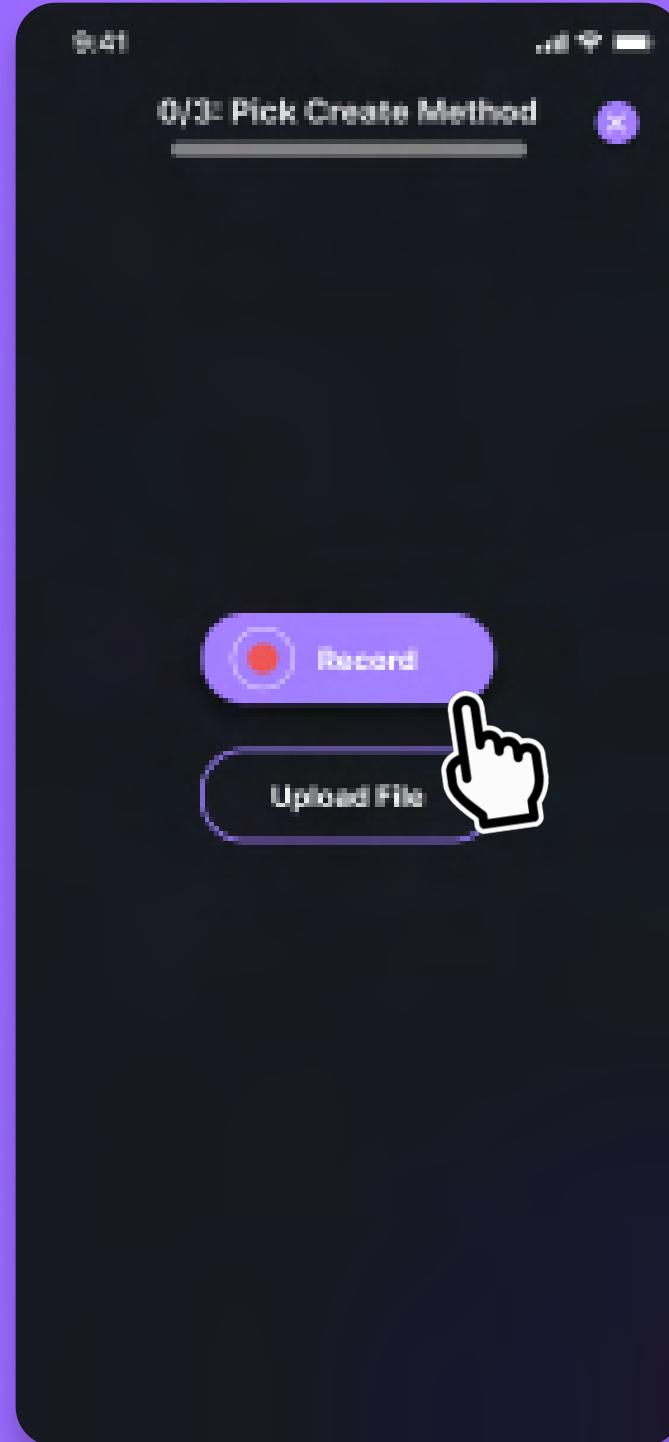
User is unsure which step they are currently on, and how much is left of the record/upload process.



## REVISION 2

**Added step indicators to nav bar in the “create” taskflow.**

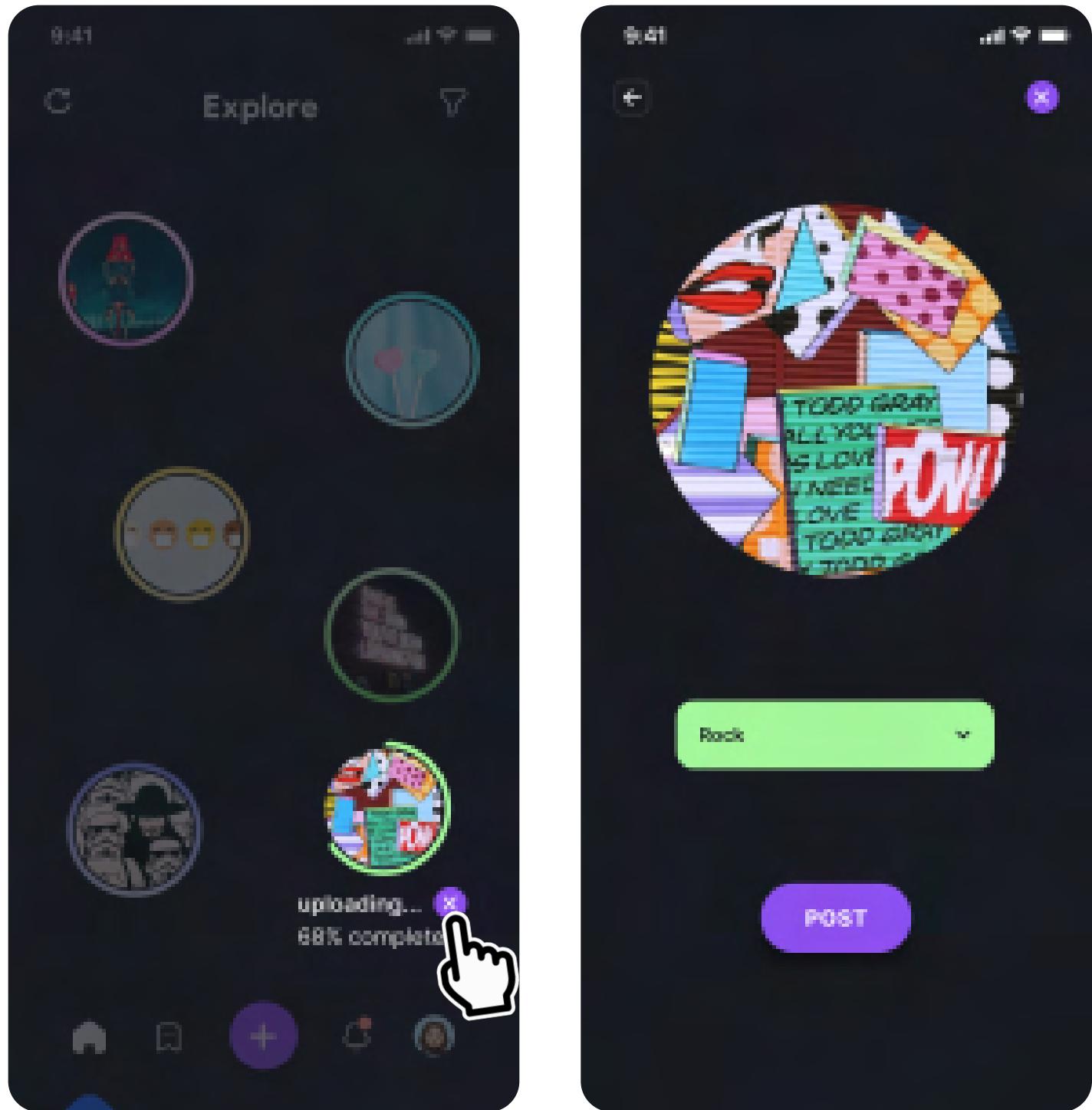




## ISSUE 3

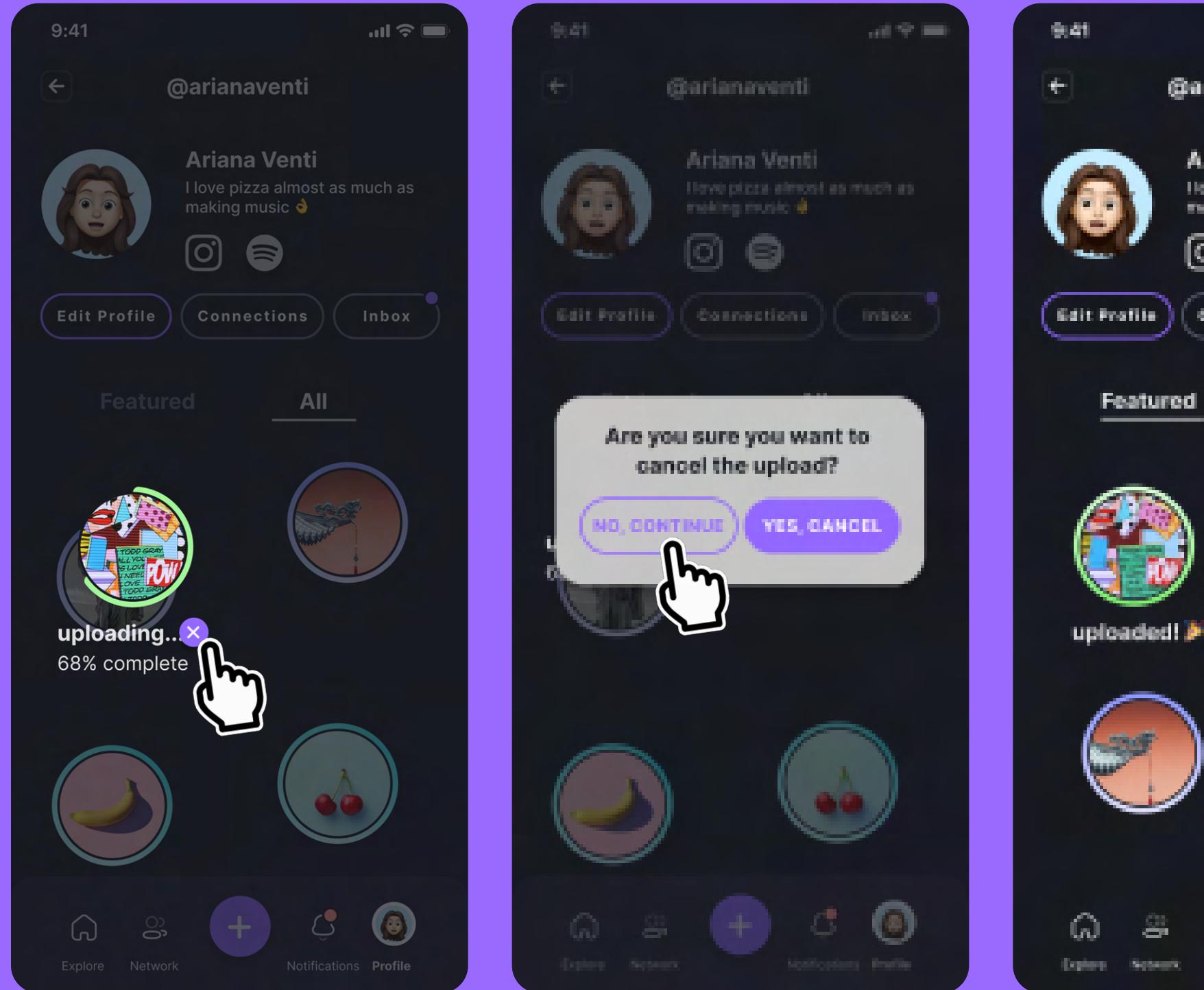
**User may accidentally click on “cancel upload”**

Clicking “cancel upload” should only bring the user back to the completed “Title and Tag” page, but due to possible Figma limitations, it may have appeared users needed to restart the entire upload process again.



## REVISION 3

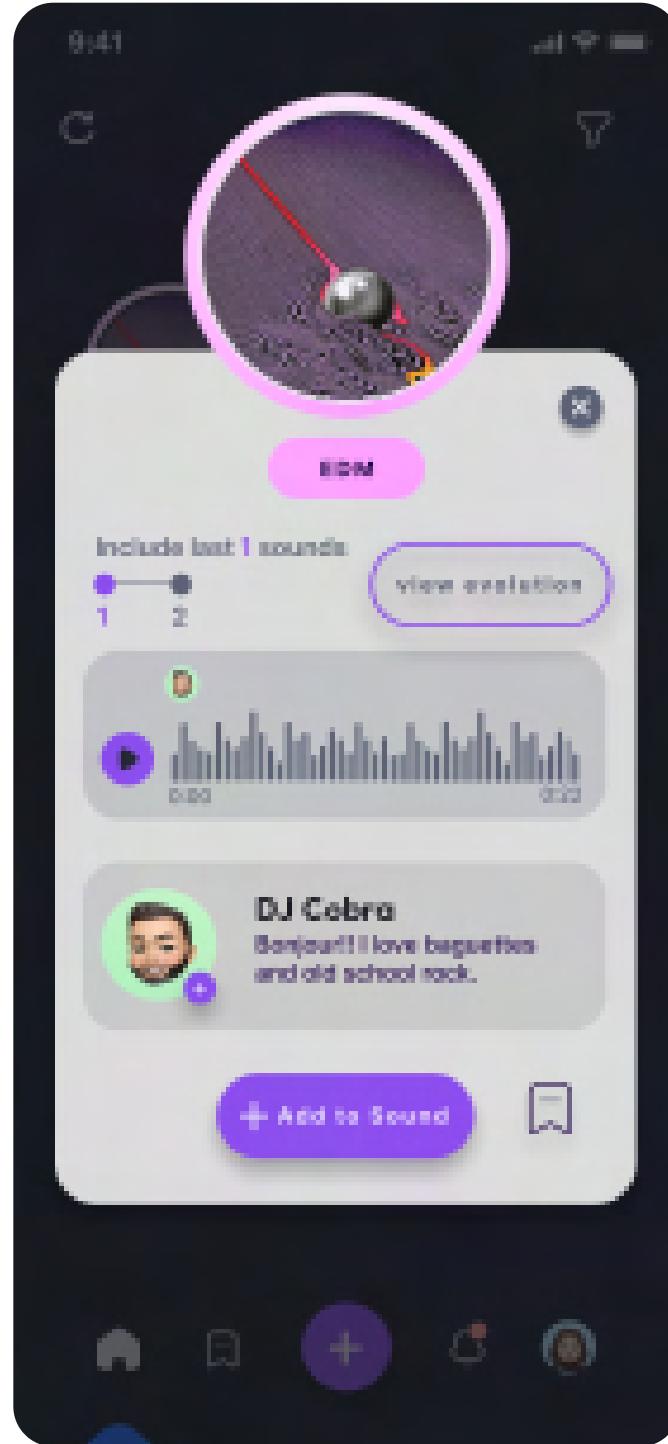
Added an “are you sure” popup prompt to prevent accidental cancels.



## ISSUE 4

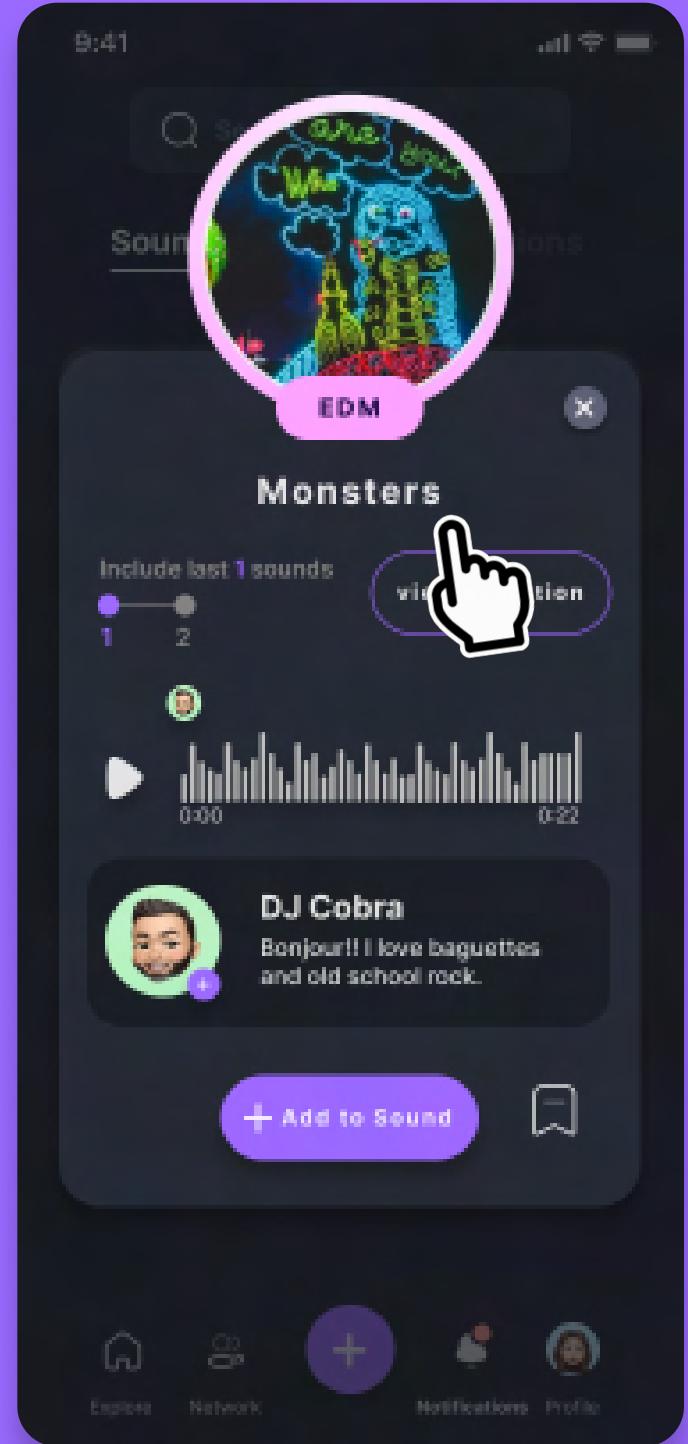
### No way to identify a sound beyond the cover art (H6)

Beyond this forcing recall versus sparking recognition, this could be extremely problematic if two sounds coincidentally had the same cover art.



