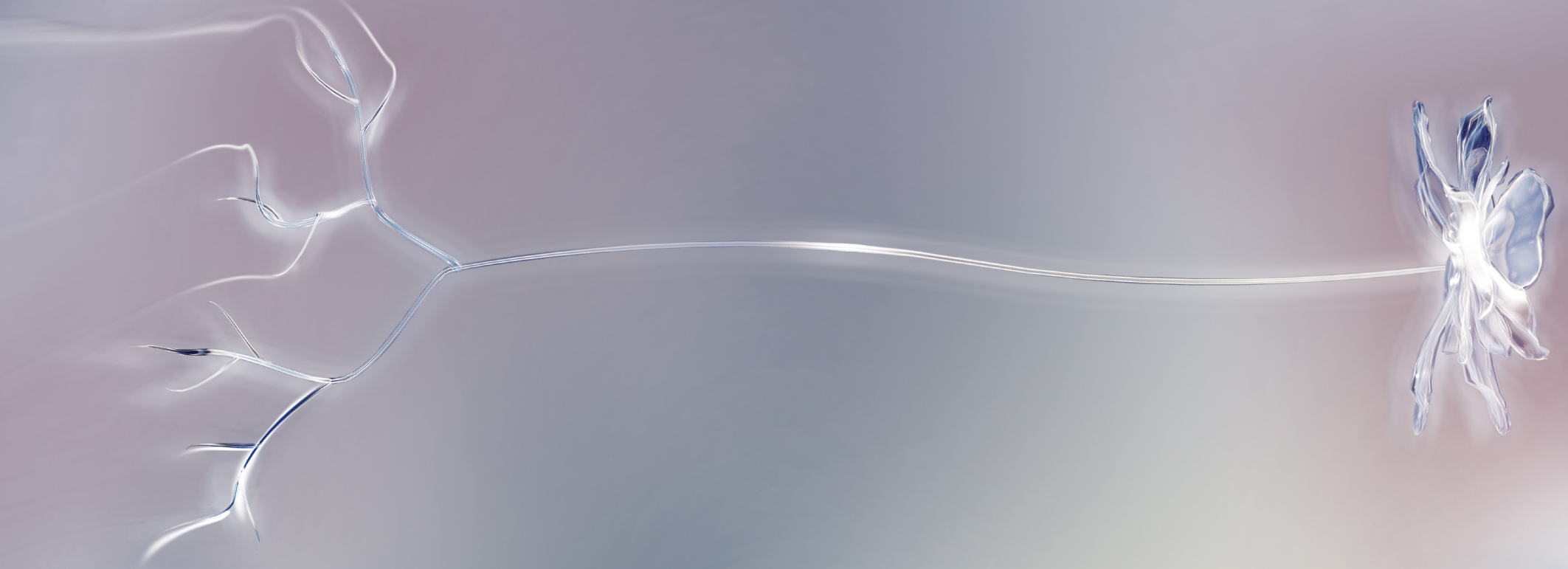


This live brief focussed on creating a book cover for “No Obvious Distress”, a series of poems by author Amanda Quaid, in which she illustrates the journey through her diagnosis of cancer up until her healing process.





Haibun for the Holy Bone

Center of sex, creation, aqueous flow. Center of umber and carnelian, passion fruit and **poppy** fields. Sacral chakra sounds like *oh*, yearning and yield, sounds like *come* and *yes* and children. Smells like sandalwood, neroli and his armpits after making love. Feels like fingers in fur, gold sun on cold shoulders, catching the Mediterranean wave. It says *why not you, why not now*, it giggles, it glides.



Fire

The coolest summer of the rest of our lives
is still too hot for me. I turn my A/C up to gale
and read how fire has razed the Rainbow State

and how the saguaro cactus stood serene
in the midsummer scorch as seven souls
in Phoenix slipped, sizzling asphalt

searing skin, and died. It's fire
that will bust our brains and hearts
and bodies, goading us to murder,

