



Initially, I chose to create a sacred private space but when pushed to explore what it is for a space to be uncomfortable, I felt that this challenge was more fitting for the assignment and it would be more enjoyable to push myself to explore the essence of what, we as humans, view as being deeply uncomfortable. I did some initial research into human psychology and what makes us feel uncomfortable and found that scale played a large role in this and that when a space is too large or too small we feel either insignificant or restricted from movement. Feeling insignificant leads a large population of people to have a fear of heights or the ocean because we instinctively want to cower away from vastness in most contexts. As I began to explore this more it led me to think deeper about form and how I could design the simplest form that would still lend itself to discomfort.

My design, that I am calling "The Crag" is a form that finds its discomfort in humans' instinctual fear of being put into a corner or "backed between a rock and a hard place" for use of a common colloquialism. I believe that this design is uncomfortable because it uses a gradient of light from light at the mouth of the structure to dark at the back of the structure, while simultaneously being more open and true to comfortable human scale at the mouth to becoming very small and restrictive of movement at the back of the structure. By placing benches in the structure at different moments within the piece, it invites viewers to picture themselves within the space or even to explore what it feels like to be in a space that offers discomfort.