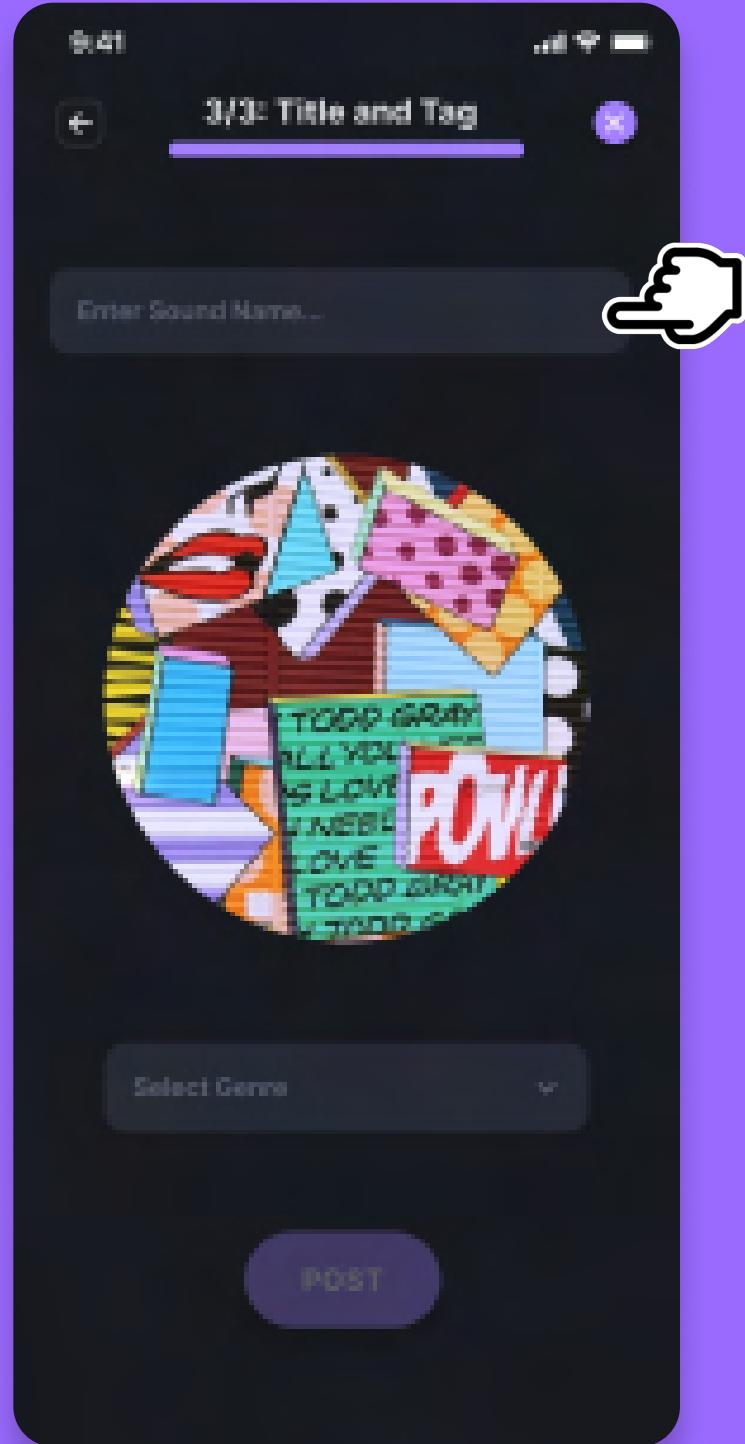
## REVISION 4.1

Implement titles  
into sounds



## REVISION 4.2

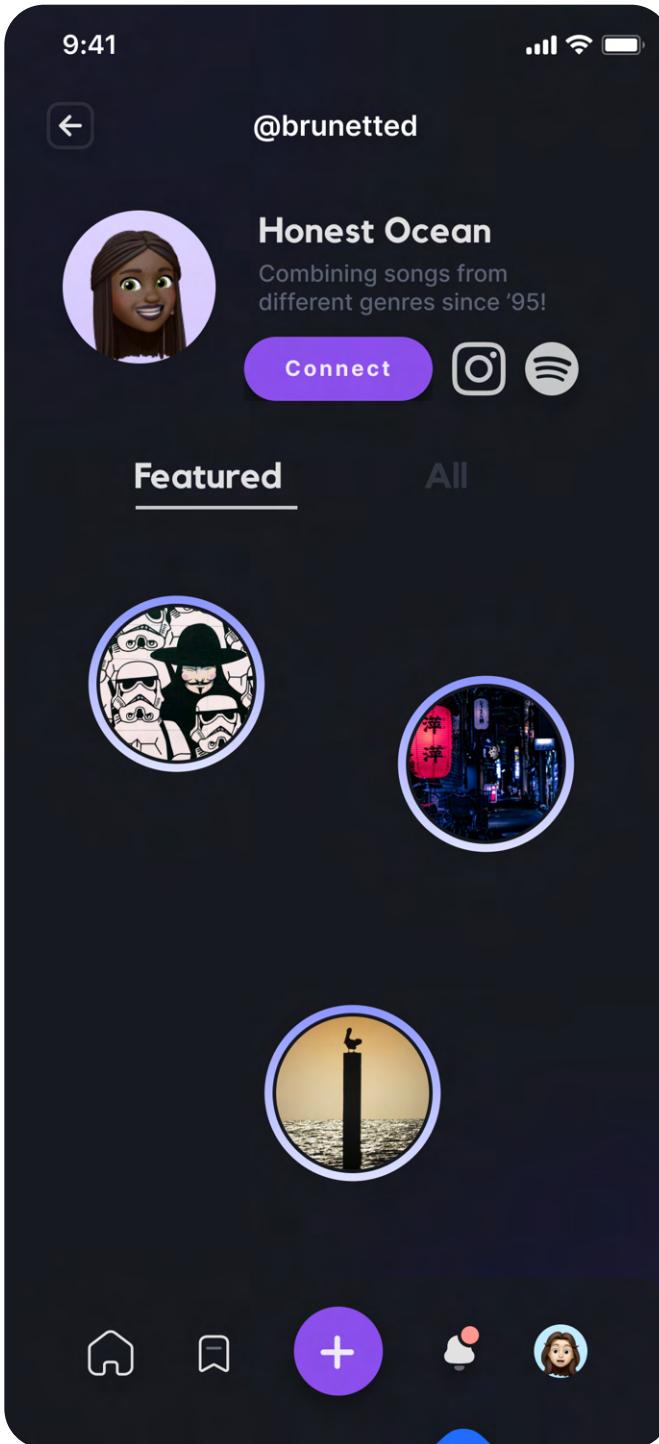
**Users must upload  
titles to sounds  
they post.**



## ISSUE 5

### Can't view a user's connections (H7)

Being able to view another user's connections, especially to identify mutuals, is vital to networking.



## REVISION 5

**Added a connections button to user profiles.**

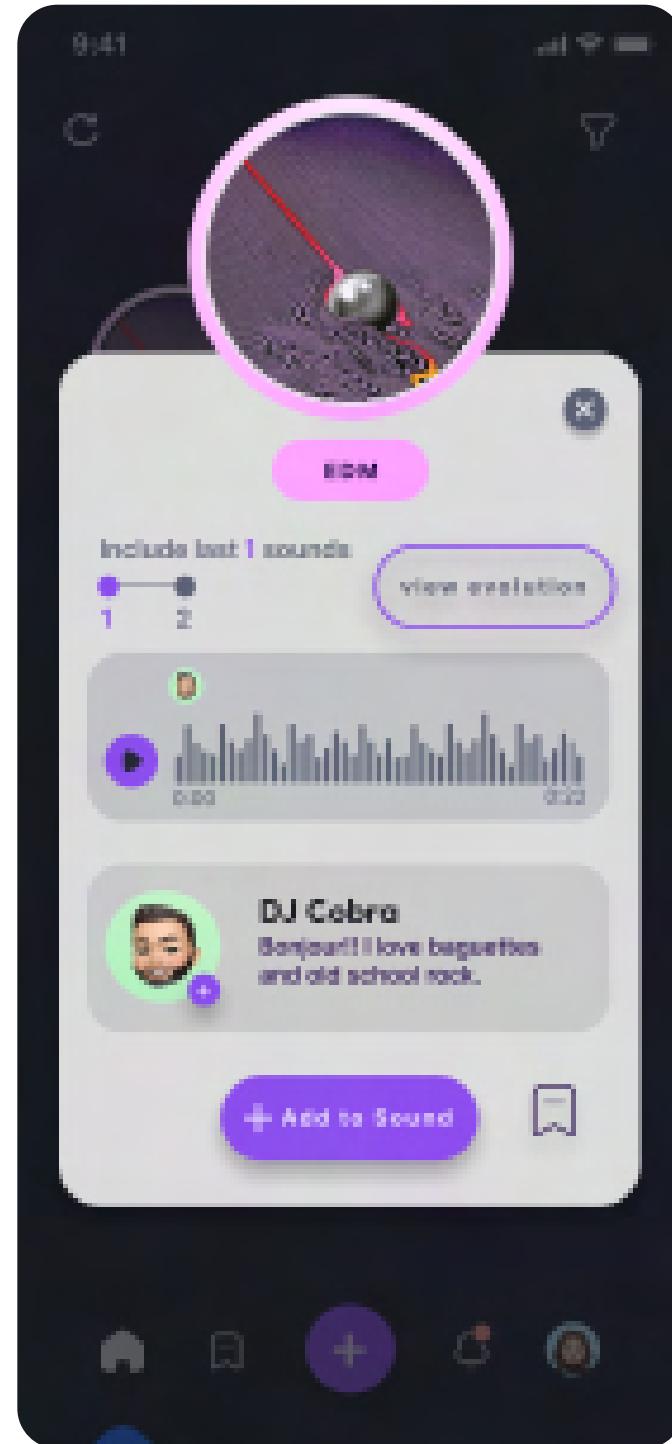
As of the Figma, users can view both mutuals and all connections. We are currently discussing whether it is best to eliminate visibility of non-mutuals.



## Issue 6, 7, 8, 9

## Unclear train concept (H10)

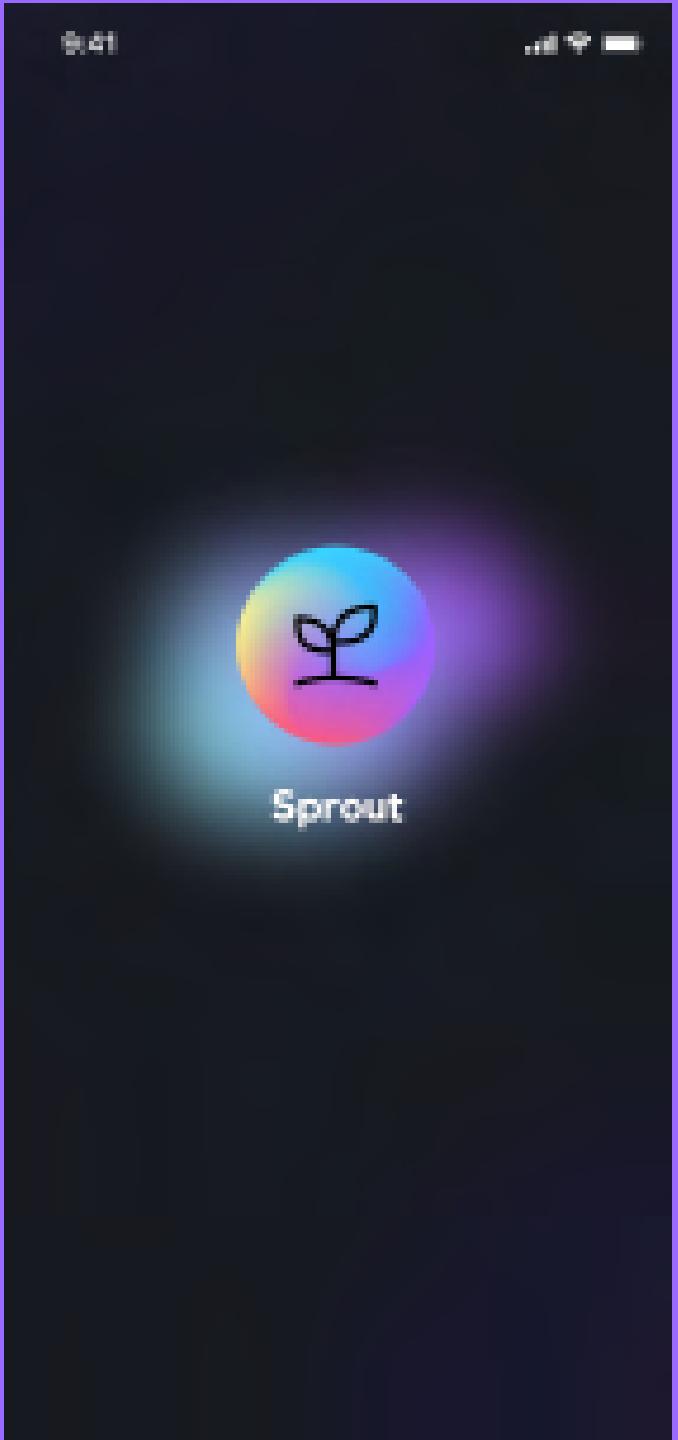
Users are unsure what “add to sound” exactly means.



## REVISION #6/7/8/9

**Add onboarding  
process to explain  
train concept!**

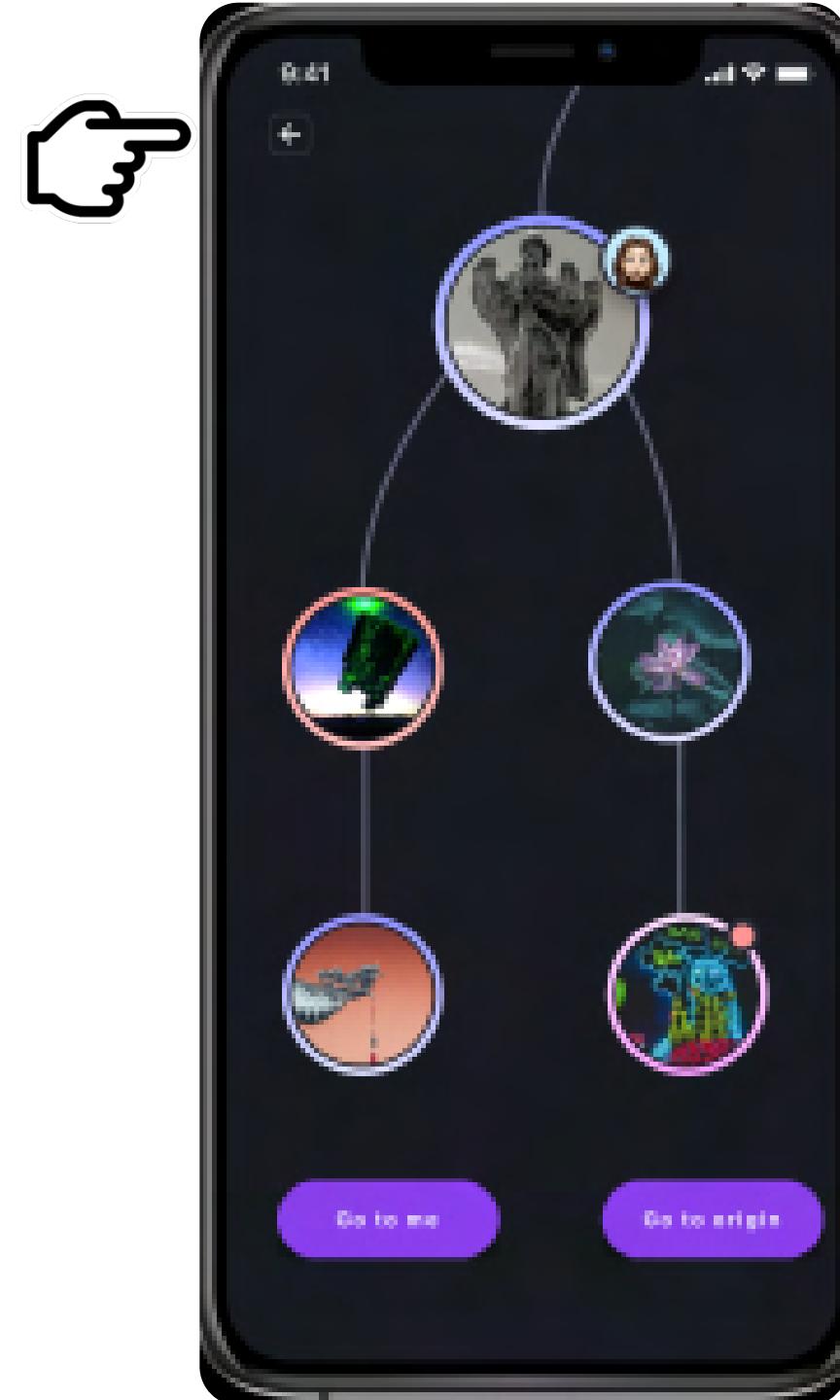
Short tutorial when the user first logs onto Sprout will be implemented in the final prototype!



## ISSUE 10

### No header on evolution page (H1)

User may be confused about which page they are on.



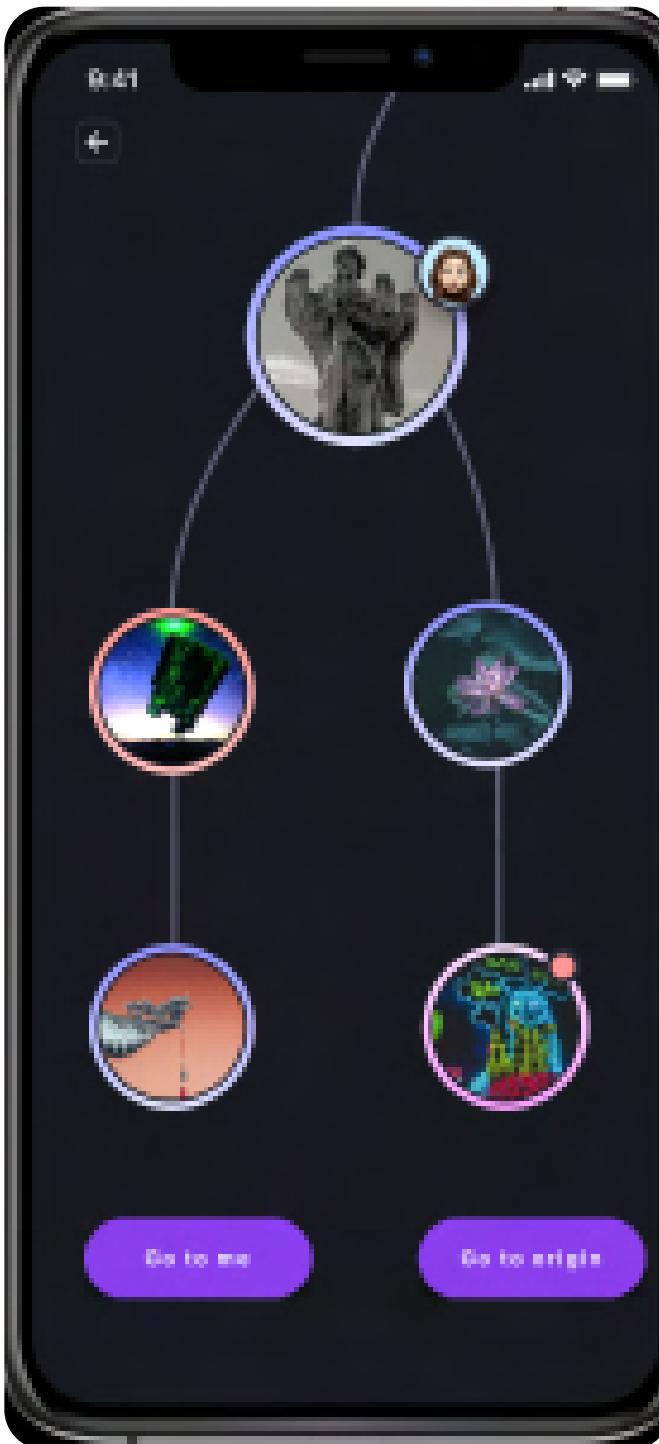
## REVISION 10

**Added a header  
to nav bar.**



## ISSUE 11

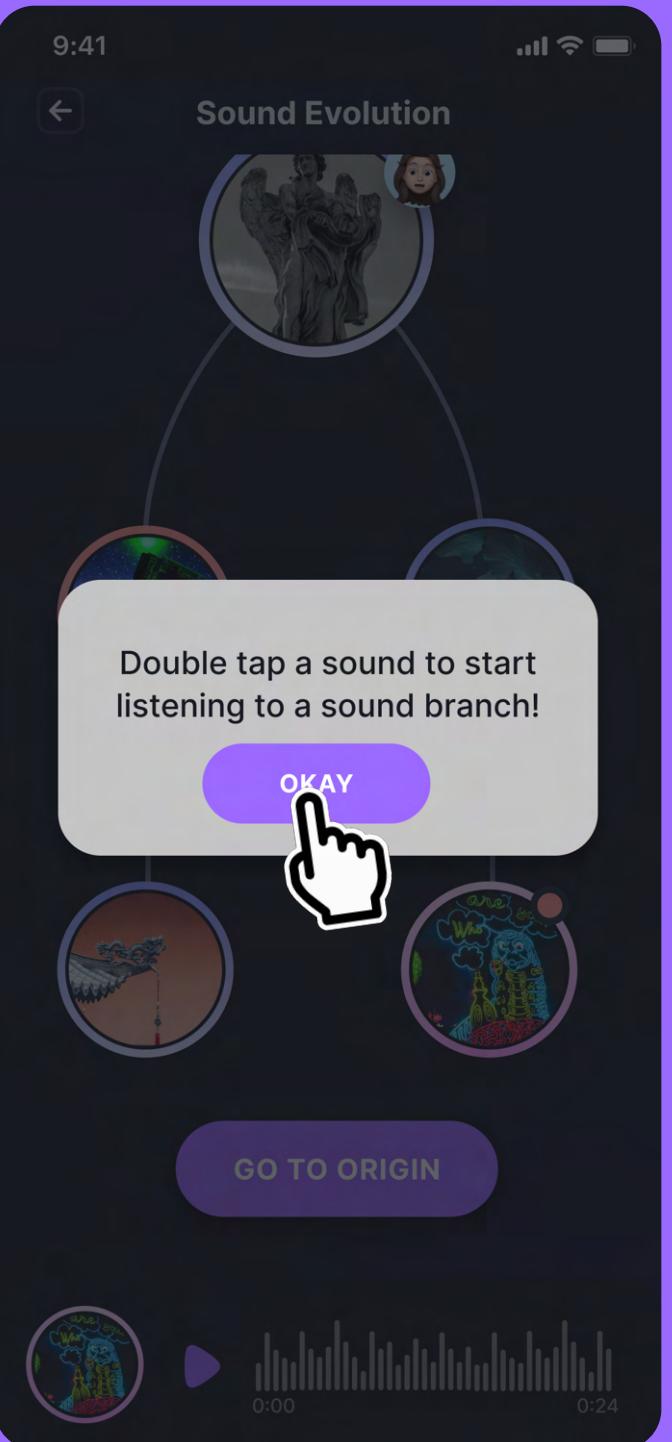
**Unclear how to  
listen to segments  
of evolution train  
(H7).**