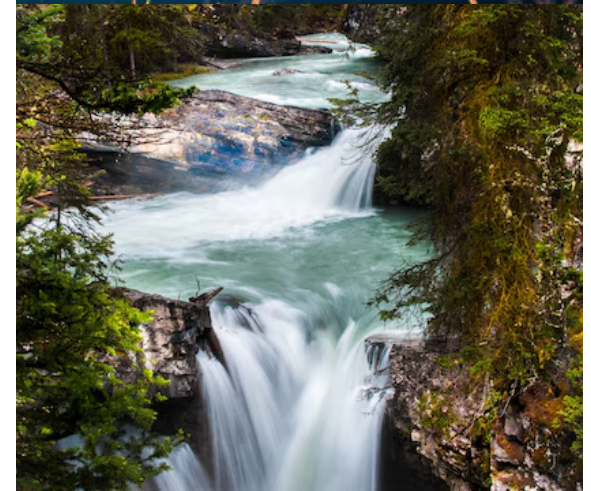
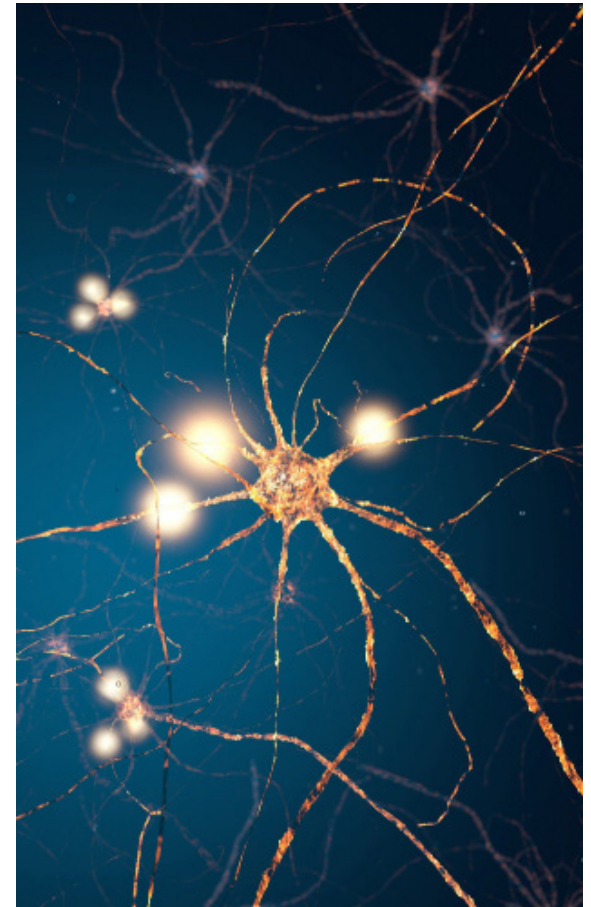
fisticuffs and knives, to self-inflicted
sabotage. Fire cranks the sound
of sly, confounding words from walls

that have no tongues, and minds
disturbed can get no solitude.
In fire's disrupted sleep, heart thrums,

eyes dart, **each nerve a string**
plucked by disquietude,
and the more pills I swig,

