Set One: Making a science fiction book cover

1. Begin with the background image called 1\_GOLDEN.
2. Use the Magic Wand tool and click on the black silhouette of the bridge. Don’t worry about getting every last bit of the bridge, just the main part.
3. Go up to the select menu and choose Save Selection. Give it a name, such as Bridge.
4. Deselect (control D).
5. Now open the file called APPLES. Using the move tool, drag the apples into the 1\_GOLDEN image. (Remind people to click in the middle of the APPLE image, drag up to the tab for 1\_GOLDEN, and then drag into the bridge image and let go.)
6. Hit Control + T to resize the apples; hold SHIFT and grab a corner to make the apples extend all the way across the size of the bridge image. They will be taller than the bridge image, and that’s OK. Be sure to keep the apples proportionate.
7. Hit Enter to apply the transformation.
8. Now go to the Select Menu and choose Load Selection. Where it says Channel, choose the one you made a moment ago called “bridge.”
9. Now apply a layer mask so that you only see apples where the bridge selection was.
10. Drop the opacity of the apple layer down to about 35%.
11. Now go back to the original bridge layer (called Background) and then go to Image, Adjustments, and then Hue and Saturation. Shift the Hue to -78 and drop the Saturation down to -15. Click OK.
12. This is a good time to save. Call the assignment Set one (spell out ONE) plus your last name. You can close the APPLES image.
13. Now open CHAIN\_LI. Drag this image into your Set one project.
14. Resize the image (Control + T) so that it is a bit smaller, say ¾ of the height of the bridge image.
15. Position the lightning up in the left corner so that the bright spot where the lightning originates from is in the upper left corner.
16. Add a layer mask to the lightning layer.
17. Select a black brush at size 100 with a hardness of 0%.
18. Drop the opacity of the brush down to 11% or so. You’ll find the opacity along the top kind of in the middle.
19. Brush away the edges of the lightning image so it blends with the background. Don’t go up inside between the streaks of lightning; just stick to the edges. Continue brushing again and again until the edge fades away. You have to pick up your pen between brush strokes to make a difference. Brush lightly toward the center of the lightning to blend. You want the lightening to look like it belongs in the sky.
20. Finally, drop the layer opacity down to about 70%.
21. Now we’re going to work with the MONA\_LIZ image. Open it up and use the magnetic lasso to make a selection around the woman. The magnetic lasso is the third choice when you click and hold on the lasso. In the video, I used quick select. Oops! Go ahead and use quick select.
22. Once you have her lassoed, add a layer mask to hide the background. You’ll probably need to use a white brush to clean up the bottom of the mask.
23. Switch to a black brush and paint out her eyes—just the pupils.
24. Drag the MONA\_LIZ into Set One.
25. Drag the layer she is on to the top of the layers. Then make her a bit smaller—Control + T and hold shift while dragging from the corners. Put her in the lower right of the image and make her just small enough so she fits under the bridge. Hit enter to apply the transformation.
26. Next open LILY. Use Quick Select to make a fast selection of the lily and add a layer mask. Drag the lily into Set One.
27. Control + T and right click: choose Flip Horizontal. Then resize by holding shift and dragging from the corners so that the lily fits under the bridge on the bottom left of the image. Hit enter to apply the transformation.
28. Go to Image, Adjustments and choose Invert. The lily will change to a brown color.
29. Finally, just one more image to go! Open RED\_FROG and use quick select to make a selection around the frog. You will have to clean it up by adding and subtracting from your selection with the polygonal lasso tool. Hold Shift while using the lasso to add and hold Alt to subtract.
30. When you get your selection done, add a layer mask and bring the frog into Set one. Have him sit on the lily.
31. Control + T so that he is smaller and rotate him a little so he sits on the lily better.
32. Go to Filter and choose Filter Gallery. From there, click on Artistic and choose Colored Pencil. Click OK.
33. Now it’s time to make a title for the book in Illustrator. Thinking about what you learned about text when we did the watch assignment, use the following for your title and author:

The Third Eye, Judd Hawkins

You should use one plain and one stylized font. Also, use color(s) that suit the cover. Since the author is relatively unknown, the title should be larger than the author. Use a graphic or stylized element (or both) to enhance your title graphically.