## REVISION 11

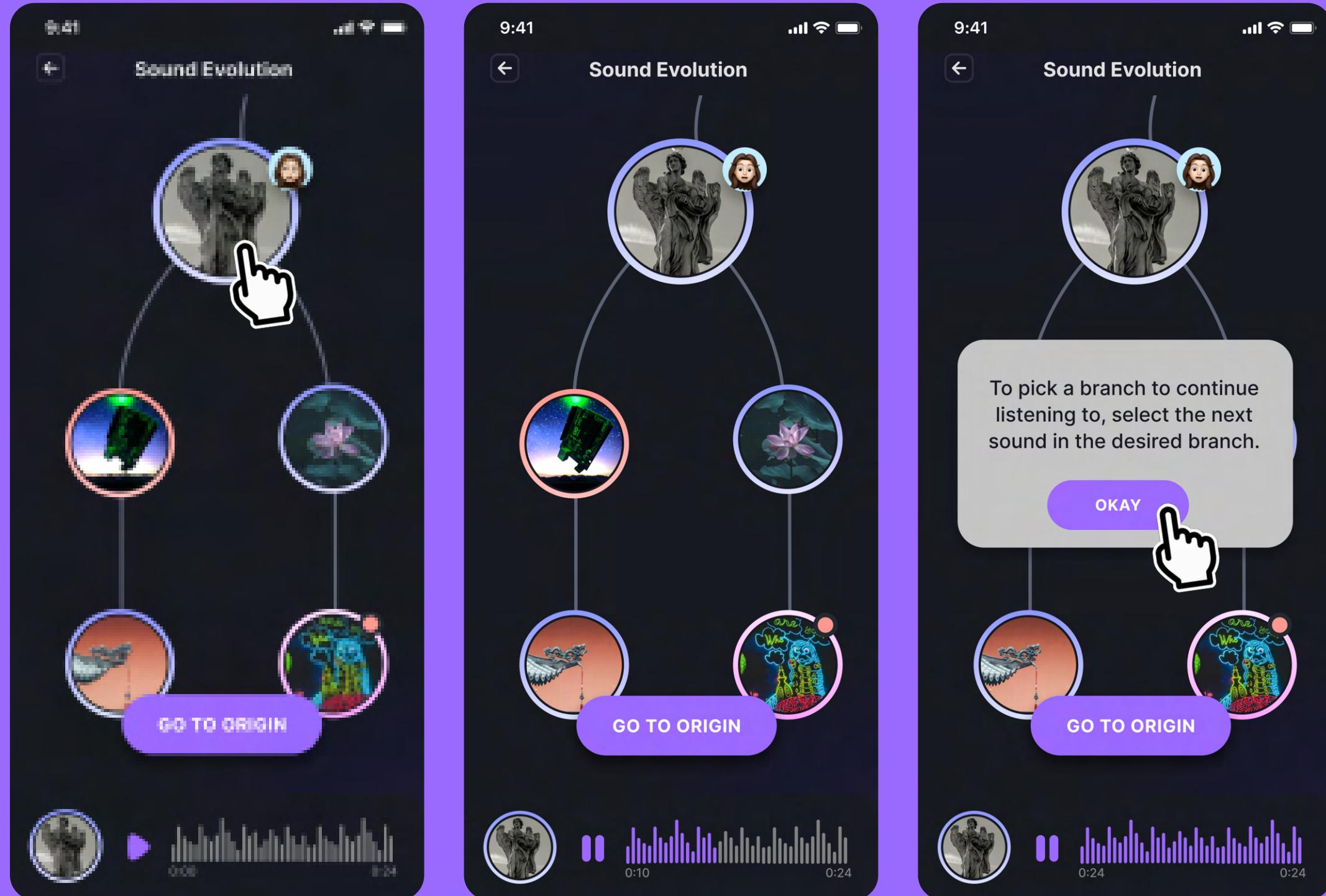
# Added help message and sound player.

The sound player at the bottom will display the current sound being played. At a junction, another popup will prompt user to choose path to take.



## REVISION 11

And help message at junctions for first-time users.



## **Issue 12, 13, 14, 15**

## **Simple prototype issues**

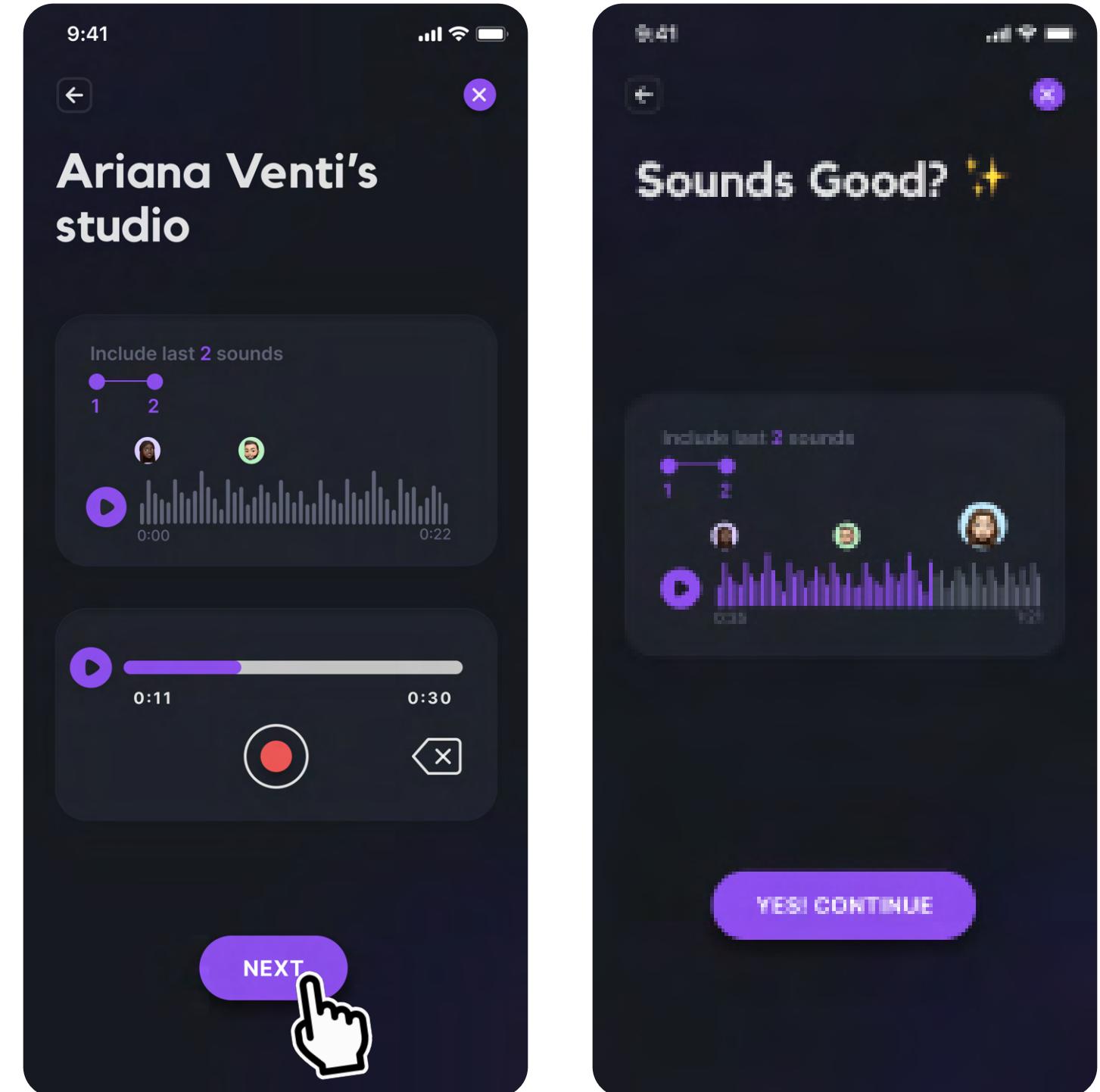
- 12. Each soundbite must be associated with the correct cover art (H4)
- 13. Back button on record page not linked correctly (H4)
- 14. Cannot click again to undo "connection request" (H3)
- 15. Confusion about connection between soundbite iterations and evolution page (H4)

**Fixed, re-linked, or prototype issues  
that are already intended to work in  
hi-fi!**

## ISSUE 16

**User cannot edit/trim a sound after recording (H2)**

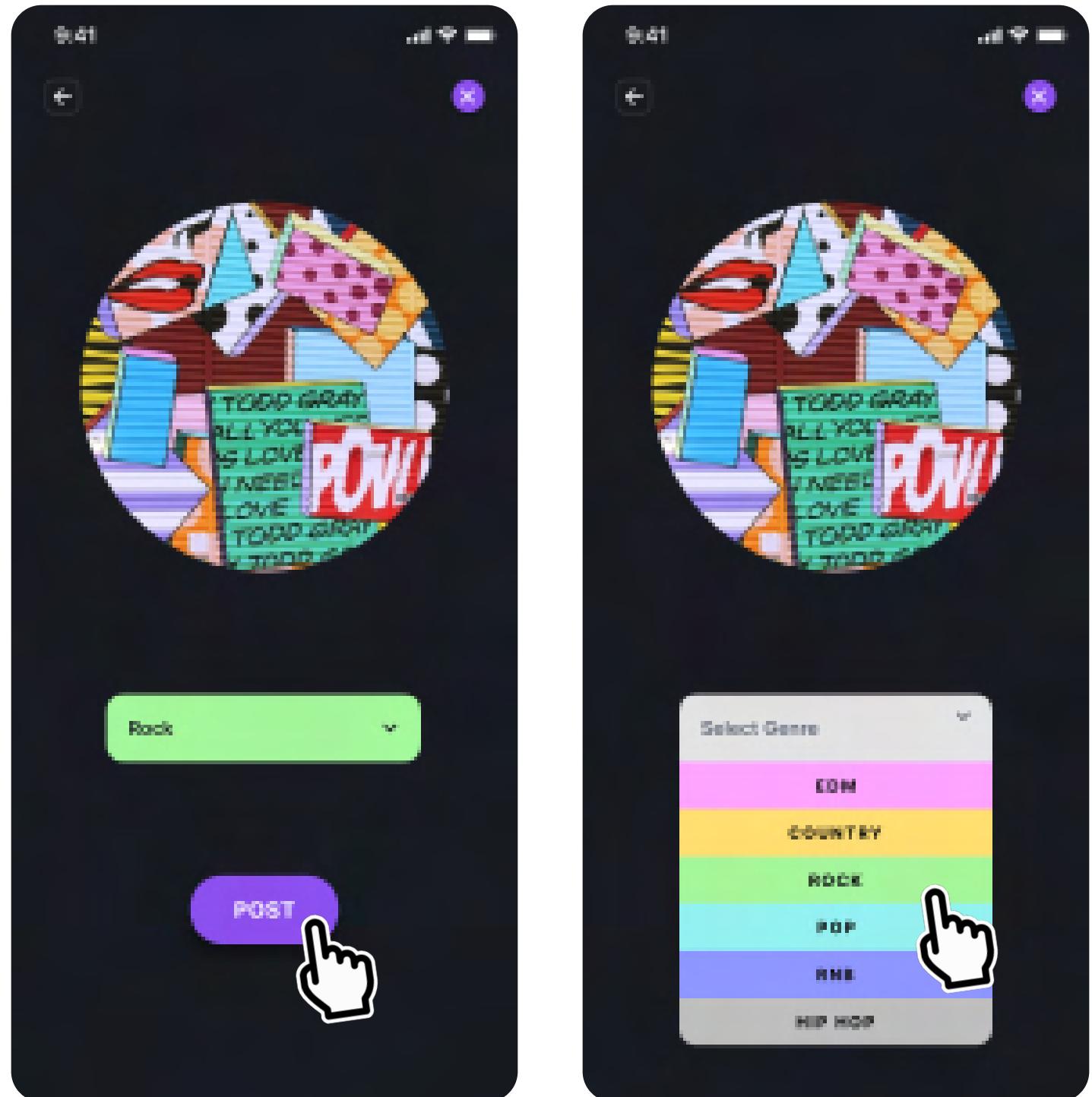
This is incredibly valid, but beyond trimming, implementation would be tough within the remaining week.



## ISSUE 17

**Users should be able to tag their sounds by multiple genres (H2).**

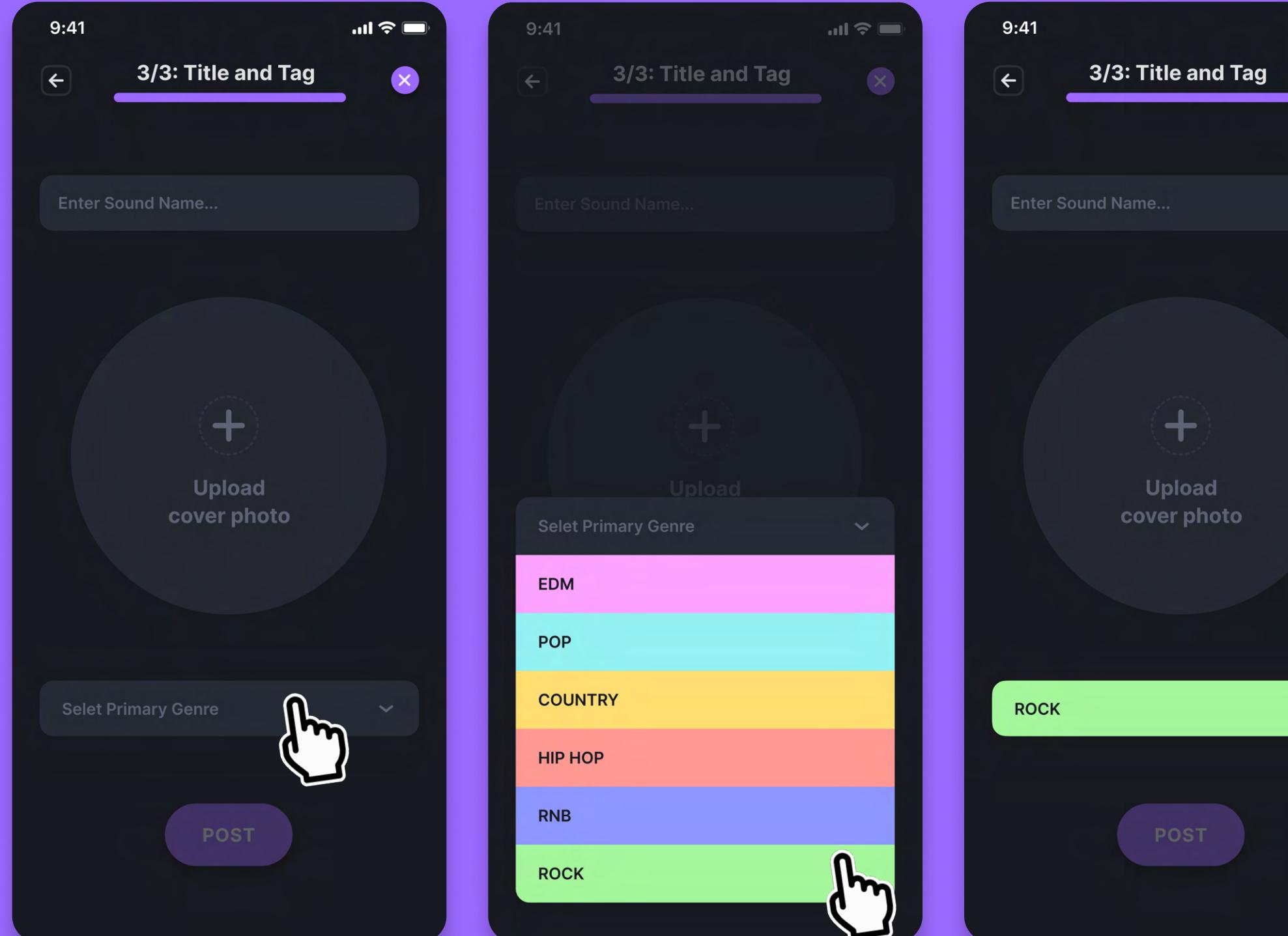
Rationale is that there is a ton of cross-pollination in music genres.



# REVISION 17

Modify genre tagging in "create" to say "**Select primary genre**"

Our entire design system relies on using color to distinguish genres as it stands, so it would be very complex (and time-crunched) to rethink this aspect in the last 2 weeks.