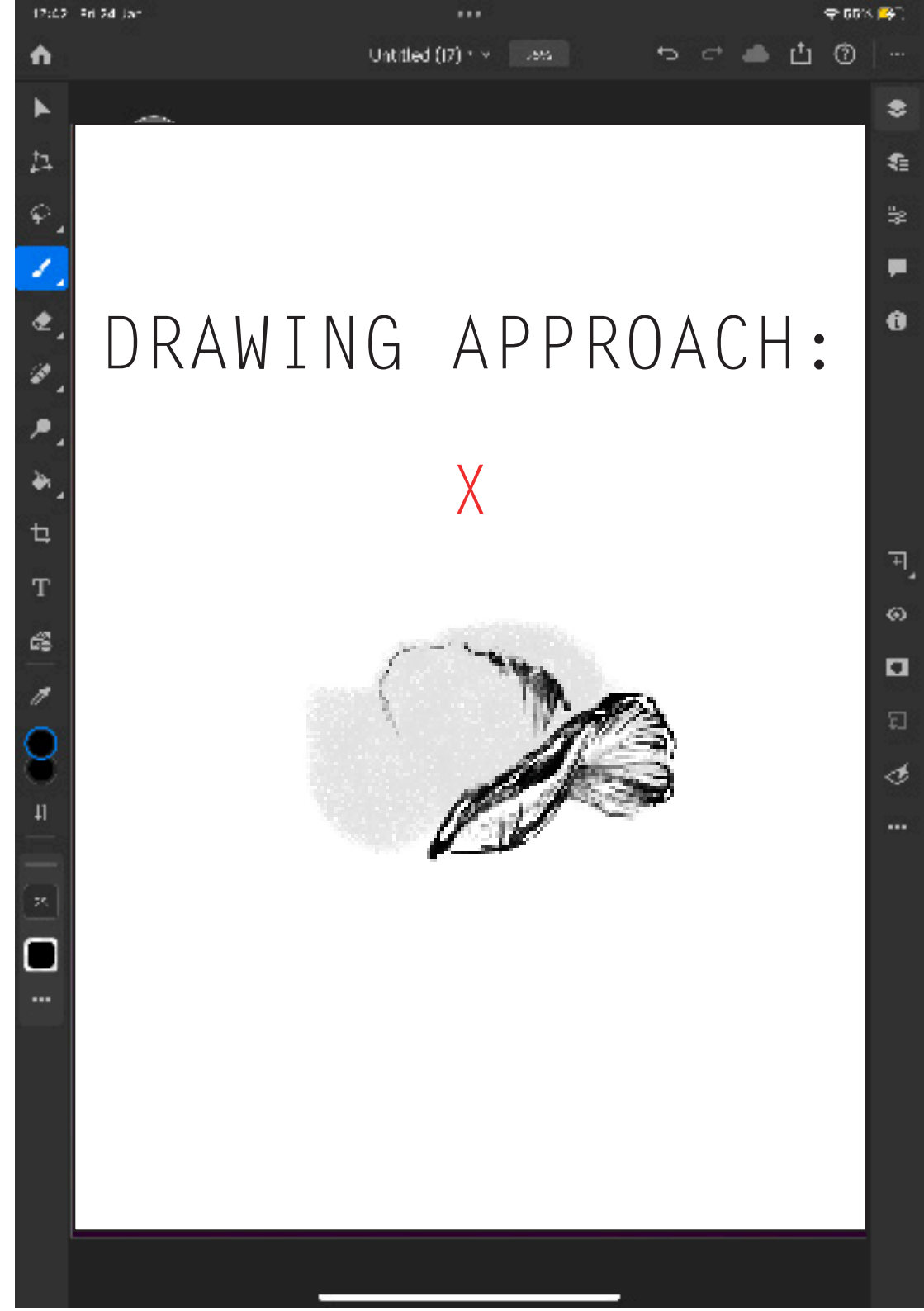
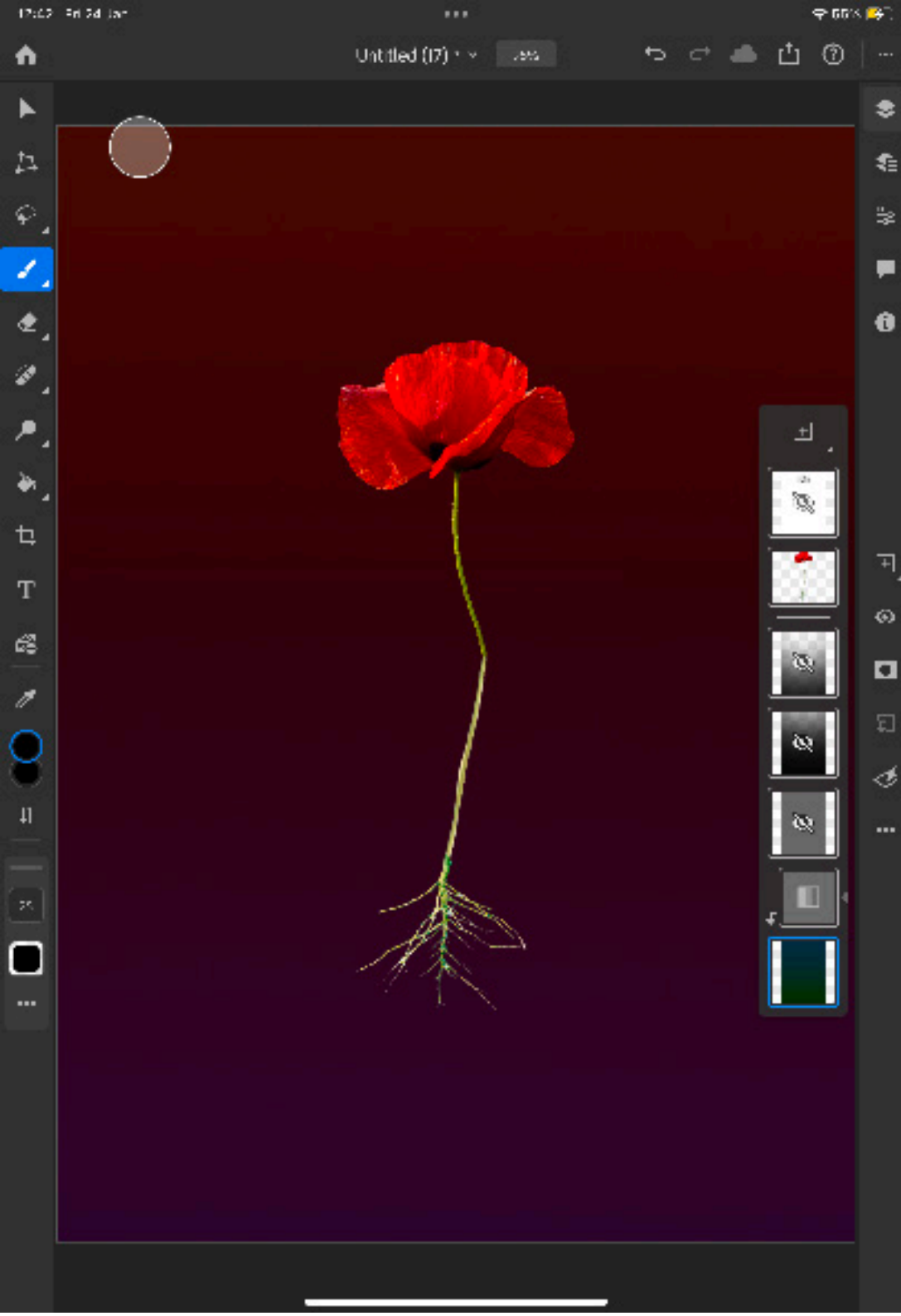
the less I sweat, the more the heat
is trapped in me, warming the **rivers**
of my wrists and throat until I torch,

