Creative Brief

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Project Title: Louis Kahn Website

1. Project overview

The goal of my website is to present a biography of Louis Kahn in a visual style that pays homage to his architectural designs.

2. Resources

Copy is available at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Louis_Kahn. Photography and architectural plans can be found on JSTOR. The documentary "My Architect" by Nathaniel Kahn and the biography "You Say to Brick: The Life of Louis Kahn" also provide useful information and visual inspiration.

4. Audience

Likely for people with an interest in architecture and/or art history who are familiar with Kahn's works, or for anyone interested in the intersection of biography and oeuvre.
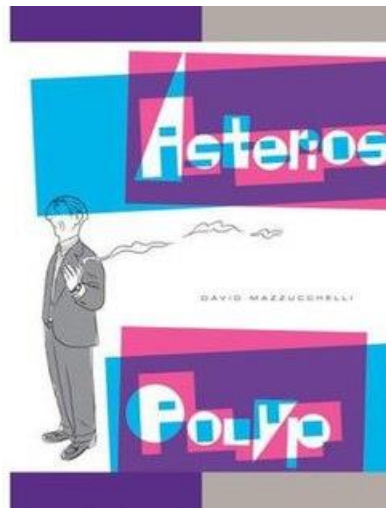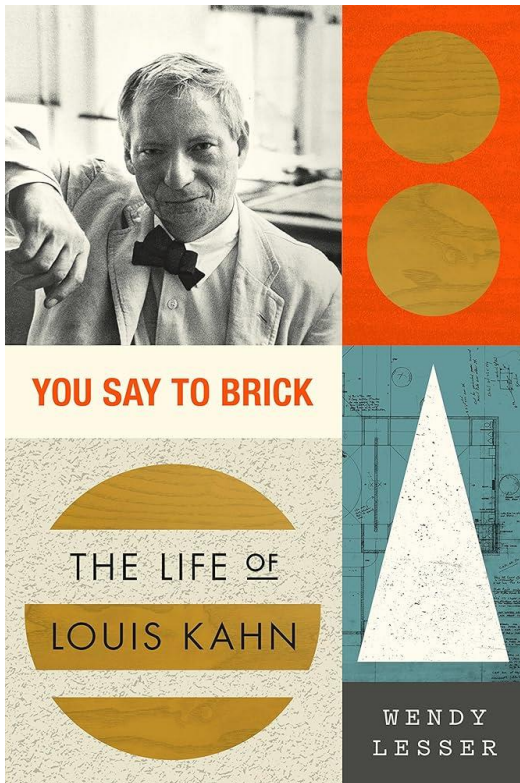
5. Message

I want to highlight Kahn's biography and the contrast between the perfection of his architecture and the imperfections of his inner life, and question whether "perfection" really exists.
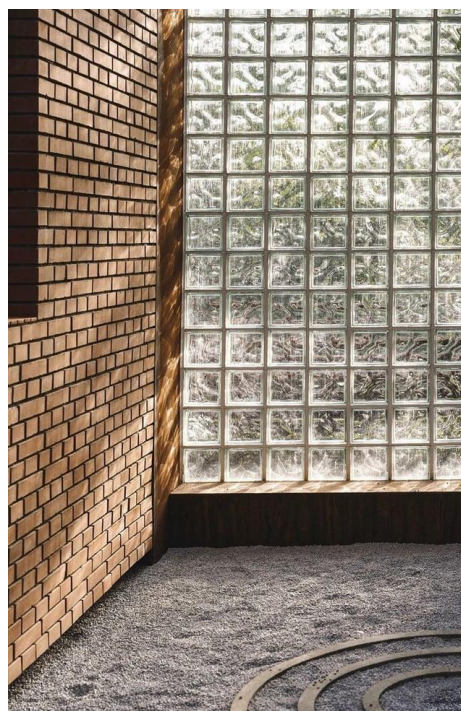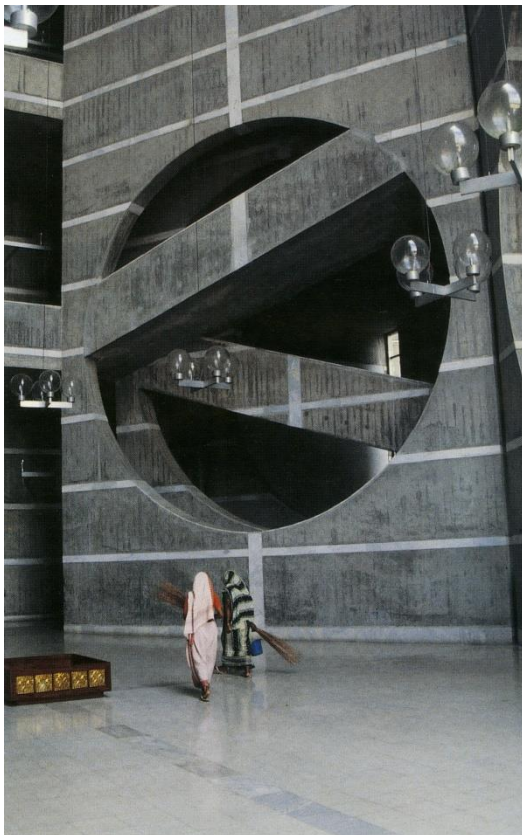
6. Tone

The tone should be austere and reverent but with hints of texture to evoke building materials like brick and stone, and slight imperfections to allude to the hardships of his personal life.

7. Visual Style

I want the pages to all have geometry as a primary visual element and have text and images interact with it. There would be a lot of open space around elements, and display/body text would strike a balance between lightness and weight to convey a sense of contrast. Though Kahn's work rarely if ever used color, some bold pops here and there would help to keep things engaging. Suprematism might be a good reference point.

Asterios Polyp: A graphic novel by David Mazzucchelli (whose main character I strongly suspect was inspired by Louis Kahn). The imagery is very geometric, but dynamic when set against contrasting textures and art styles.

Text in and around geometry?

(Not Kahn's work, but I like the quality of light against the brick in this picture)