## ISSUE 18

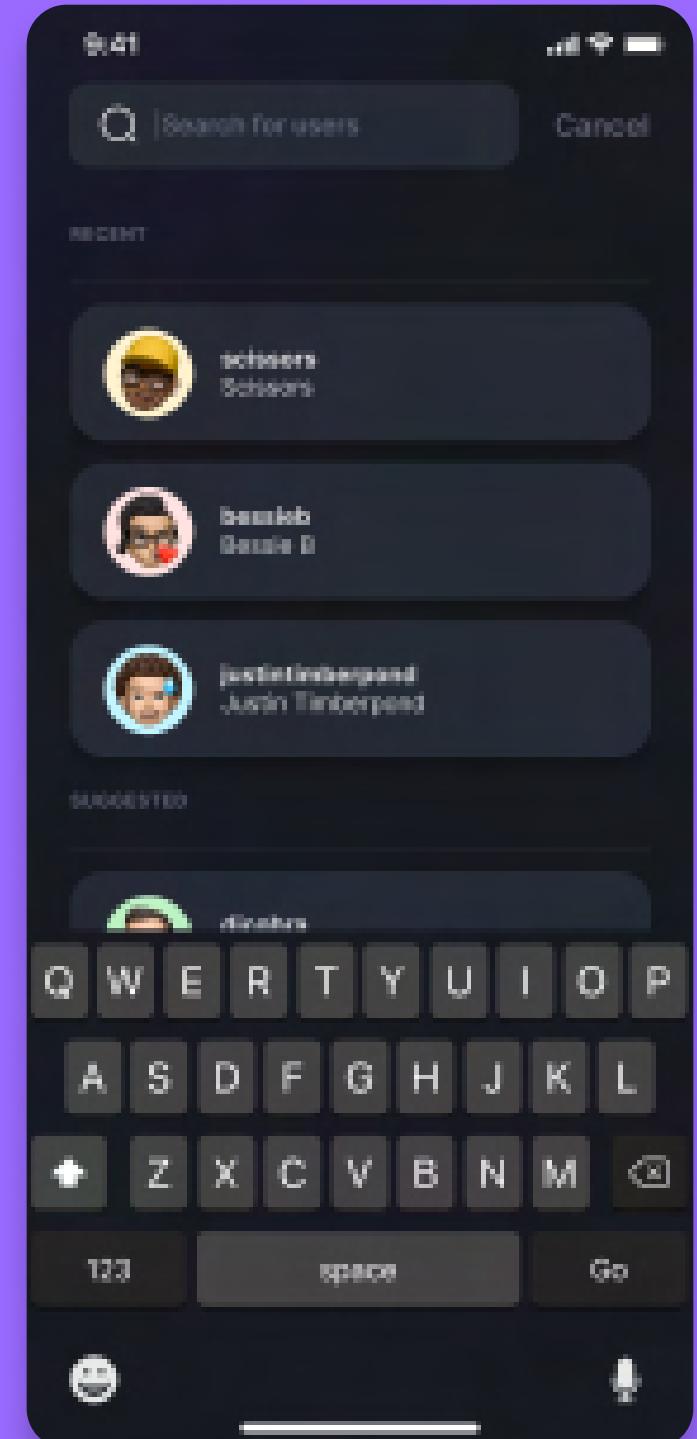
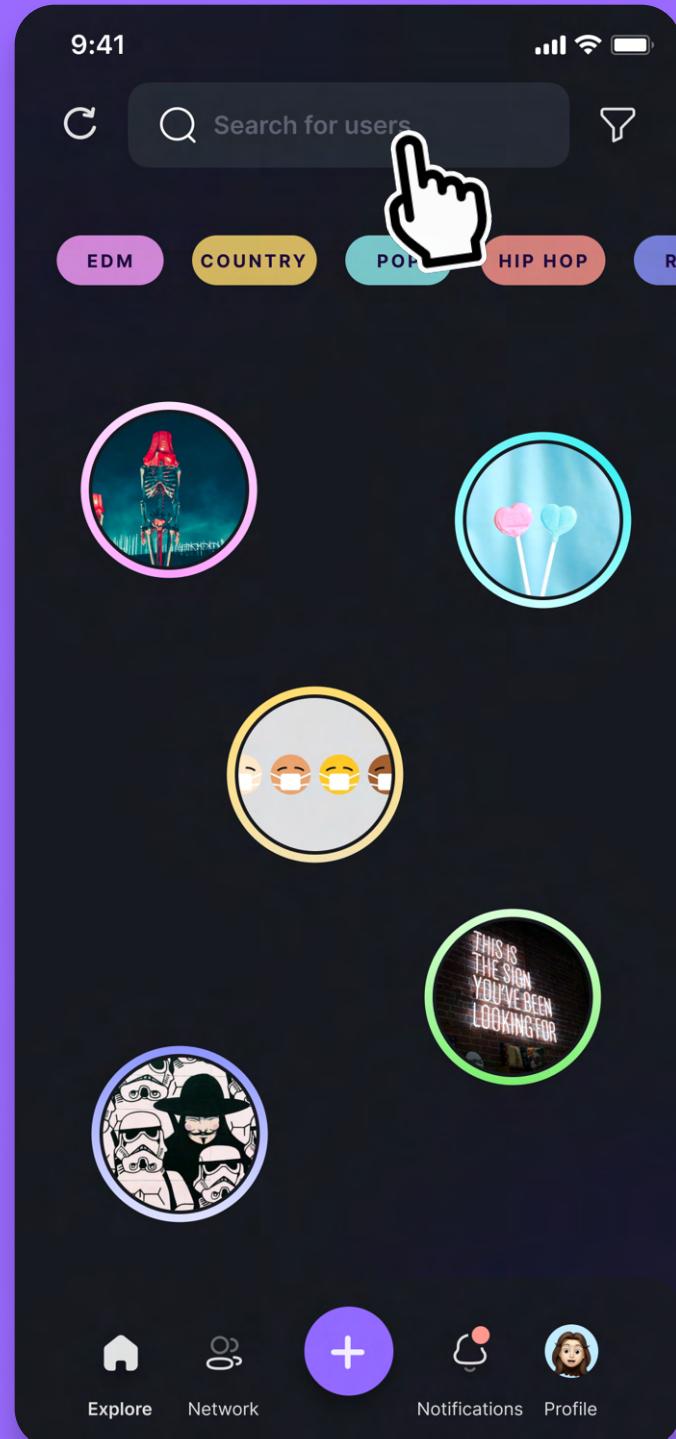
**Users cannot search for sounds (H8).**



## REVISION 18

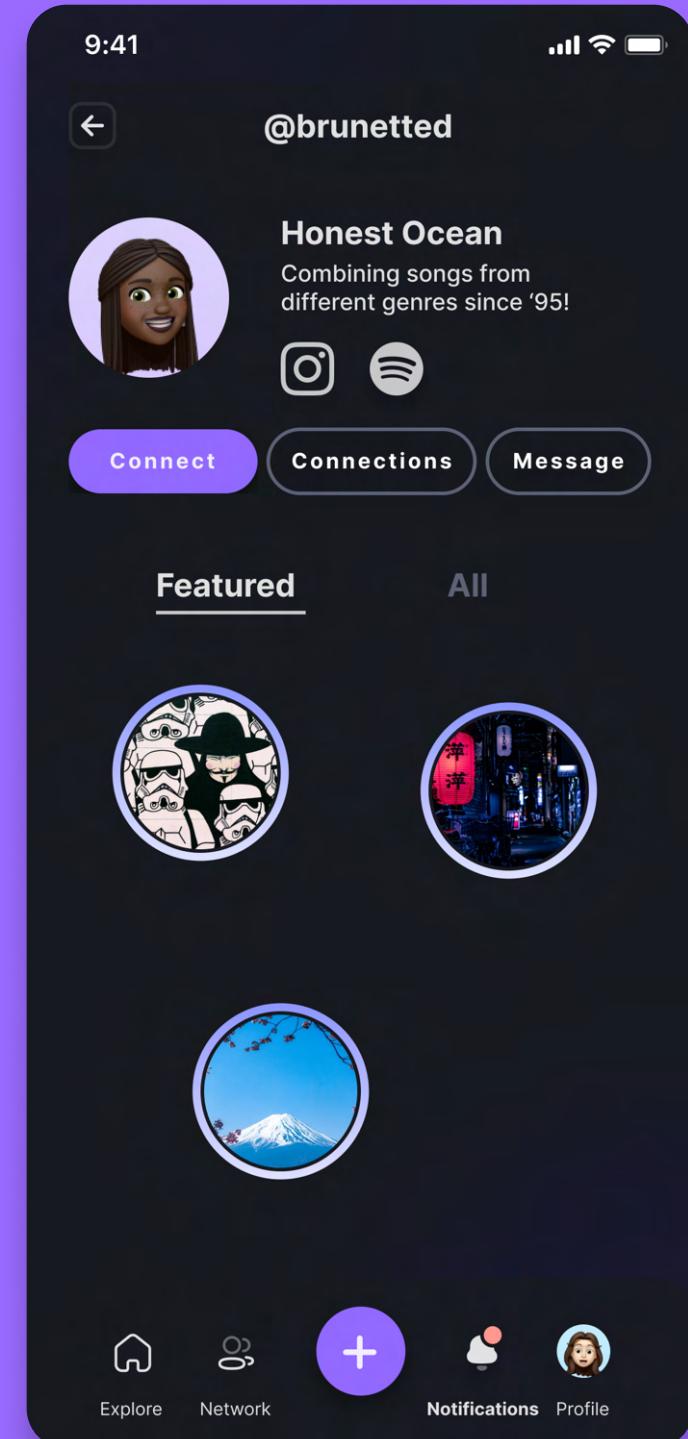
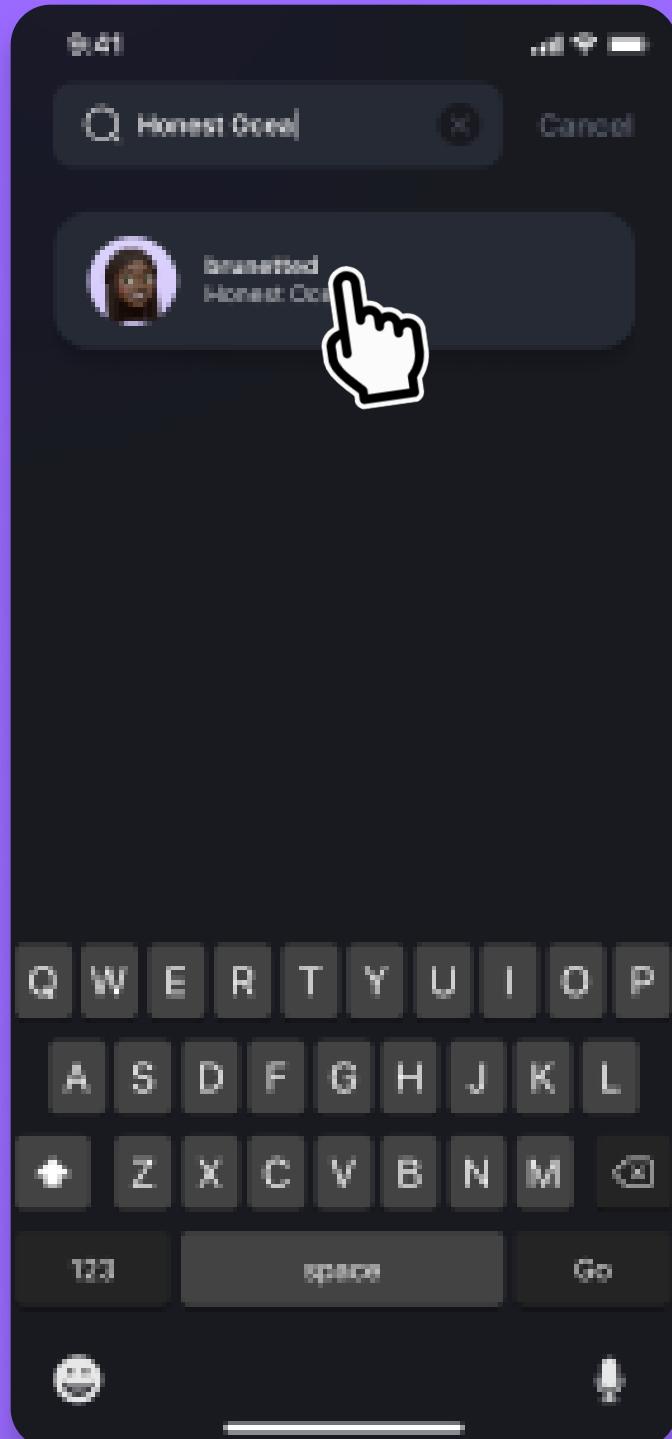
# Implemented search for users.

Searching for users is extremely pivotal to the UX of a networking app. However, we want sound (and thus artist) discovery to be spontaneous, so intend the explore page to function like a “For You Page”.



## REVISION 18

Any profile in  
the Sprout  
universe should  
be searchable.



## ISSUE 19

**Users need to recall colors associated with genres from memory (H6).**

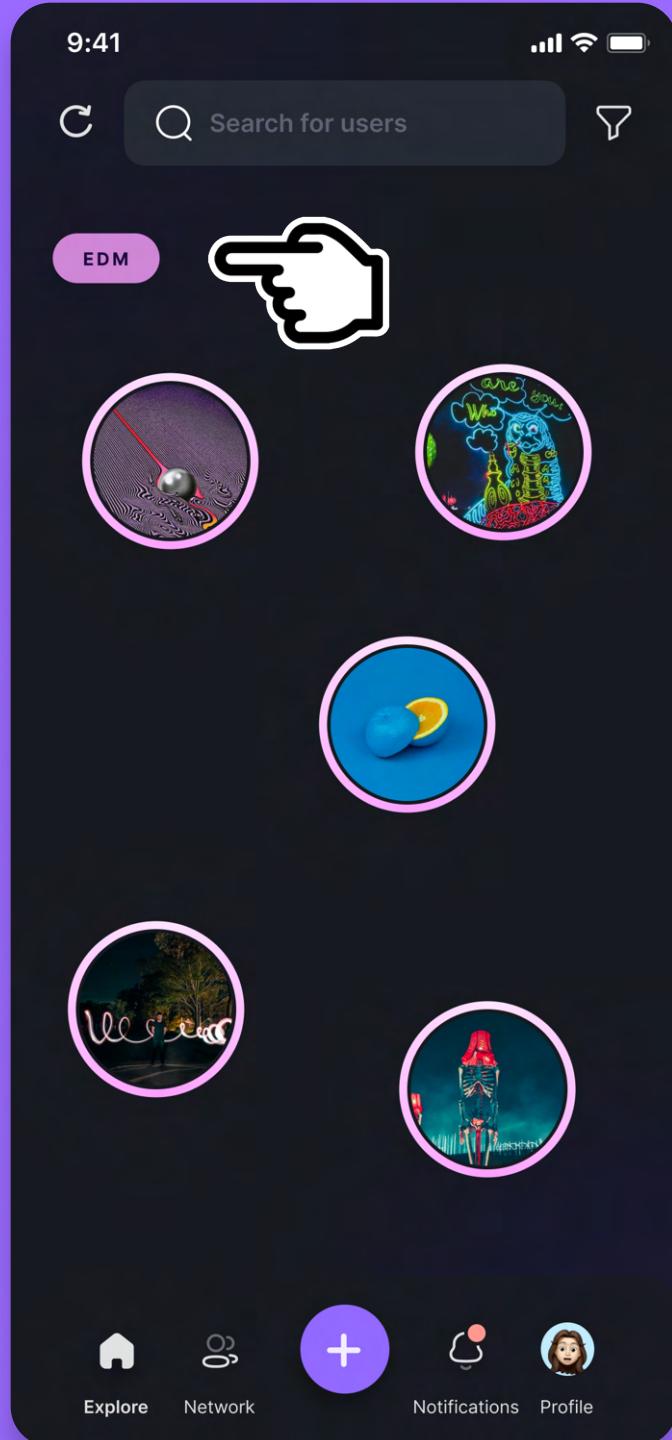
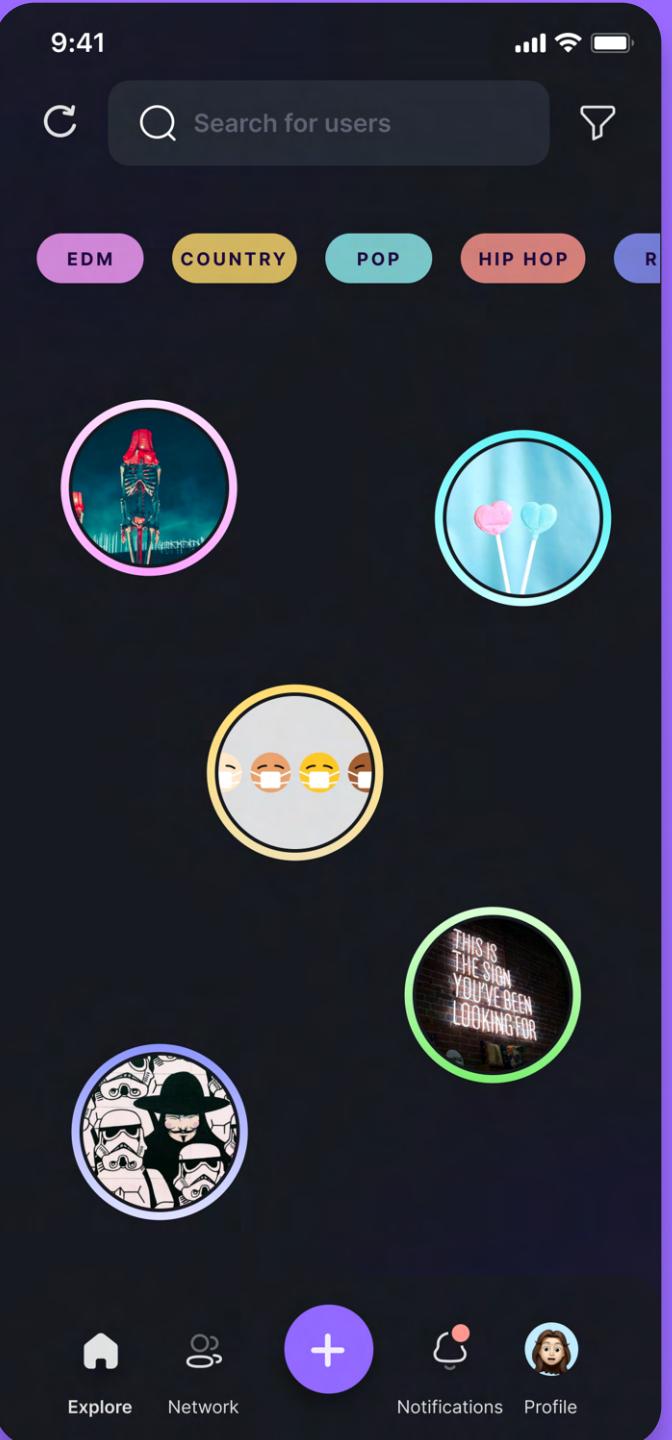
For instance, in this page, a user can't know which genre each sound belongs to without clicking on it.