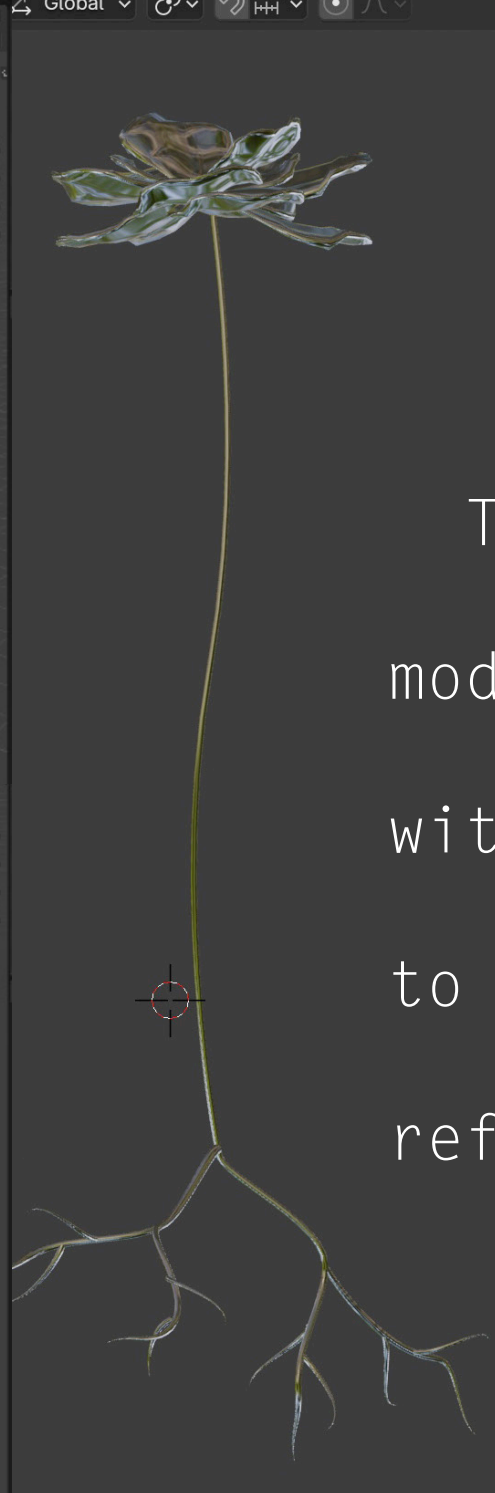
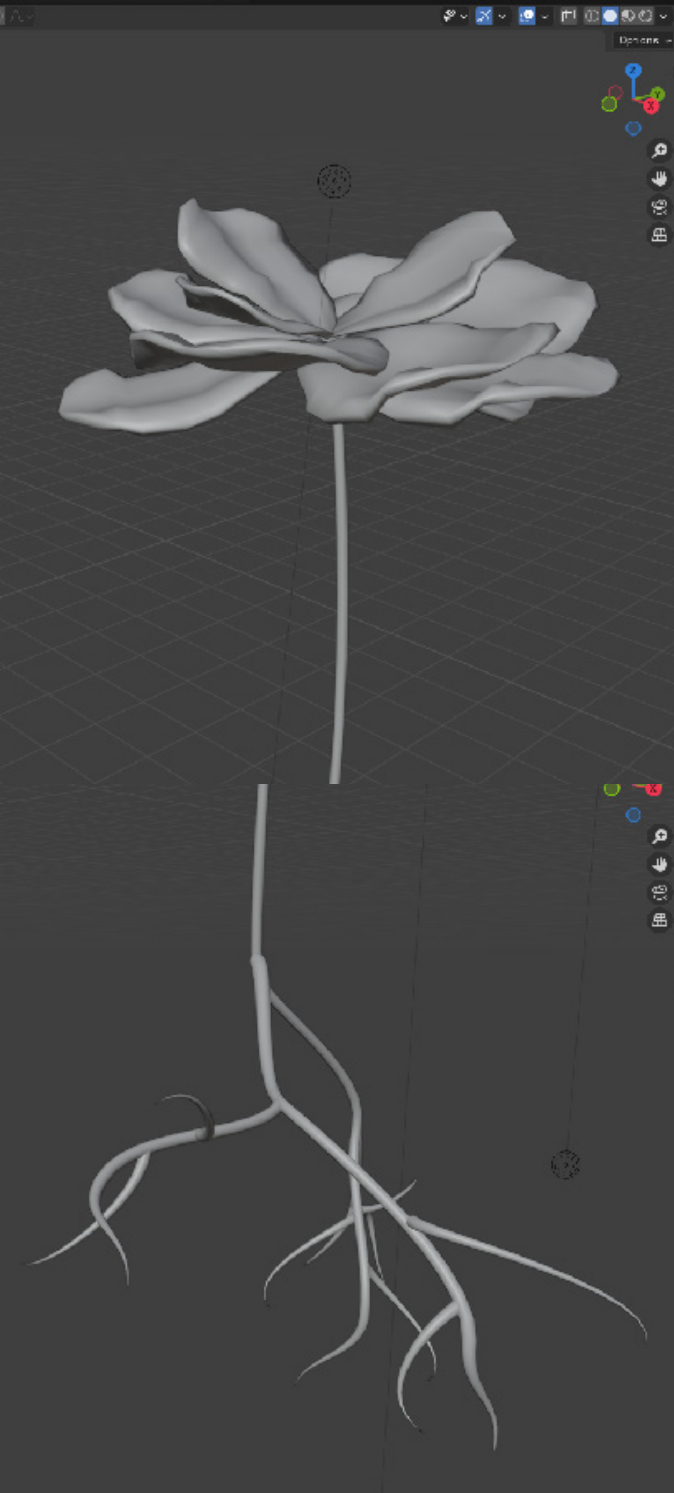
a five-alarm inferno in the night.



