



Heather Melton

Title: "The Path Ahead"

I chose this collage because it represents the intersection of faith, decision-making, and societal structures. The stop sign and the cross symbolize moments of pause and guidance, reflecting the choices we make in life. The hand on the crosswalk signal conveys hesitation, urging caution before moving forward. The combination of these elements suggests a deeper narrative about trust, uncertainty, and the forces that influence our paths. By layering various symbolic elements, the collage explores the complexity of decision-making and the role of belief whether in religion, rules, or personal intuition.

Contributing to its abstract quality contrast is used to highlight the differences between symbols, reinforcing the theme of external versus internal guidance. The fragmented and layered composition moves away from realism, making the imagery more symbolic rather than literal. Balance is achieved by arranging the images in a way that directs the viewer's eye across the piece, rather than following a strict narrative structure. Emphasis on the stop sign and cross suggests meaning without explicitly telling a story, leaving interpretation open-ended. Repetition of geometric shapes, such as rectangles and circles, creates a sense of unity while further detaching the image from realism. The stylized texture adds depth and an almost dreamlike quality, making the composition more conceptual rather than a straightforward representation of reality. Through these abstract elements, the collage becomes more than just a collection of objects it transforms into a reflection on decision-making, belief, and uncertainty in an open-ended, interpretive way.