## REVISION 19

**Added activated genre tags to explore screen.**

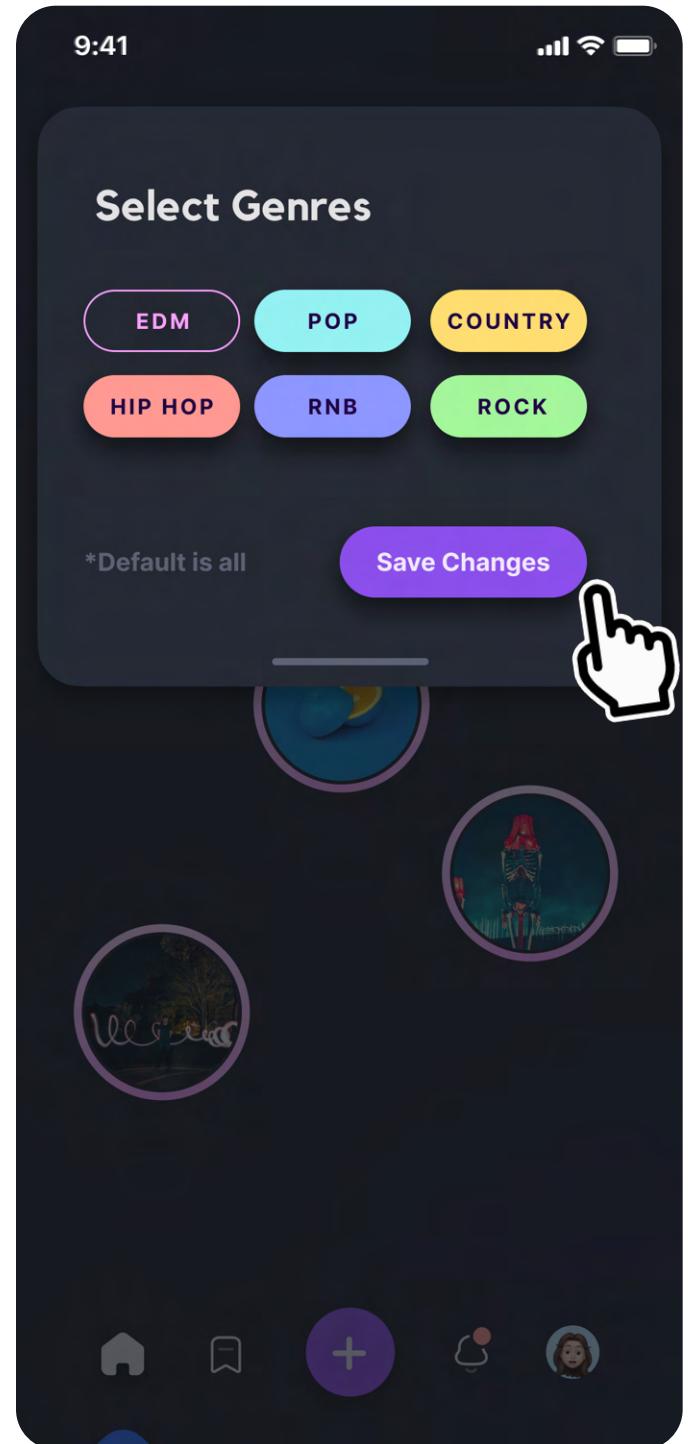
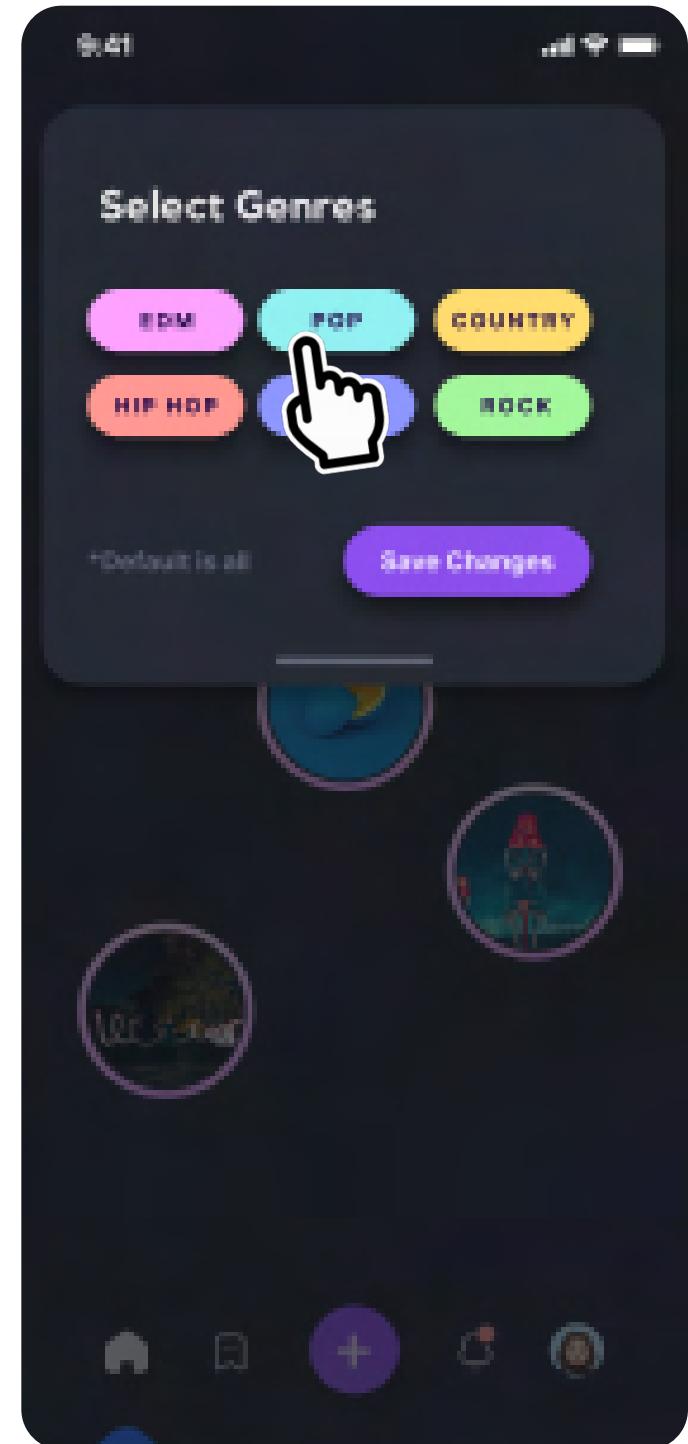
The tags are horizontal-scrollable, if longer than the phone screen.



## ISSUE 20

**It is more intuitive for tags to “light up” when selected, instead of when deselected (H4).**

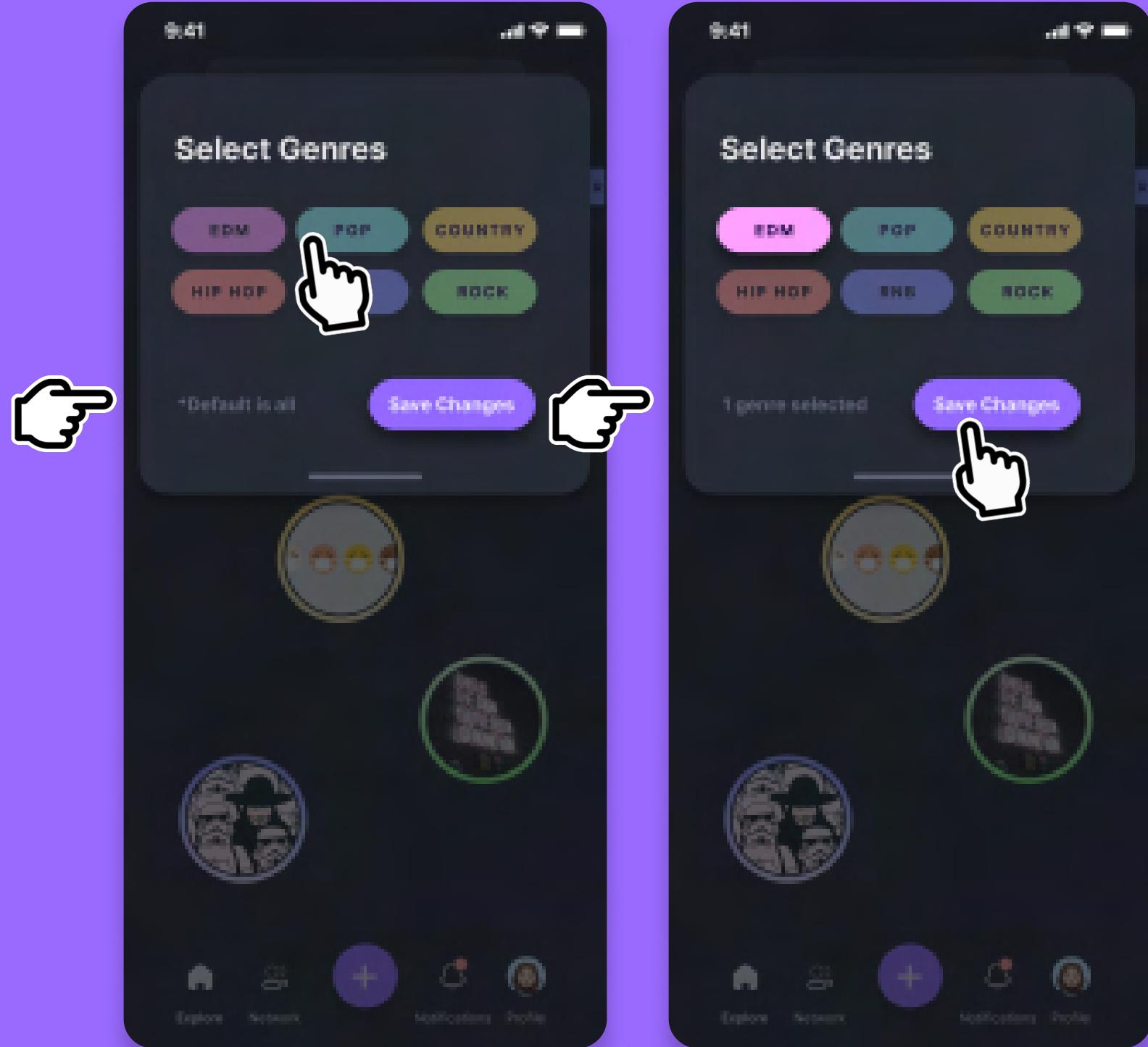
In the figures on the right, we are attempting to filter by EDM.



## REVISION 20

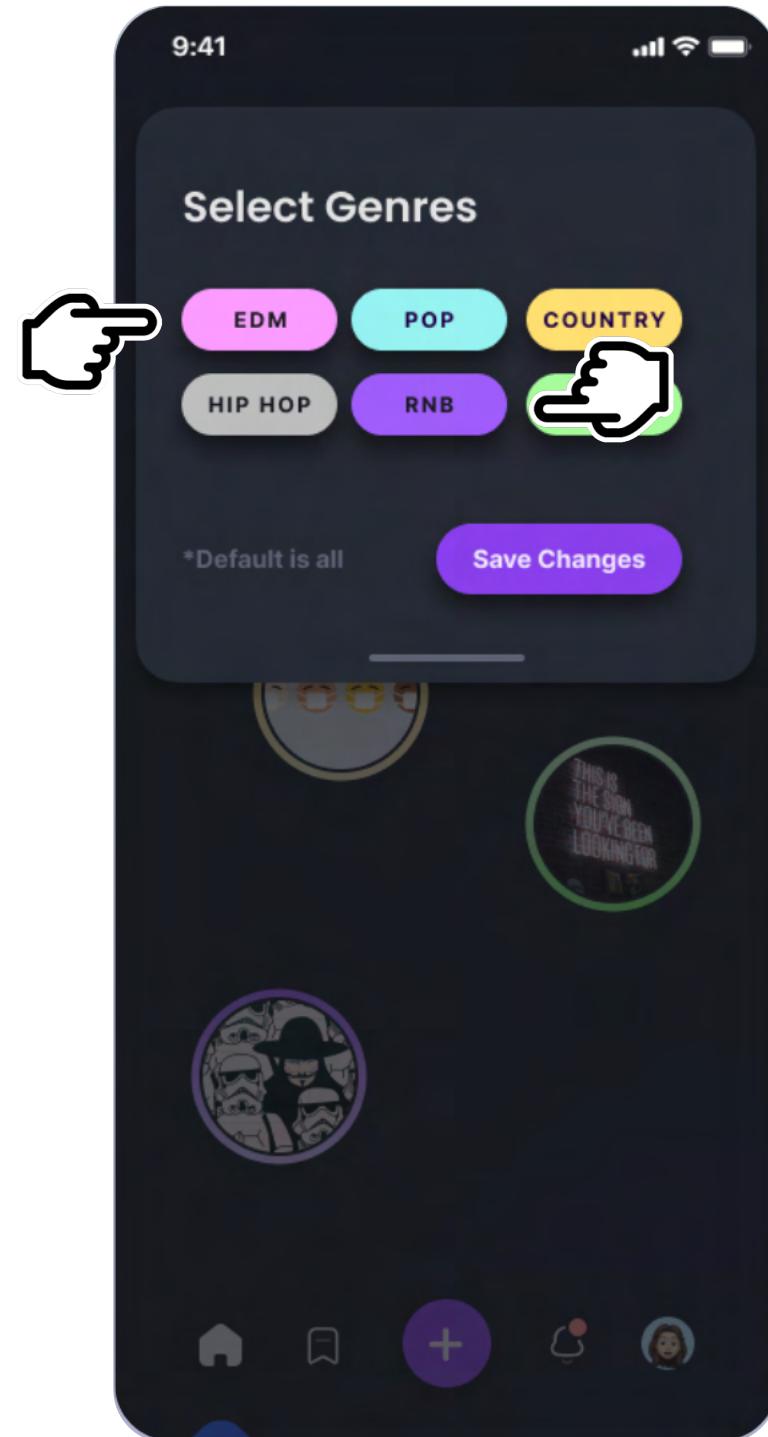
Genre tags "light up" when selected.

If no genres are selected, all genres are rendered by default. This is explained by a dynamically-updating helper text informing user of selection status.



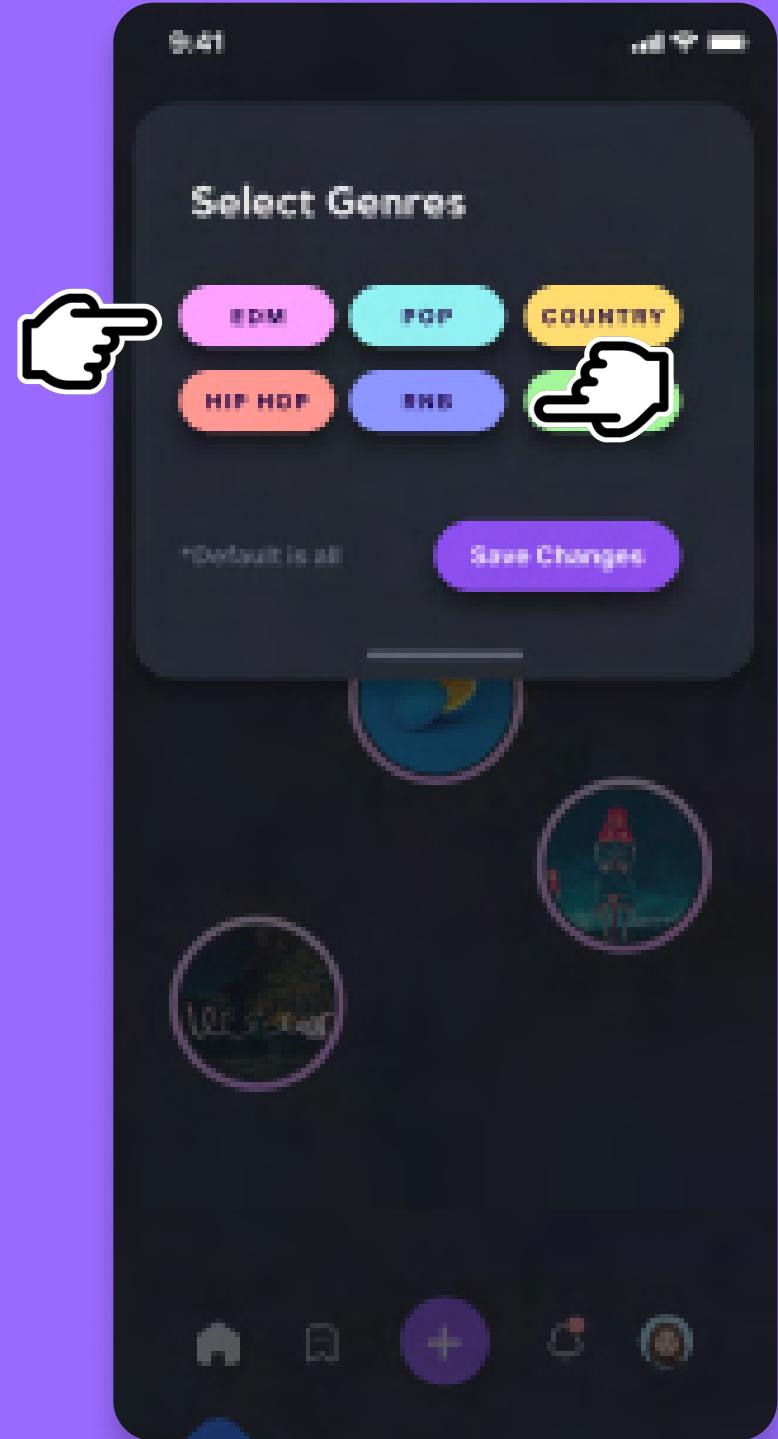
## ISSUE 21

Colors for EDM and RnB look too similar (H8).



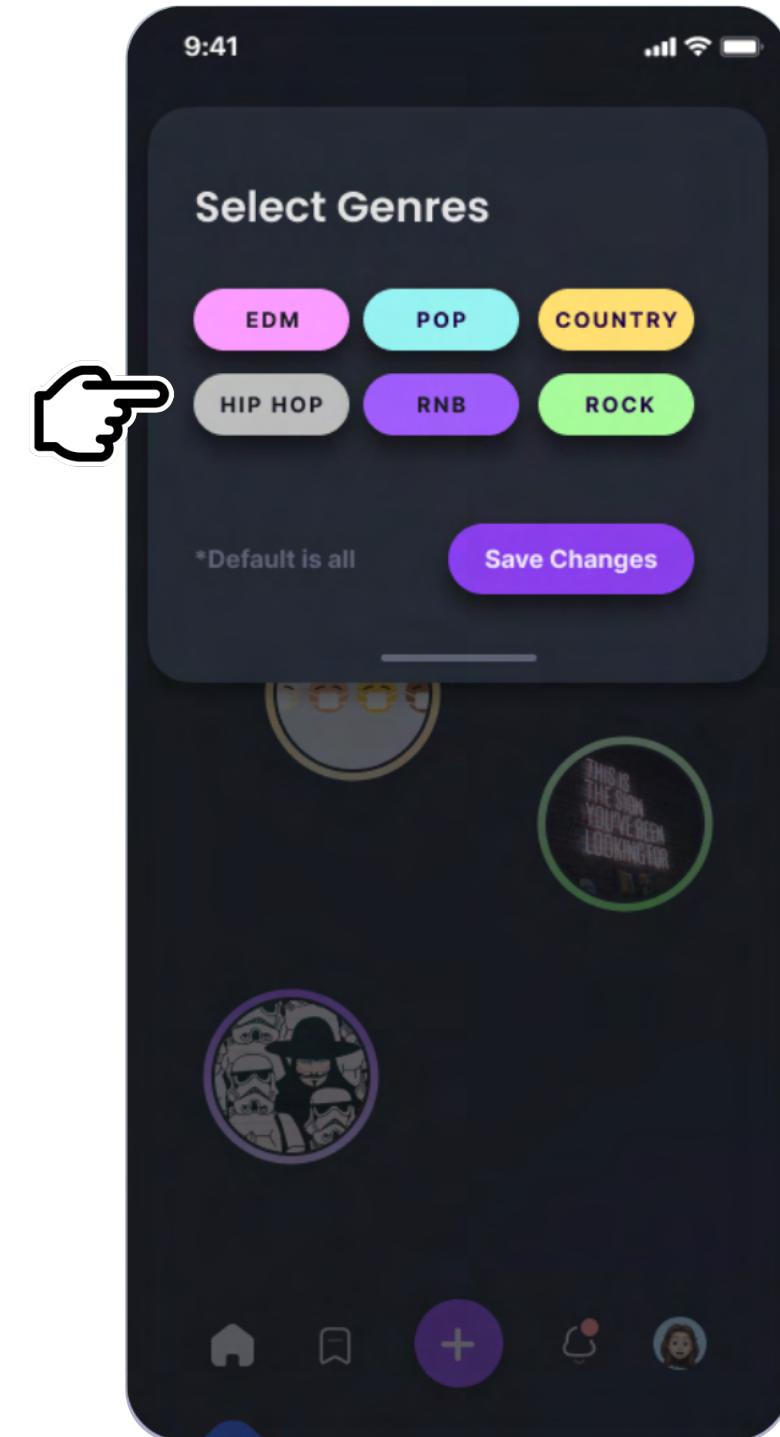
## REVISION 21

Modified RNB  
purple to be more  
blue-hued.