IDEA

Glass poppy charged with electricity
allowing the viewer to see what is
going on in the inside: energy flowing,
change, while maintaining a seemingly
calm appearance, echoing the book title.





3D MODEL

Turned to Blender to
create a 3d
model of the poppy and
to render it
with a glass material,
also allowing me
to play with different
light settings,
reflections and camera
angles.

“Center of sex, creation, aqueous flow. Center of umber and carnelian, passion fruit and poppy fields.”

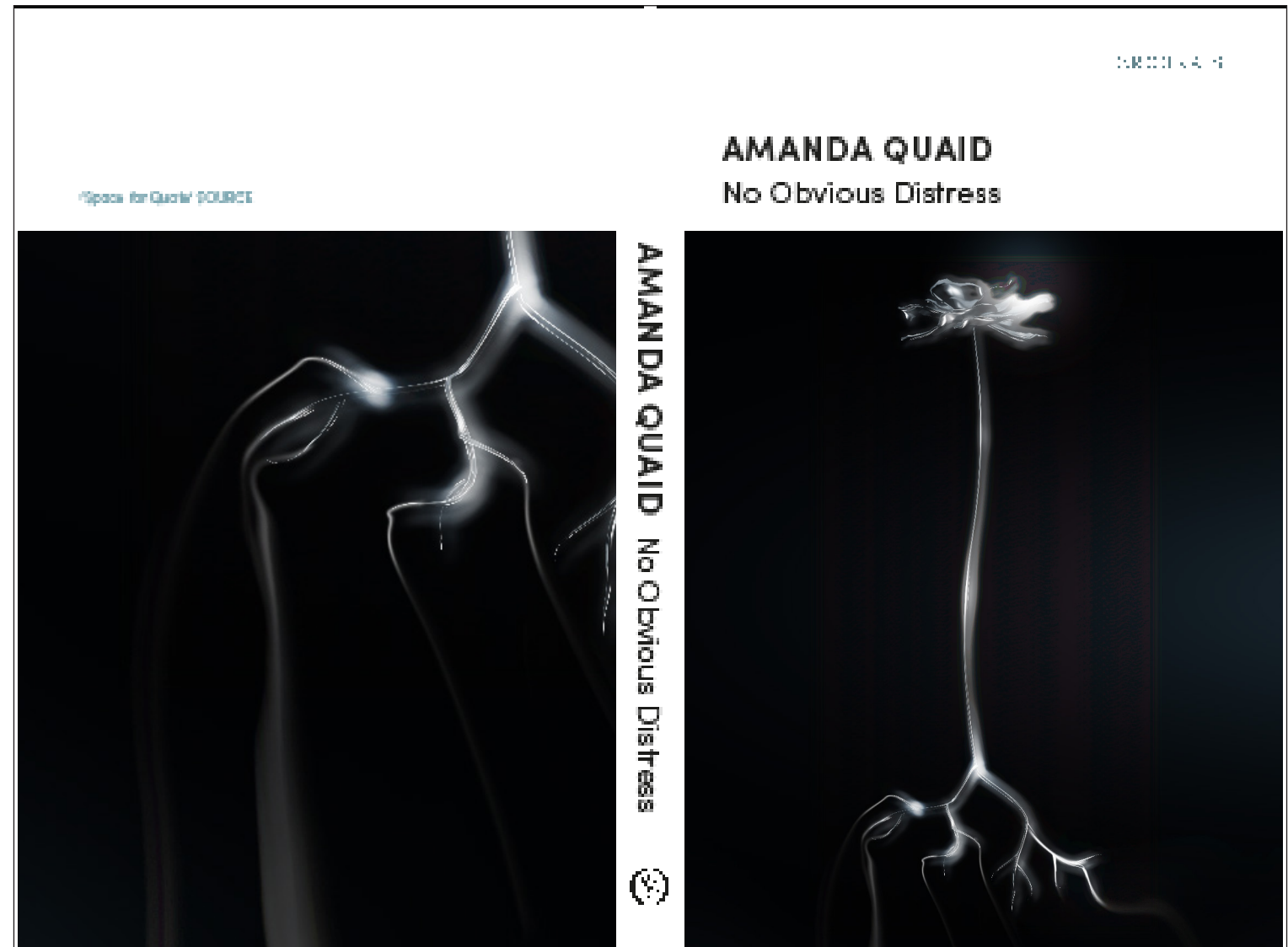
This is the description that the author provides when talking about the sacred bone, source of tenderness, regeneration and life.

