Chapter for the public idea:

For each heading, start with a song lyric that I can elaborate the time within the research

* Main times to hit:
  + Prelim
    - Covid?
  + The struggles
    - Nothing working times
  + Good data moment
  + The end?

If possible, would be cool to attach the song for each section, so each song can be listened to while reading the section and then tell a small story about how it relates to my PhD. At the very least, attach a spotify playlist that can be listened to for a description of my PhD experience.

Flipside-Postlude

The intro. About how you can love someone so much that people don’t really understand

Limbo

* Design sequences
  + Sort-Seq
* Design sequences
  + Sort-Seq
* …?

Something about the above following repetition: I can talk about the process of learning protein design in the first place, having to scrutinize the way I did it, and continue to think critically about how to do it again in a more elegant way

Feels like limbo because I’m doing the same thing, but maybe at a slightly lower limbo level. Can probably equate it something to trying to limbo and the difficulty of things just getting slightly higher. You can feel yourself improving, but at the same time it feels like there’s no end. The stick just keeps getting closer to the ground, and you somehow keep finding a way to do what feels impossible, squish yourself under, and keep going.

BEEF reminded me of some of my traumatic experiences as a child. The things that happened rarely or even more often. The thoughts I never think about: my parents fighting all the time my Sophomore year of high school. Throughout it all I’ve just been able to be focused…And I just want to stop. It feels like it never ends and that I can ignore everything for this work. And I have. For people who haven’t been able to…I hope they’re doing well. Completing a PhD is a lot about luck. For the most part, my family has been healthy, and I’ve been able to maintain my own health through their support. I’m fortunate to have them by my side this whole way, and this PhD wouldn’t be complete without them. I have sacrificed so much life for this PhD, and I’m excited to be able to feel alive again afterwards.

Ideas to emphasize:

* The fact that I can’t talk to any of my family about my research, or what it’s like to do research/phd