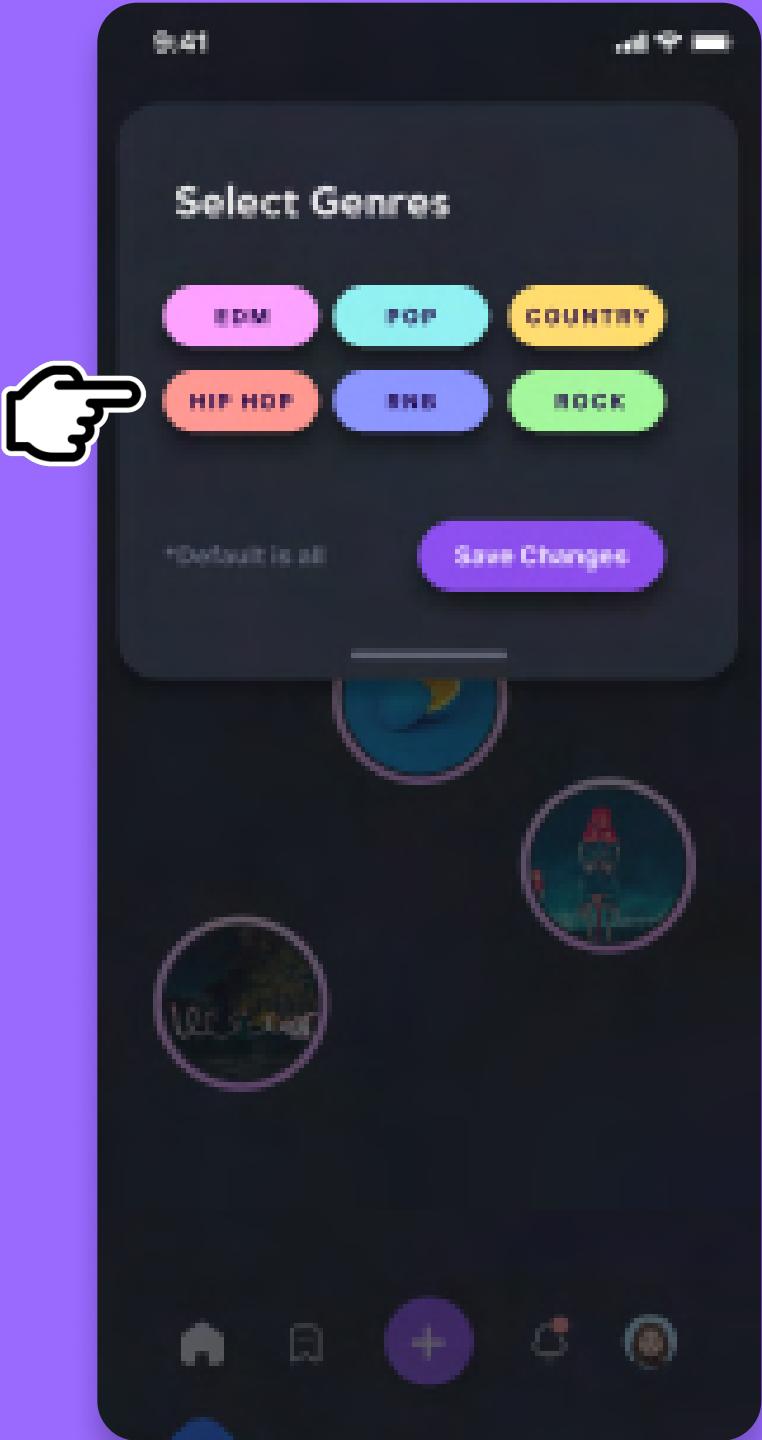
## ISSUE 22

**Color for hip hop  
genre is grey,  
which has a  
“genreless”  
connotation (H4).**



## REVISION 21

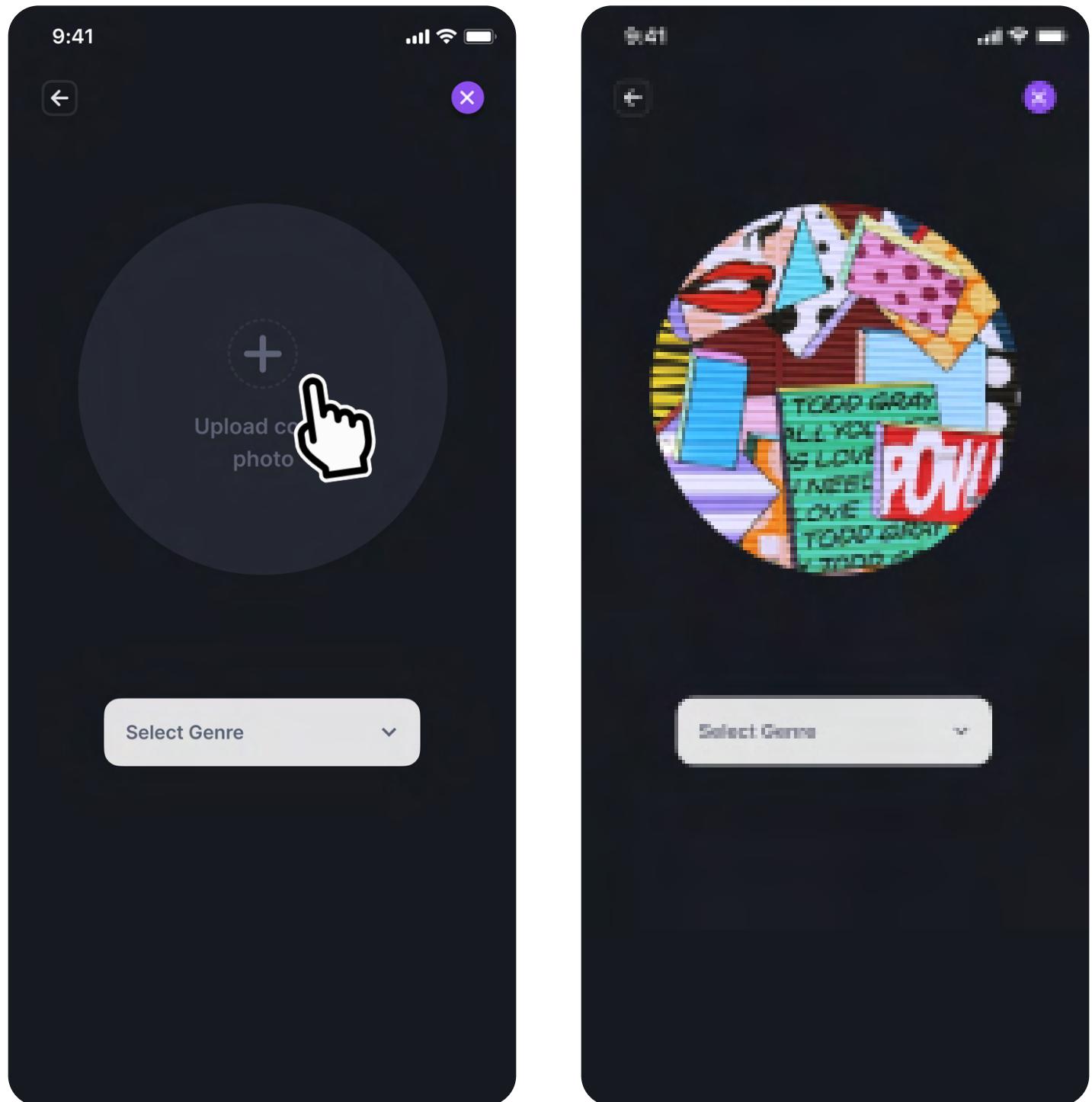
Changed Hip Hop  
color to red.



## Issue 23

### No cover art options (H5)

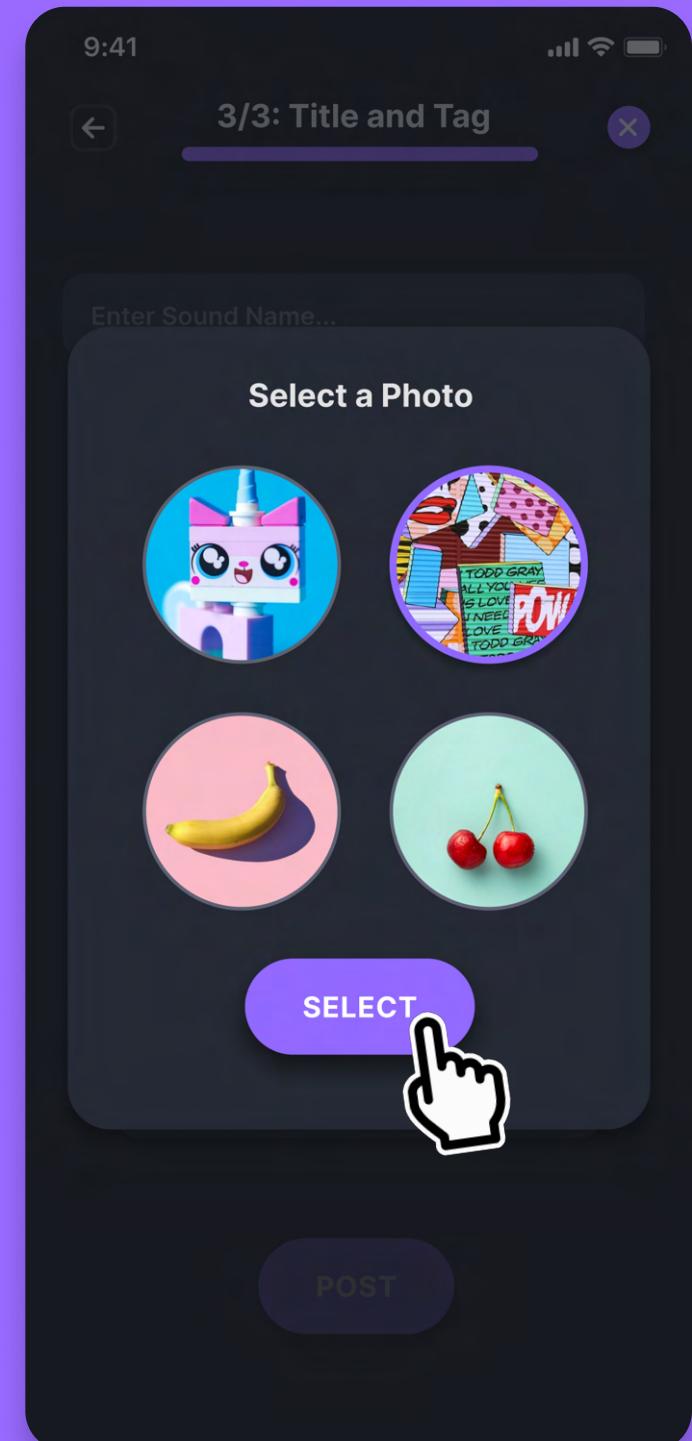
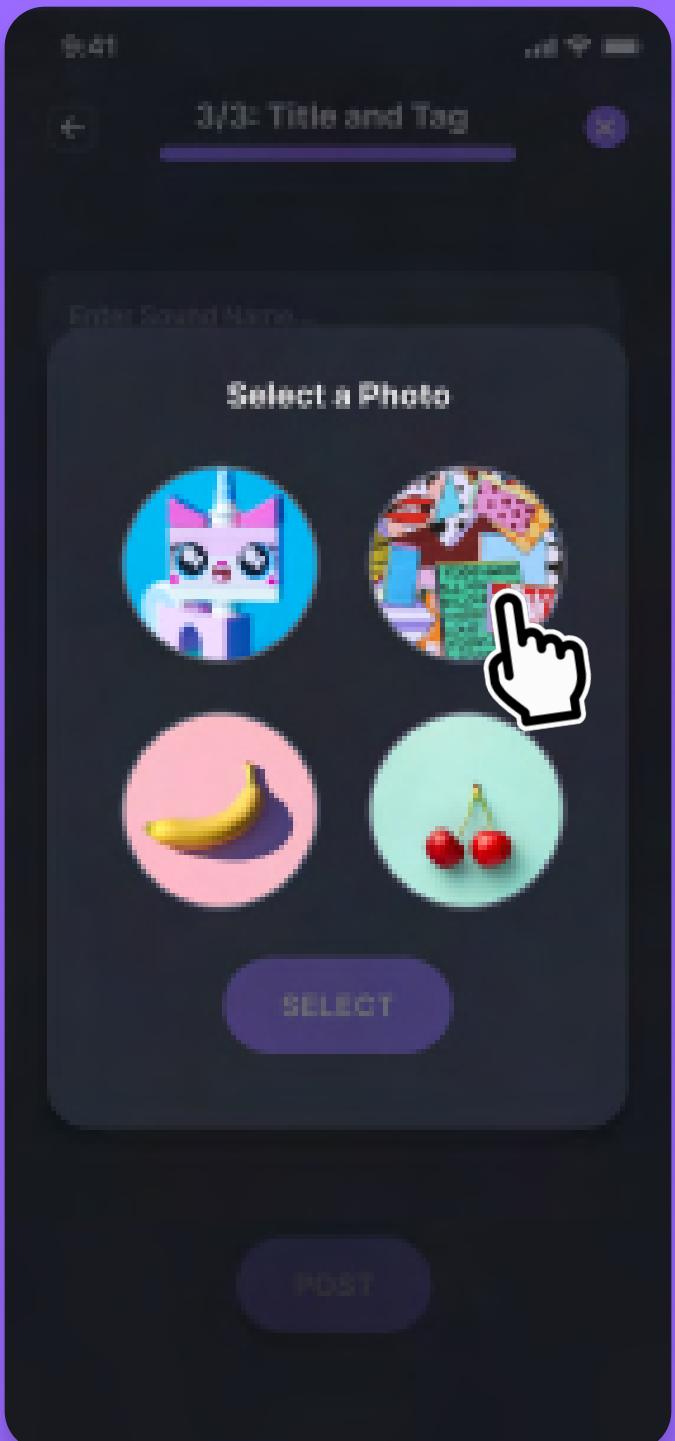
Our intent was to wizard-of-oz the browsing of a photo library (i.e. how you would pick a photo to upload to Instagram), but this came off as confusing.



## REVISION 23

### Added cover art options

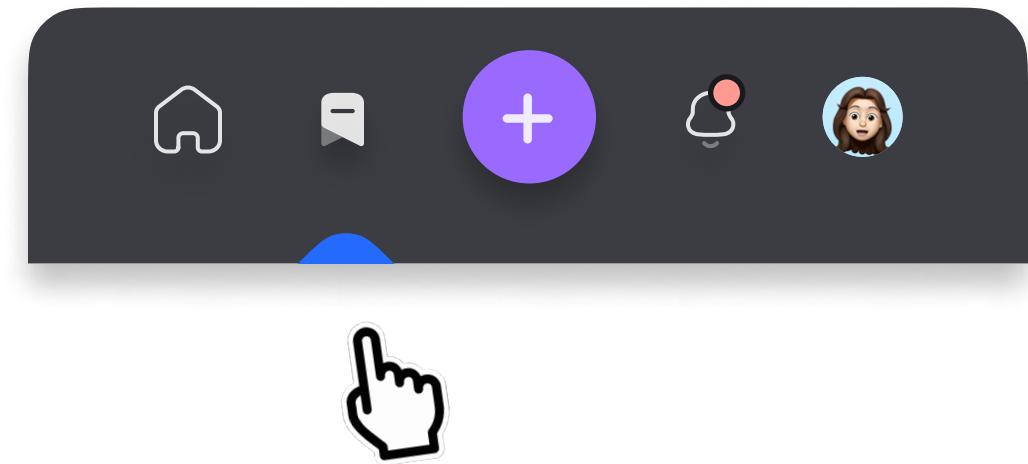
Note: when implemented, we will display four hard-coded, "pseudo" photos.



## ISSUE 24

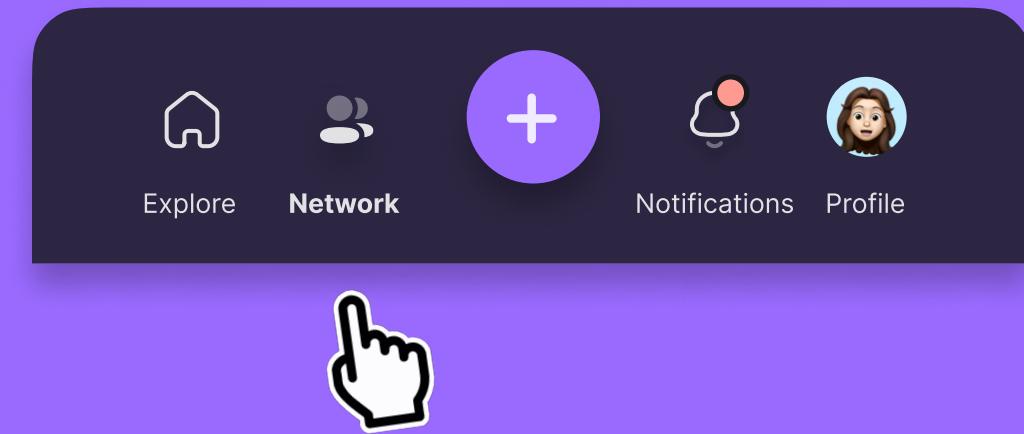
**Redundant to have both icon fill and blue indicator in tab bar (H8).**

In addition, color is used to indicate genre, so the blue could be confusing.