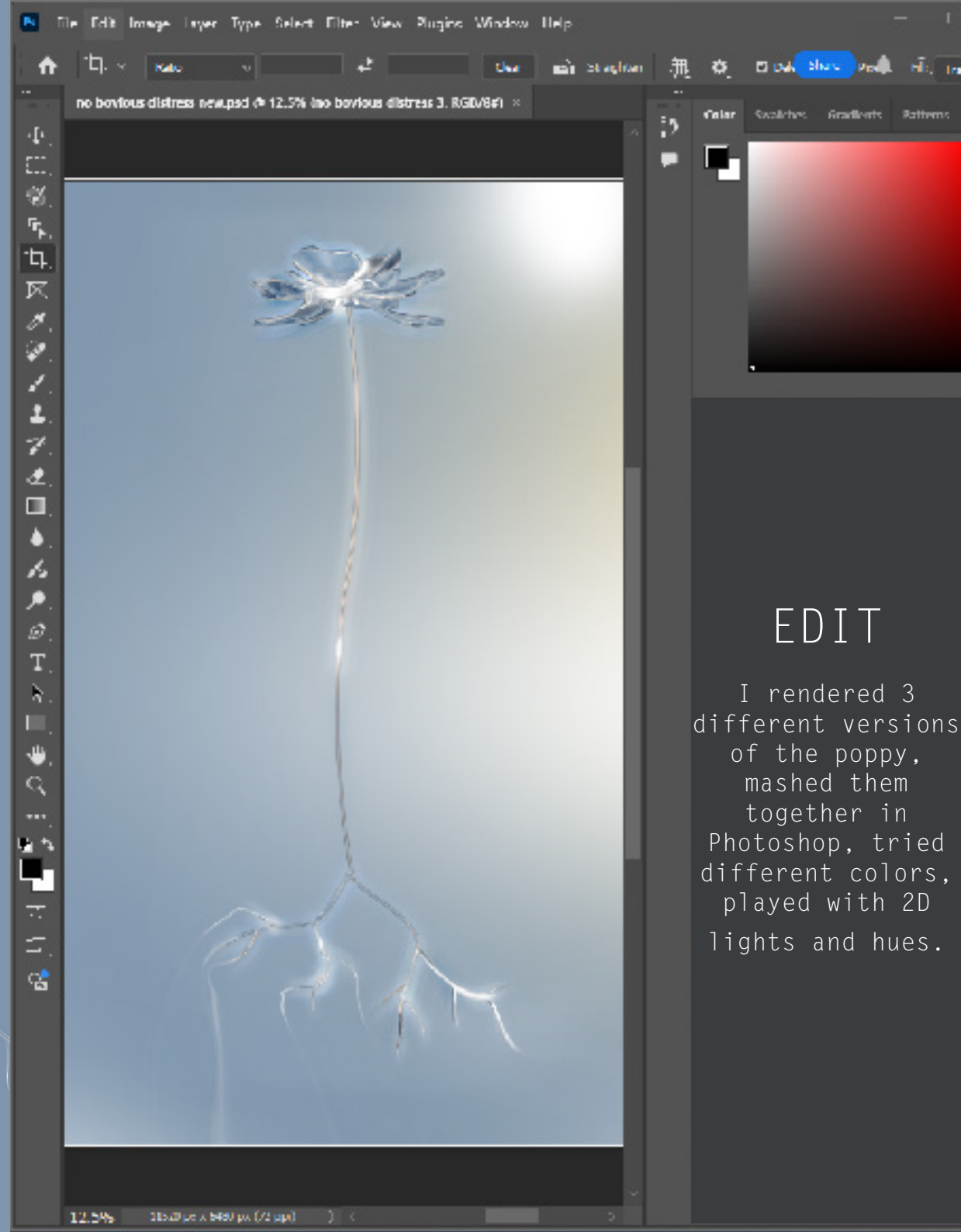
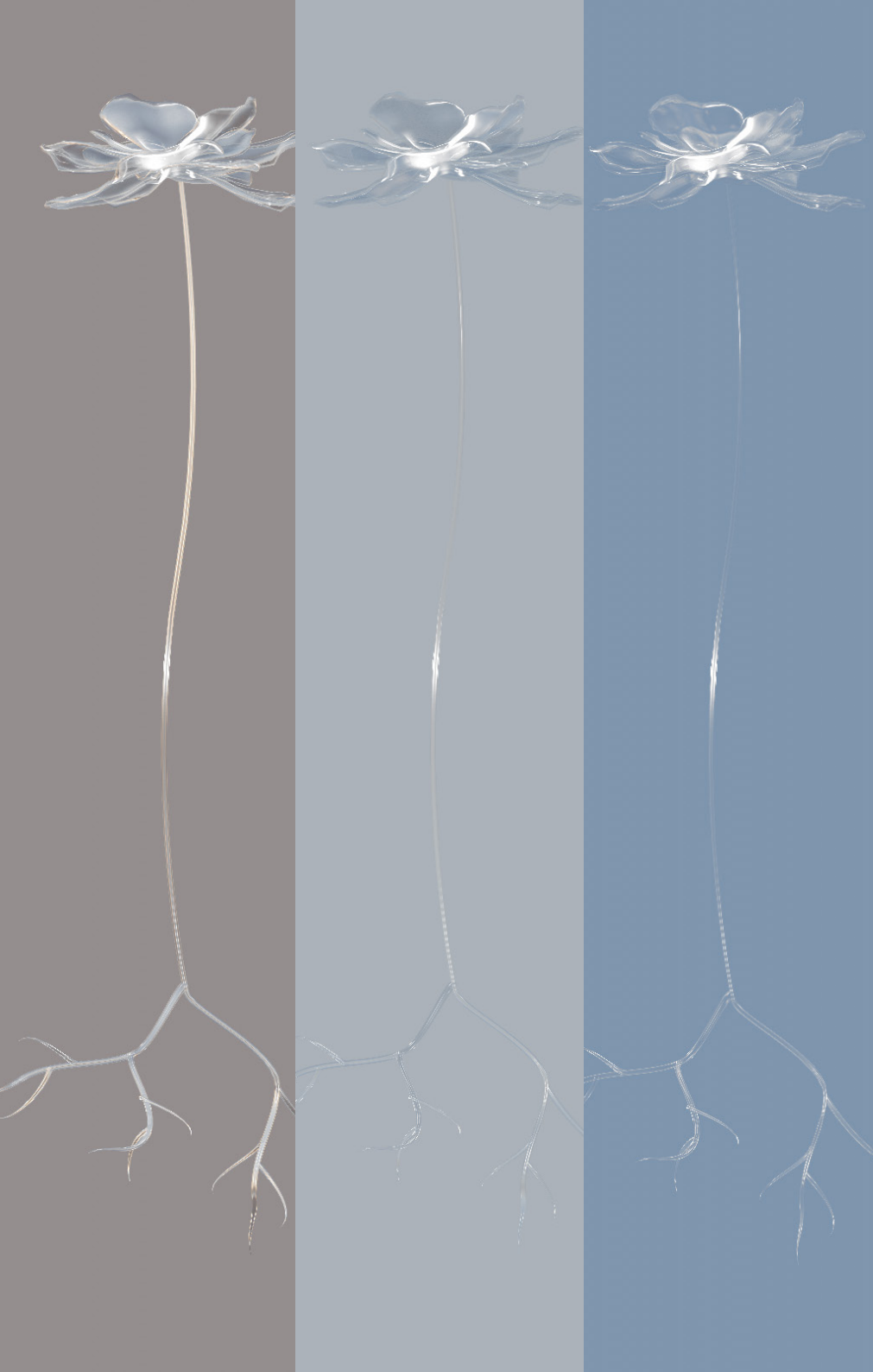
As a flower the poppy holds an interesting simbology, because it is associated with sleep, peace, giving the illusion of stillness and quiet.

