“Black Art is a documentation of our existence and movement through this world and the cultures we give life to” - @meredithlucius

This submission, an untitled character sketch, is Black Art in its essence. Not because of its complexity, but it’s simplicity. To Meredith, Black Art is how we prove our existence, and our complexity to the outside world. It is how we map our changes and growth. Part of that is just by showing that people are drawing and sketching Black People. To show that artists aren’t creating characters in response to a demand for diversity, but are creating characters of color because they themselves think in color.

A common argument for a lack of representation is a lack of talent. “If there were more artists who liked to draw people of color, then we’d do it.” In actual fact, making this statement does nothing but show their actual ignorance of the past of the Black American, or the present. Much less, the many other people of color who express themselves through the art of their culture.

Black Art is an excellent tool for cultural mapping and this drawing is a great example of this. It shows the aesthetic of an artist today, and possibly the beginning of a much more influential character in the future. It shows how the artist conceptualizes their characters. But most importantly, it shows the aesthetic of a Black artist today, and it shows that Black people draw in color.