## REVISION 24

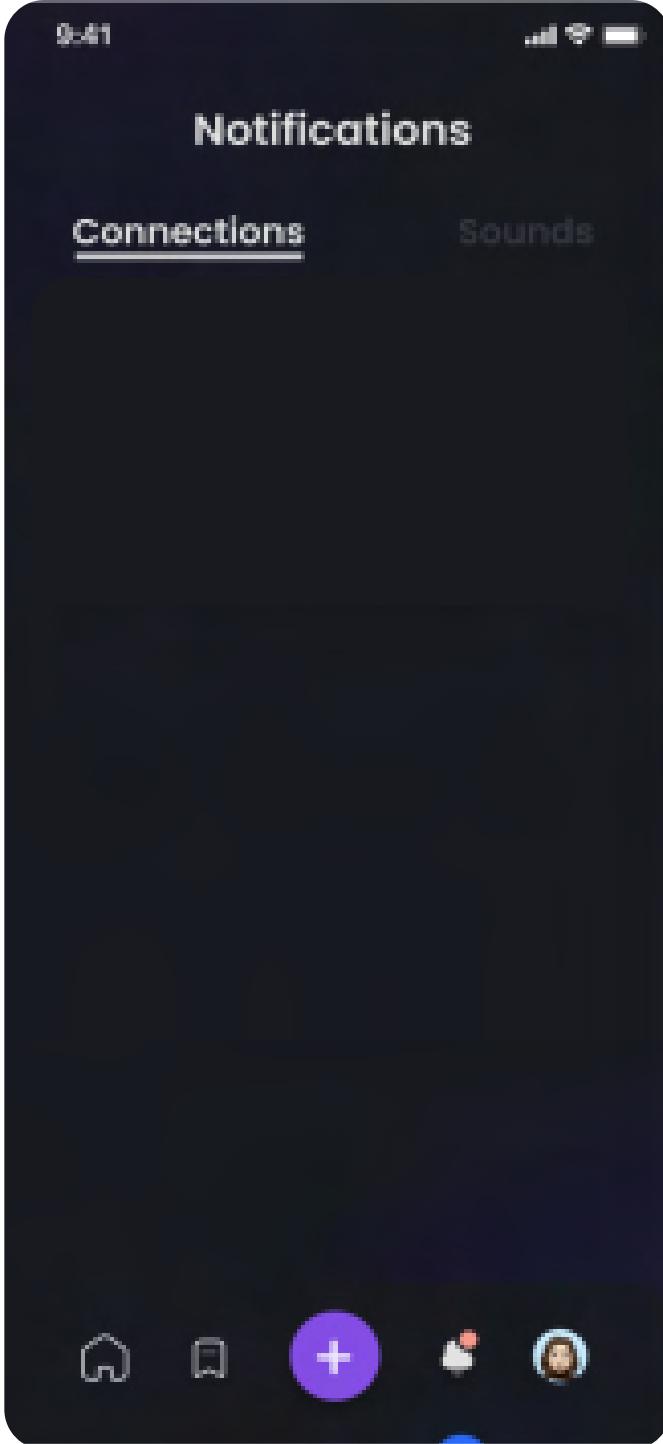
Removed blue  
indicator



## ISSUE 25

**No system status  
for case of no  
notifications (H4)**

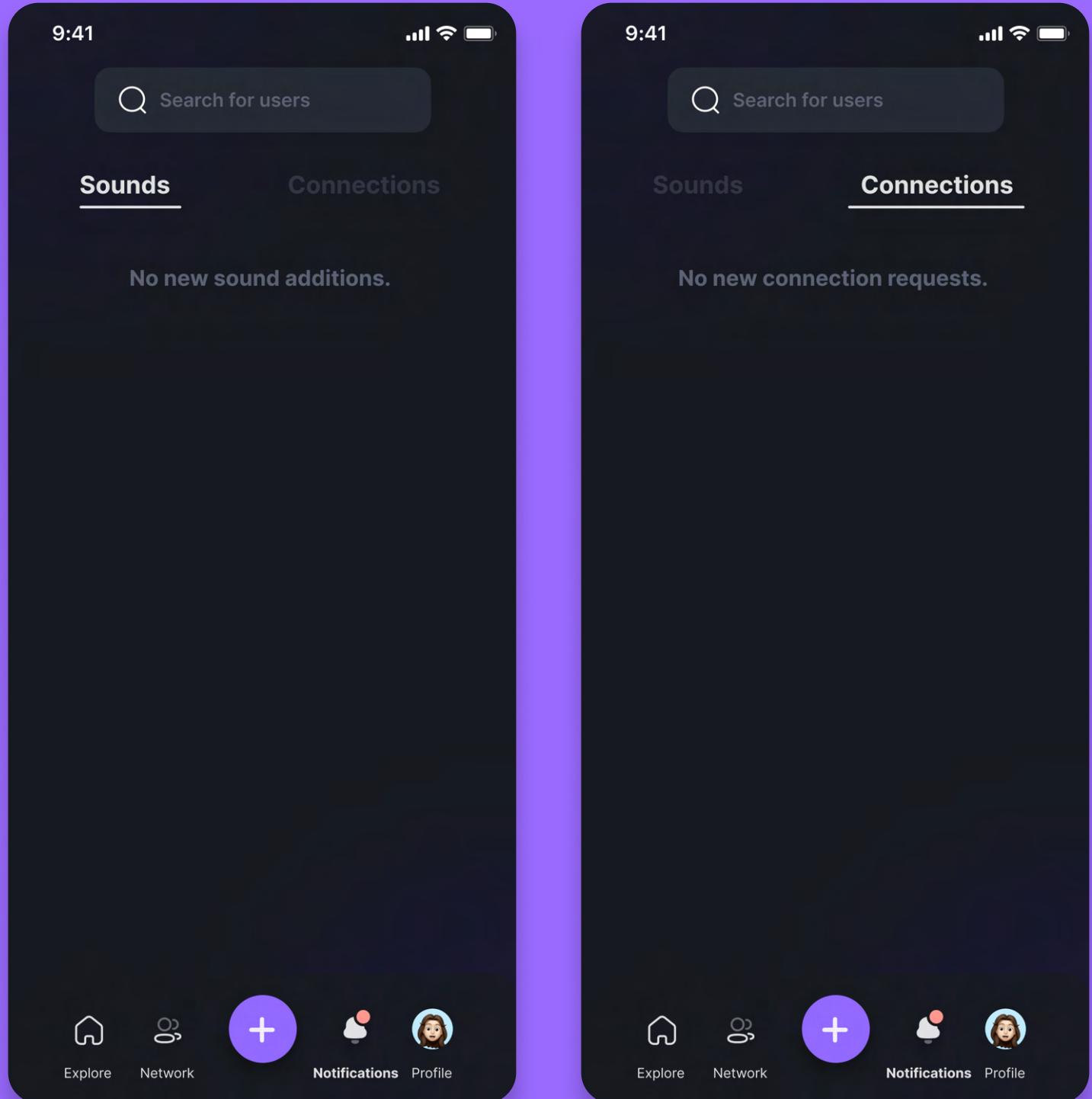
User can not distinguish between knowing whether there are no new notifications or that notifications are not loading.



## REVISION 25

**Added “no notifications” status message.**

The tags are horizontal-scrollable, if longer than the phone screen.



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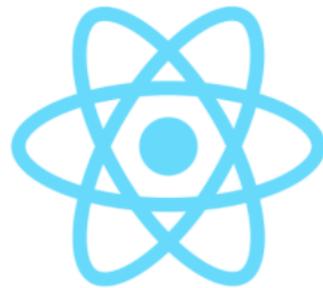
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# Tools Used



**React  
Native**

(application  
framework)



**Expo**

(software  
development kit)



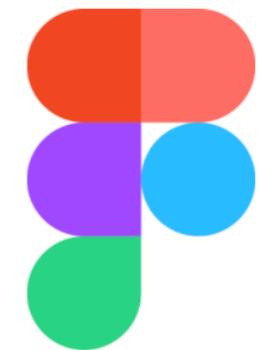
**Firebase**

(cloud storage)



**Vscode**

(IDE)



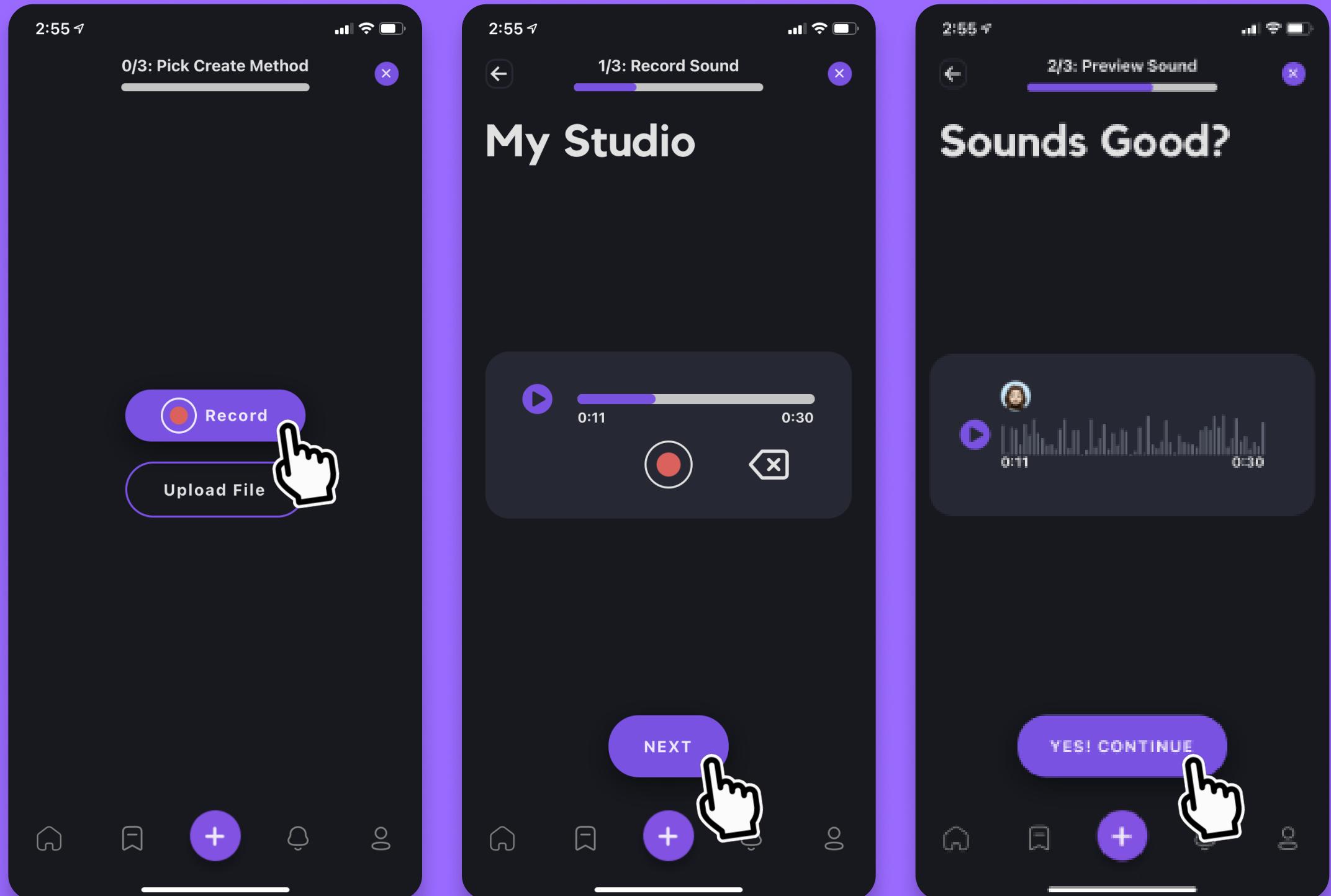
**Figma**

(design  
components)