Illusion serves as a keyword in the context of this cover: a contrasting imagery of the poppy flower - clear, still, apparently calm - made out of glass to reveal an ongoing imbalance and distress.

In the first draft of this project, I wanted to incorporate imagery of thunders/lightnings to evoke a sense of stress at first, but the juxtaposition of the blurry flower onto the clear one contributes to give the effect of not only motion, distress, but also that of fluidity and vanishing.

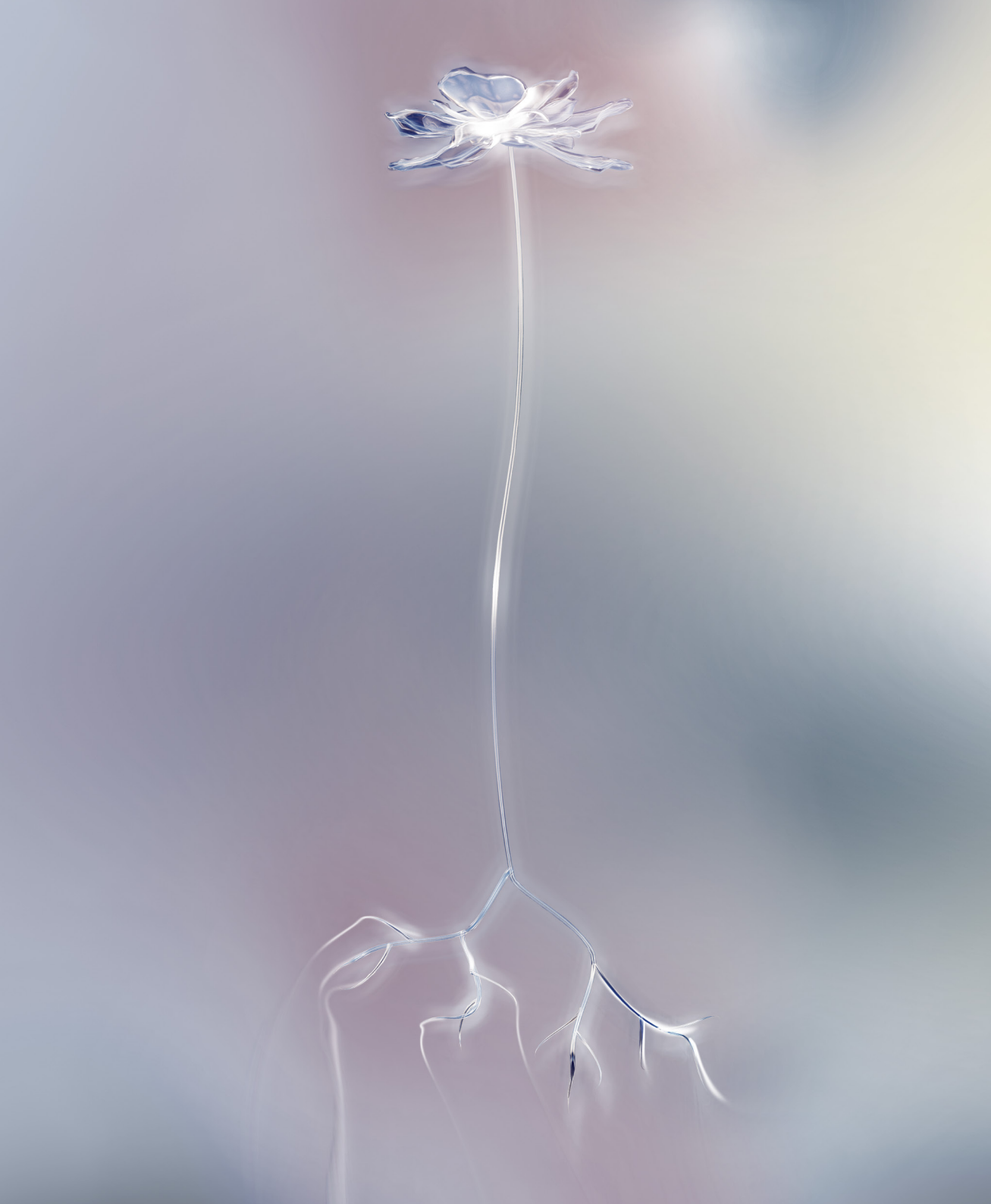
Was also thinking of applying the texture of condensed glass to the overall thing.





EDIT

I rendered 3 different versions of the poppy, mashed them together in Photoshop, tried different colors, played with 2D lights and hues.



FINAL