Implemented! ✓

## TASK 1

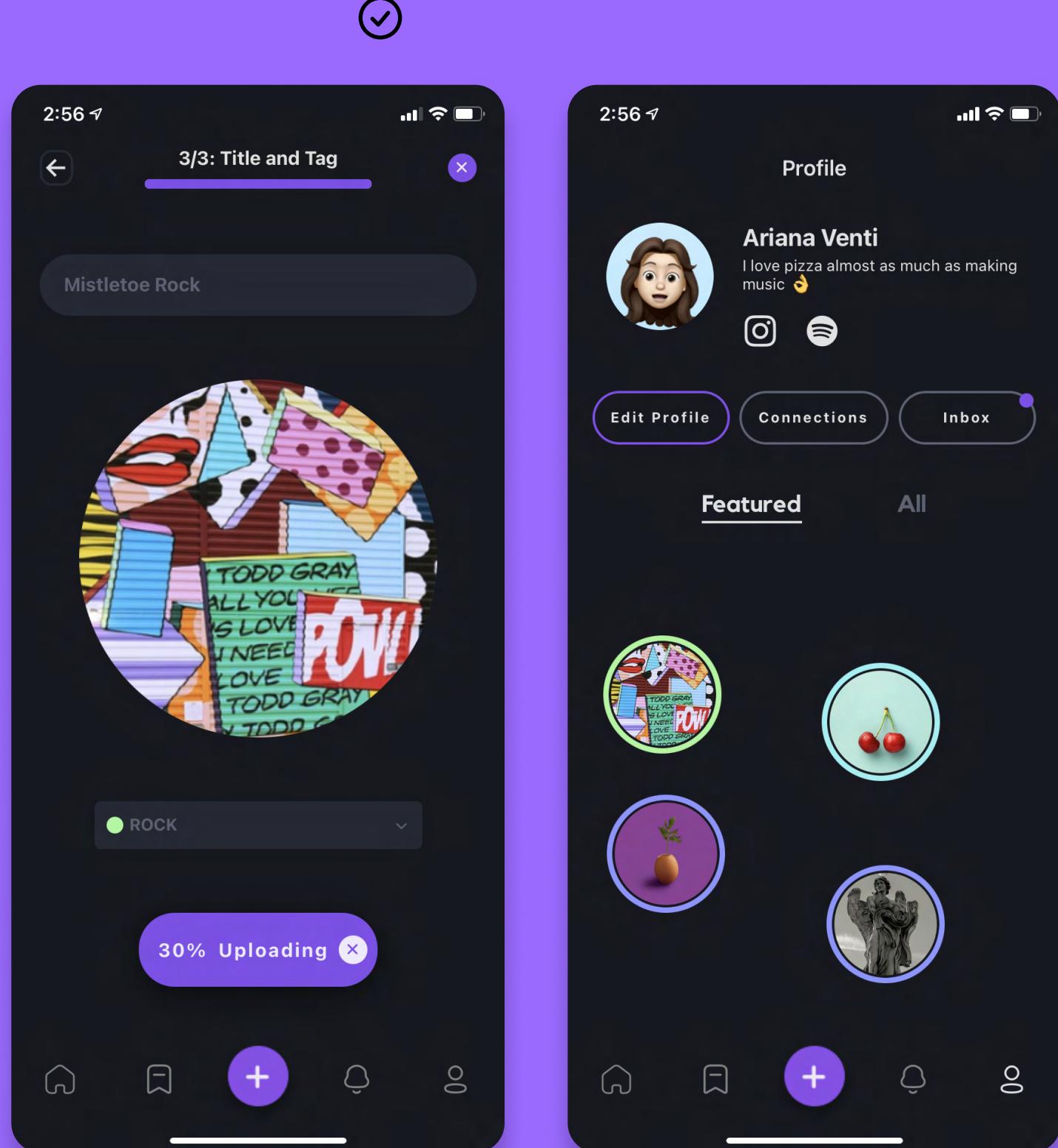
# Post a sound



Implemented! ✓

## TASK 1

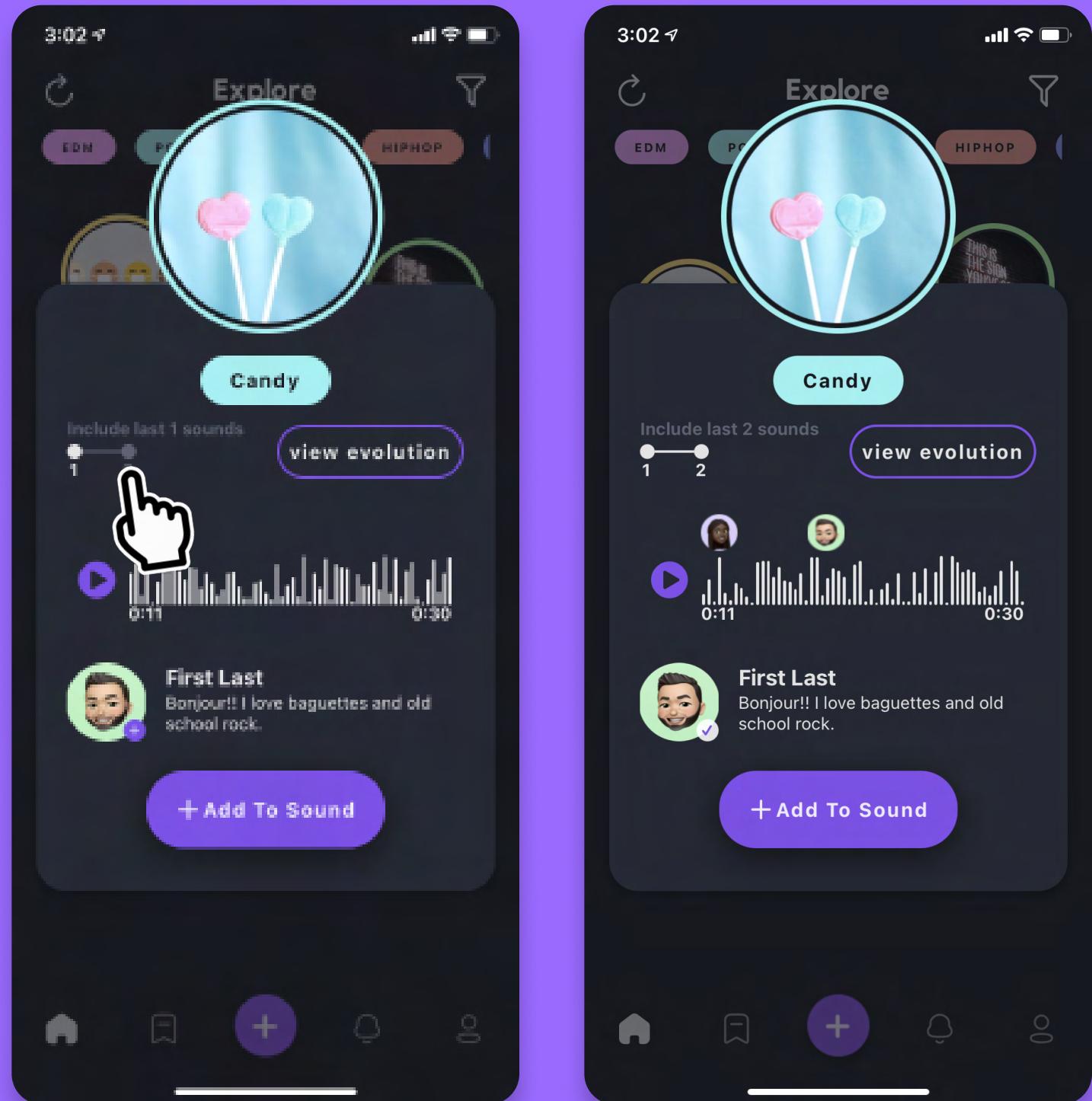
Post a sound



Implemented! ✓

ELEMENT

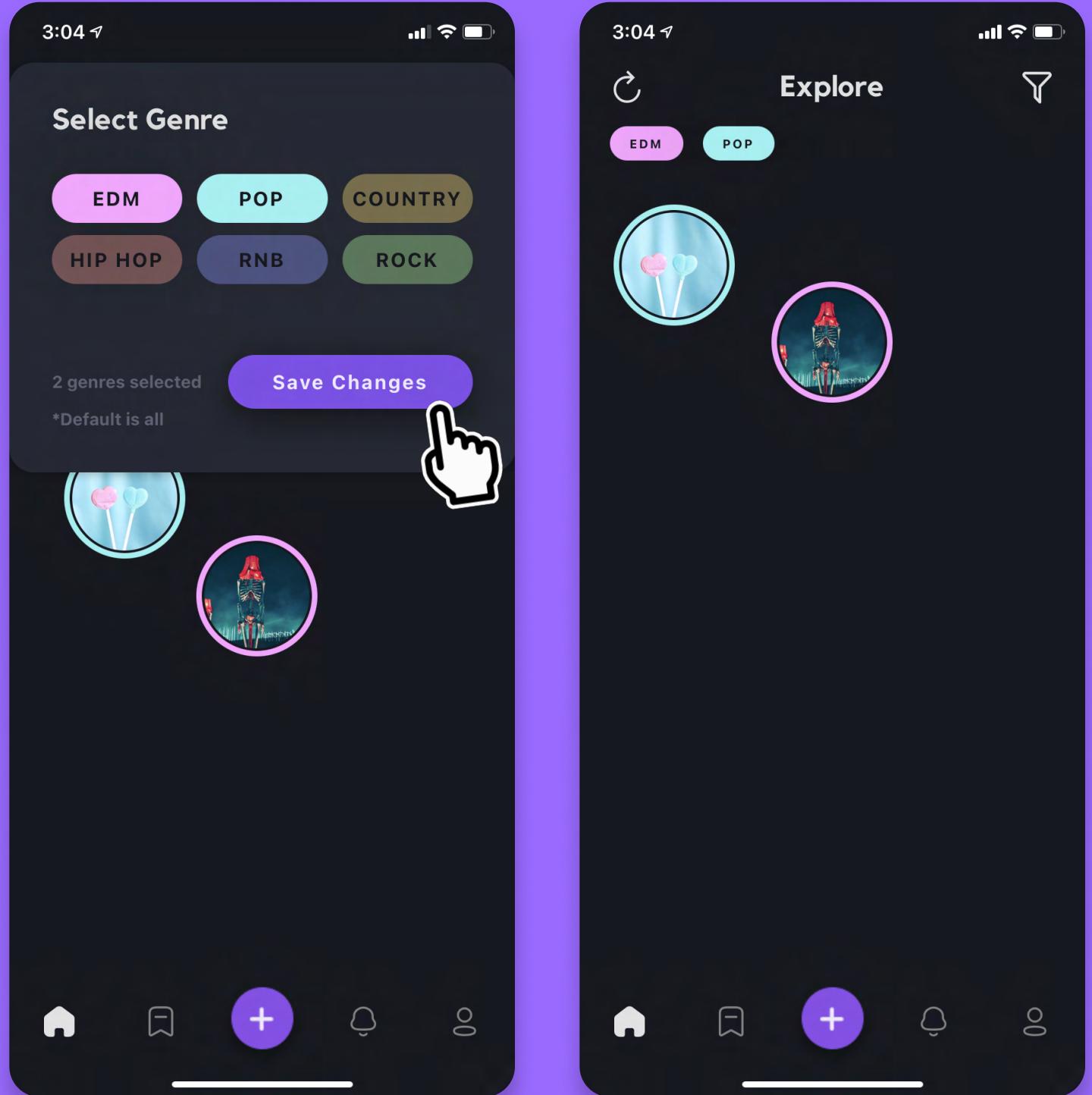
Sound Popup



Implemented! ✓

## PROCESS

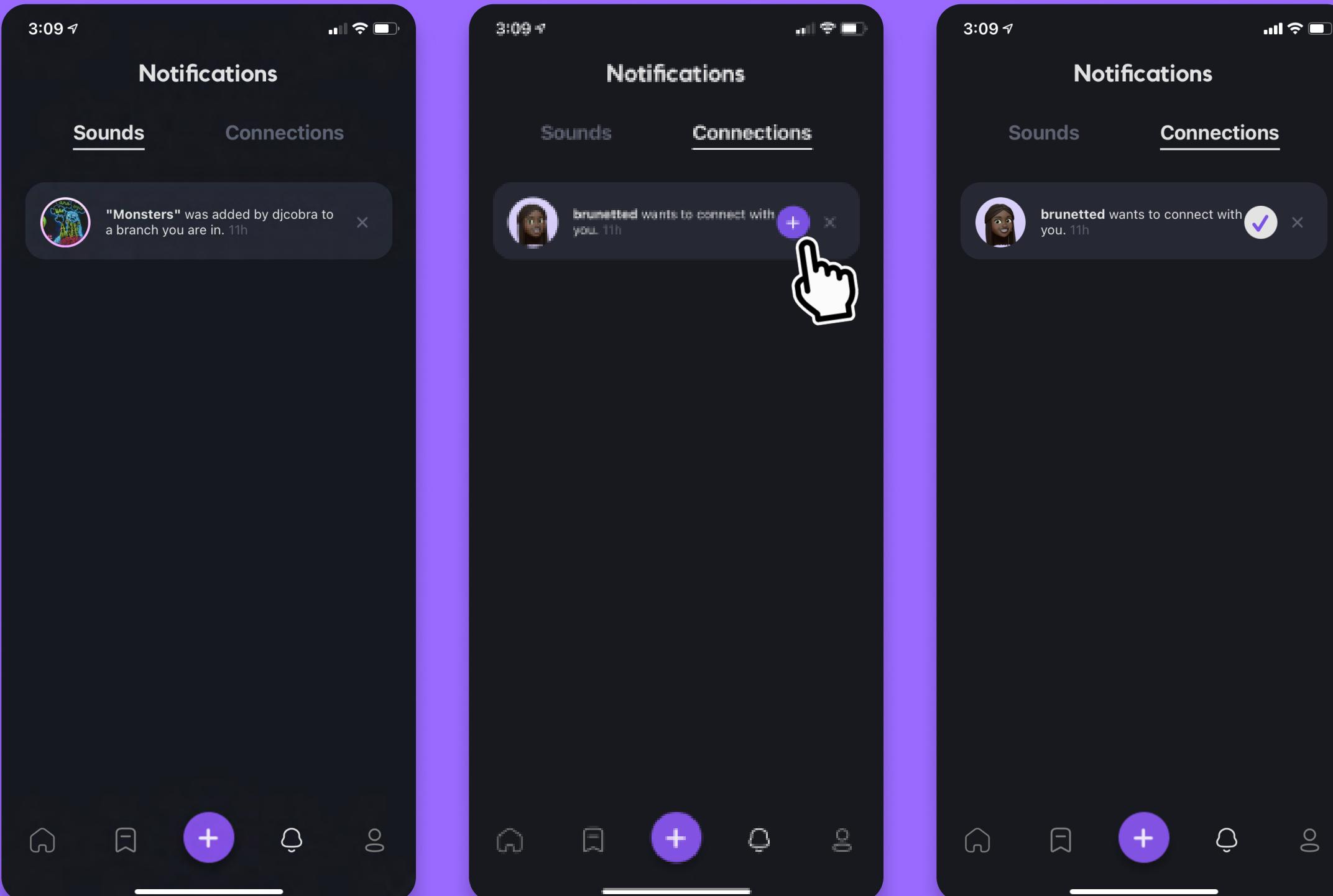
Filtering +  
Refresh



Implemented! ✓

## SYSTEM

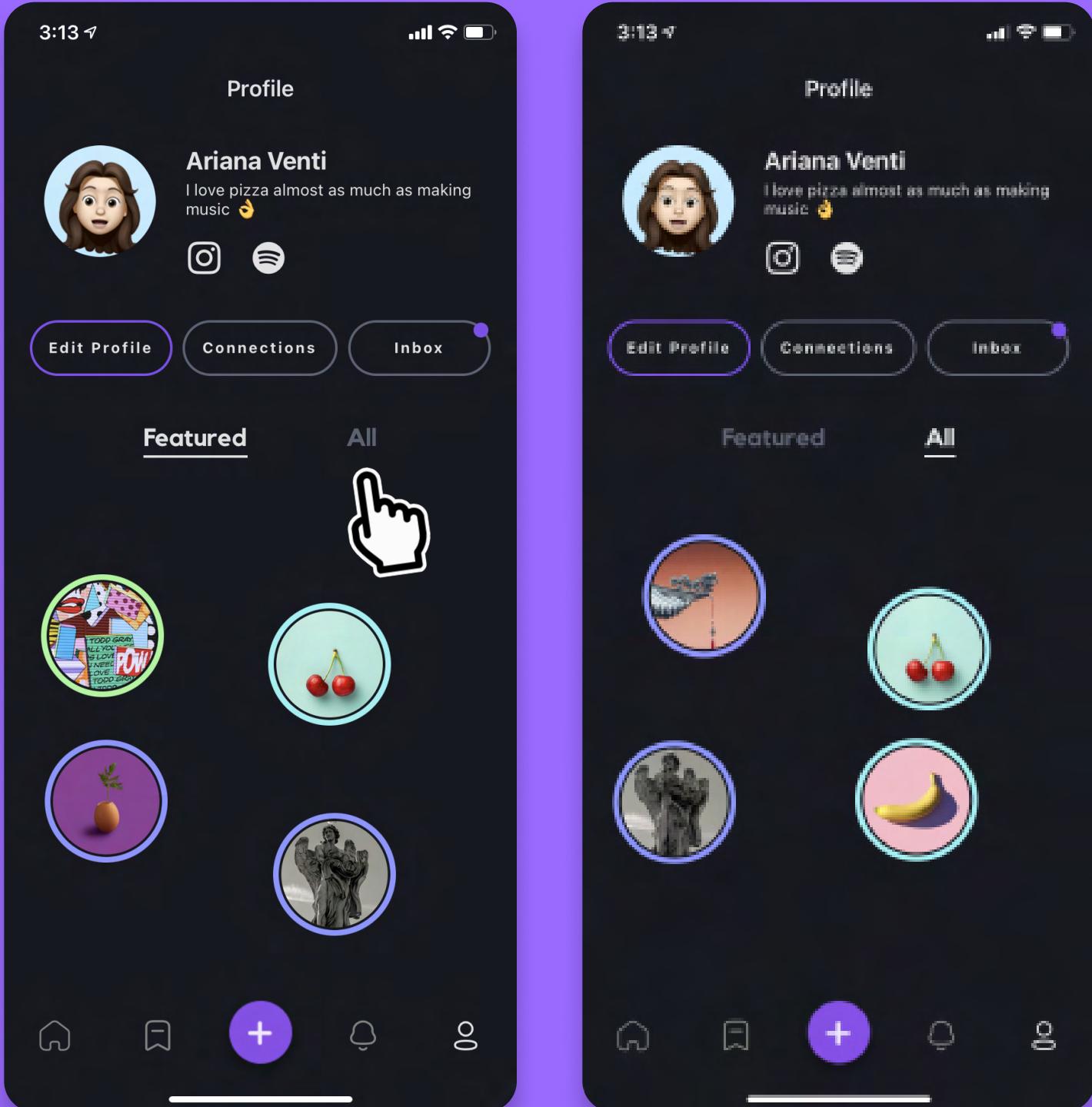
# Notifications



Implemented! ✓

## ELEMENTS

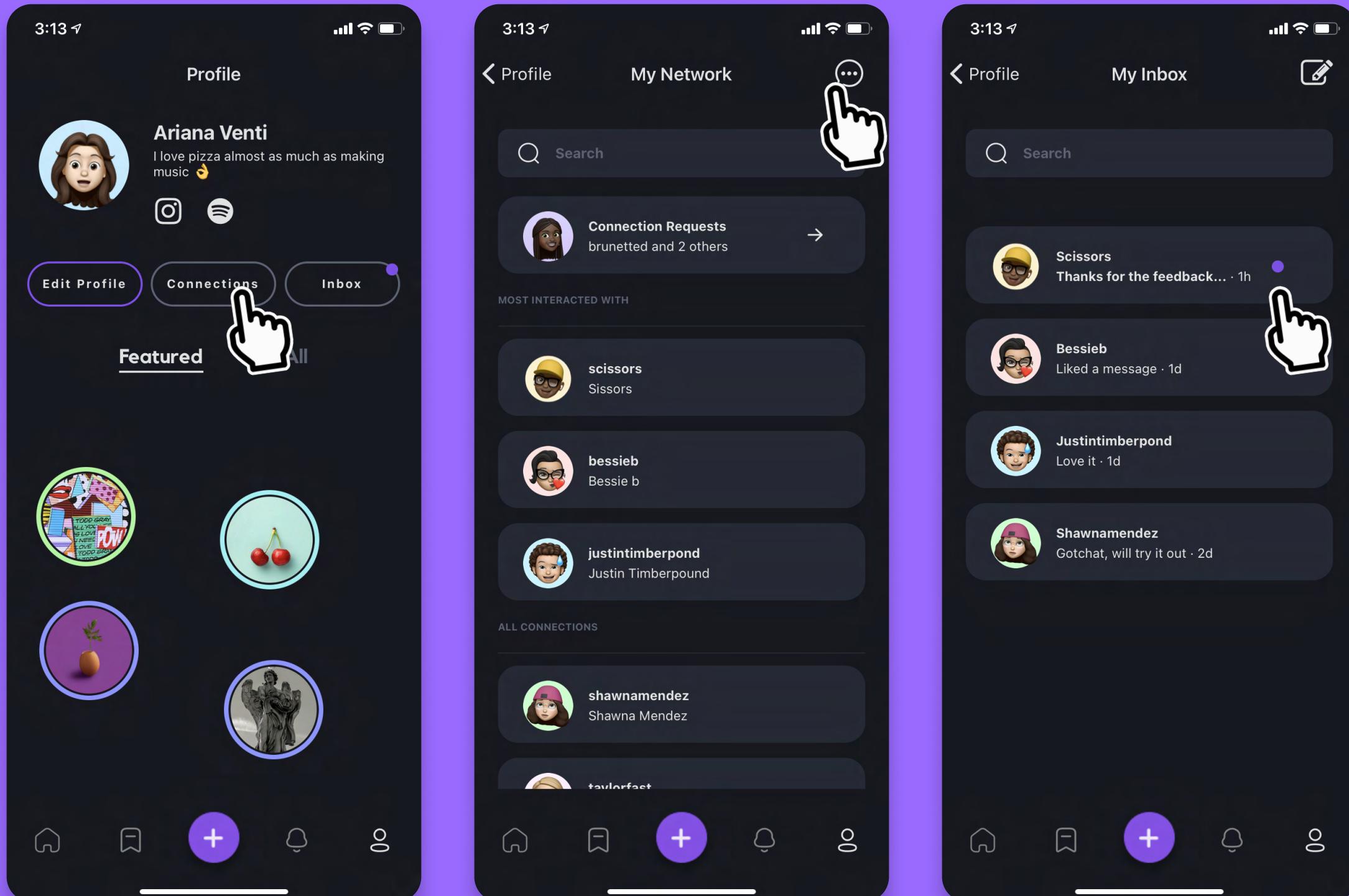
# Profiles (user and self)



Implemented! ✓

SYSTEM

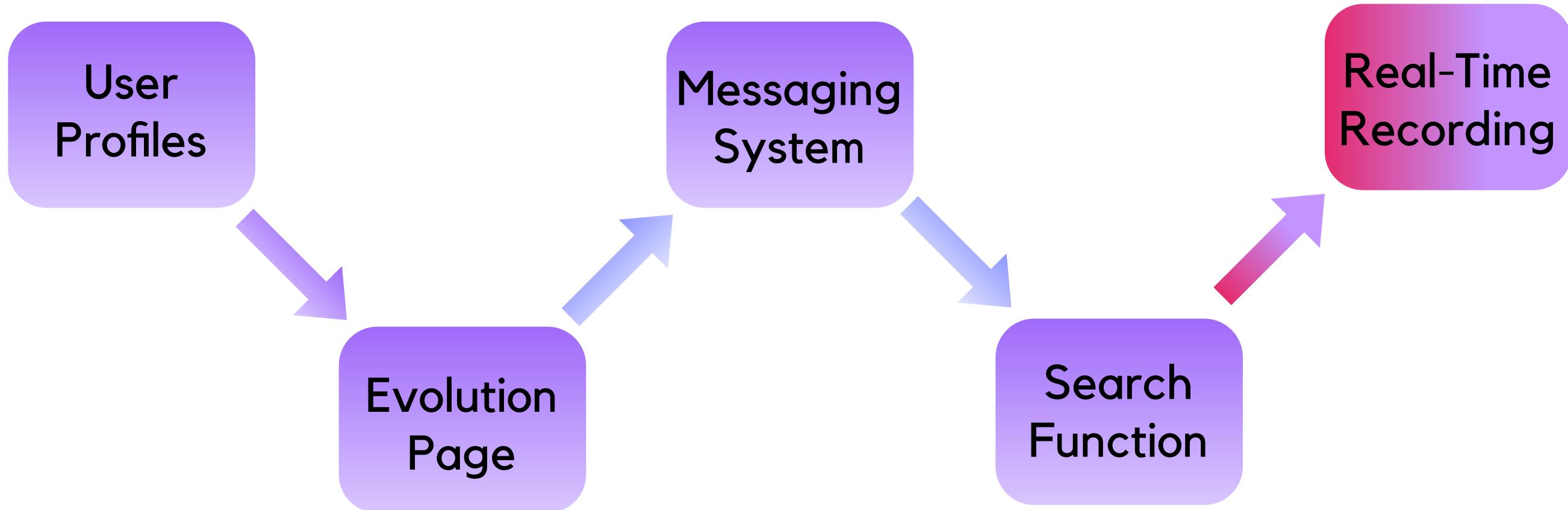
Network +  
Messaging  
Environment



# **Unimplemented Features**

1. Evolution page
2. A few messaging features
3. Search function (for users)
4. Profile pages
5. Recording in real-time (if time allows)

# Our Plan



# Wizard of Oz Techniques

## 1. Upload File

Skips to an already uploaded soundbite on the next screen, instead of allowing the user to actually select a file from an upload pop-up.

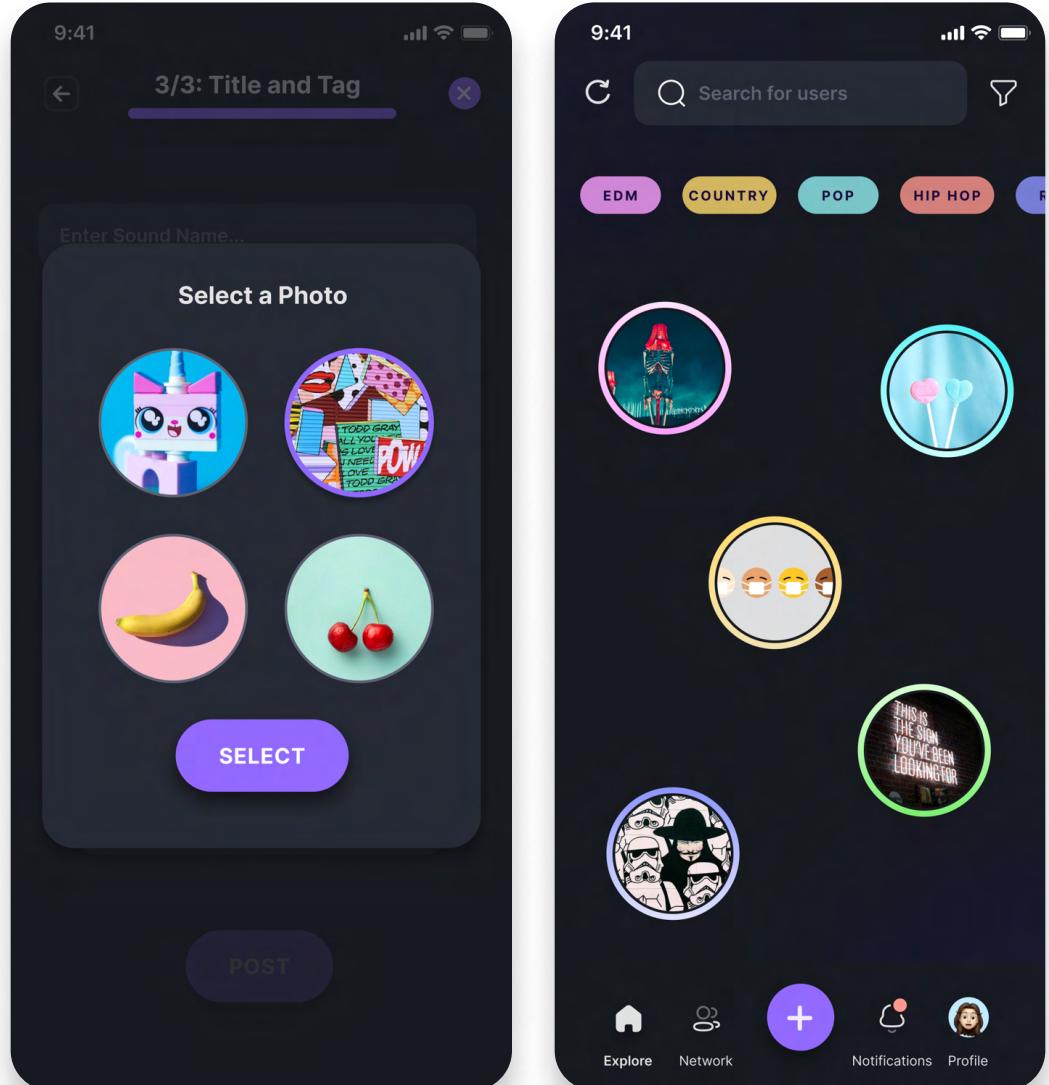
# Hard-Coded Data

## 1. Cover Art Options

Hard-coded 4 photo options for the user to select, instead of allowing them to choose from their own album.

## 2. Soundbites on the Explore Page

## 3. User profiles



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# Summary

1. **33+** significant changes based on heuristic evaluation
2. Post a soundbite task complete, considerable progress on the other 2 tasks
3. Major next steps: implementation of evolution page, finishing up messaging and user profiles
4. Timeline/plan in place!

# HE Revisions Appendix

[Link](#)

# Figma

Link