# Sara's 'not-so-amazing' journey



Master Thesis - Guide for sharing proactive and feed-forward information with airline passengers during a disruption.



**Taresh Ghei** 



A guide for sharing proactive and feed-forward information with airline passengers during a disruption.

Faculty of Industrial Design Engineering MSc Thesis Design for Interaction Delft University of Technology

October 14th, 2019

**Author** Taresh Ghei

**Project Chair Dr. Anne-Madeleine Kranzbühler** Faculty of Industrial Design Engineering Department Product Innovation Management

#### **Project Mentor**

**Ir. Ehsan Baha** Faculty of Industrial Design Engineering Department Product Innovation Management

#### **Company Mentors**

**Joost Olieroock** Director Customer Experience (CX) Excellence Centre KLM Royal Dutch Airlines

#### Christiaan Van De Koppel

Customer journey manager KLM Royal Dutch Airlines

#### Tanvi Pande

Service Designer and Design Researcher KLM Royal Dutch Airlines

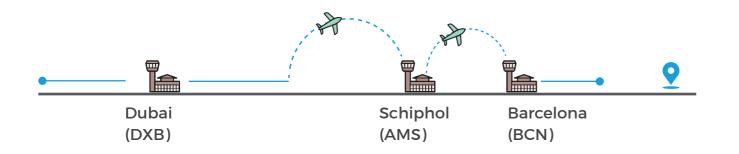
# Hi, I'm Sara

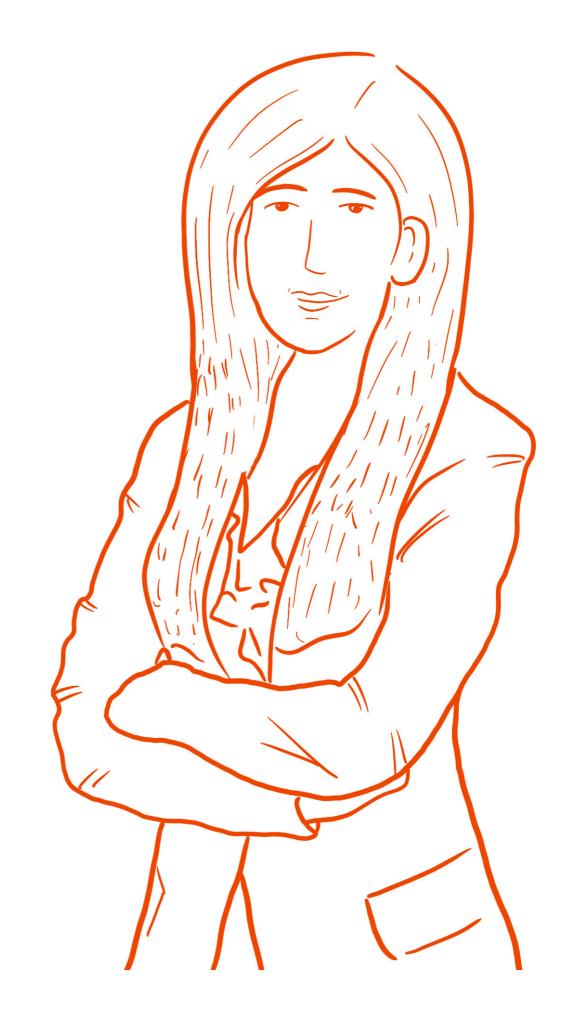
"I'm 28 years old, a working professional and I travel occasionally, mostly for leisure."

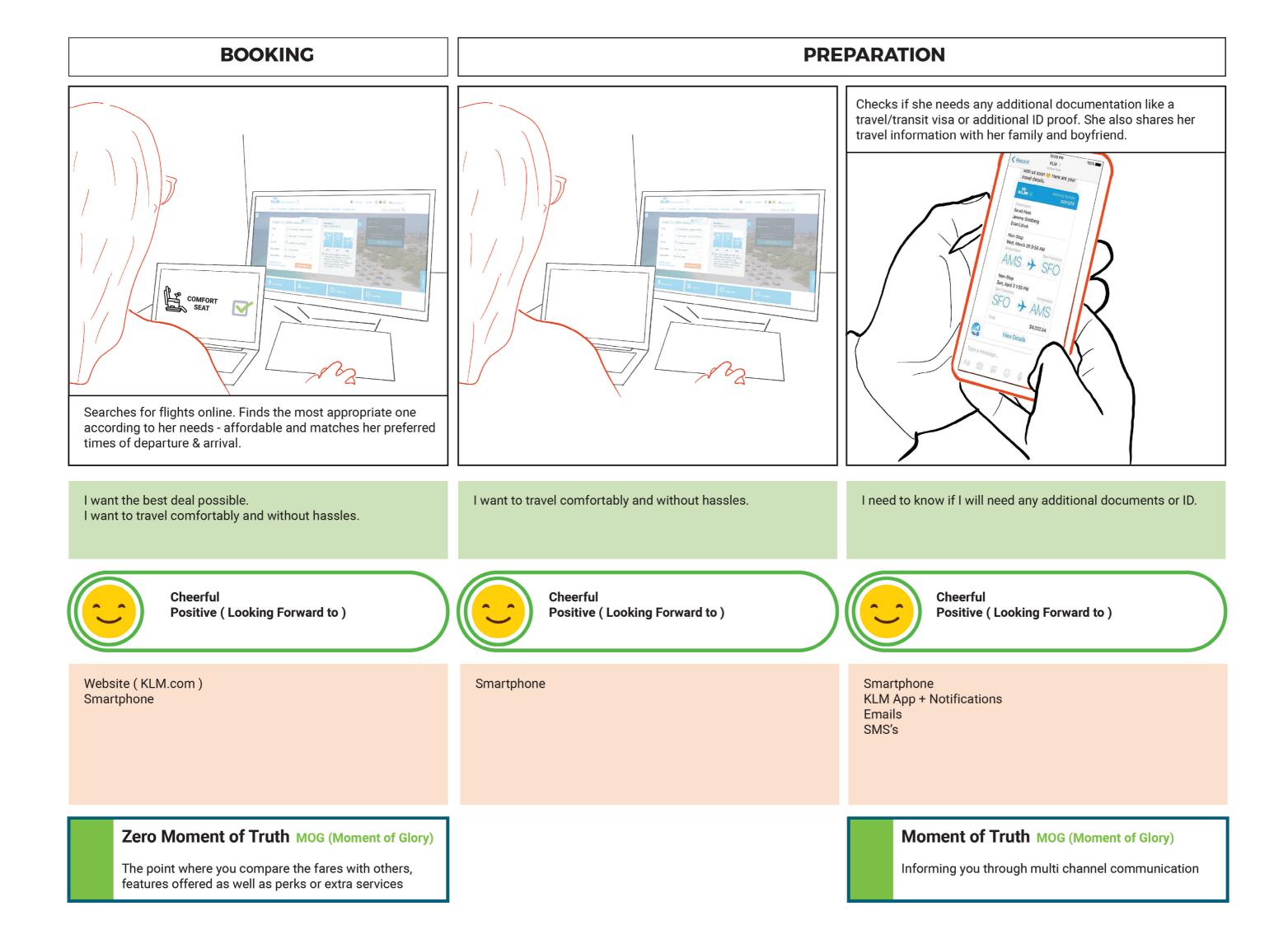
"It's been a while since I've spent time with my boyfriend, so I've taken a couple of weeks off next month to go and meet him."

"I just hope that nothing goes wrong during my trip because I cannot afford to take more days off or spend extra money."

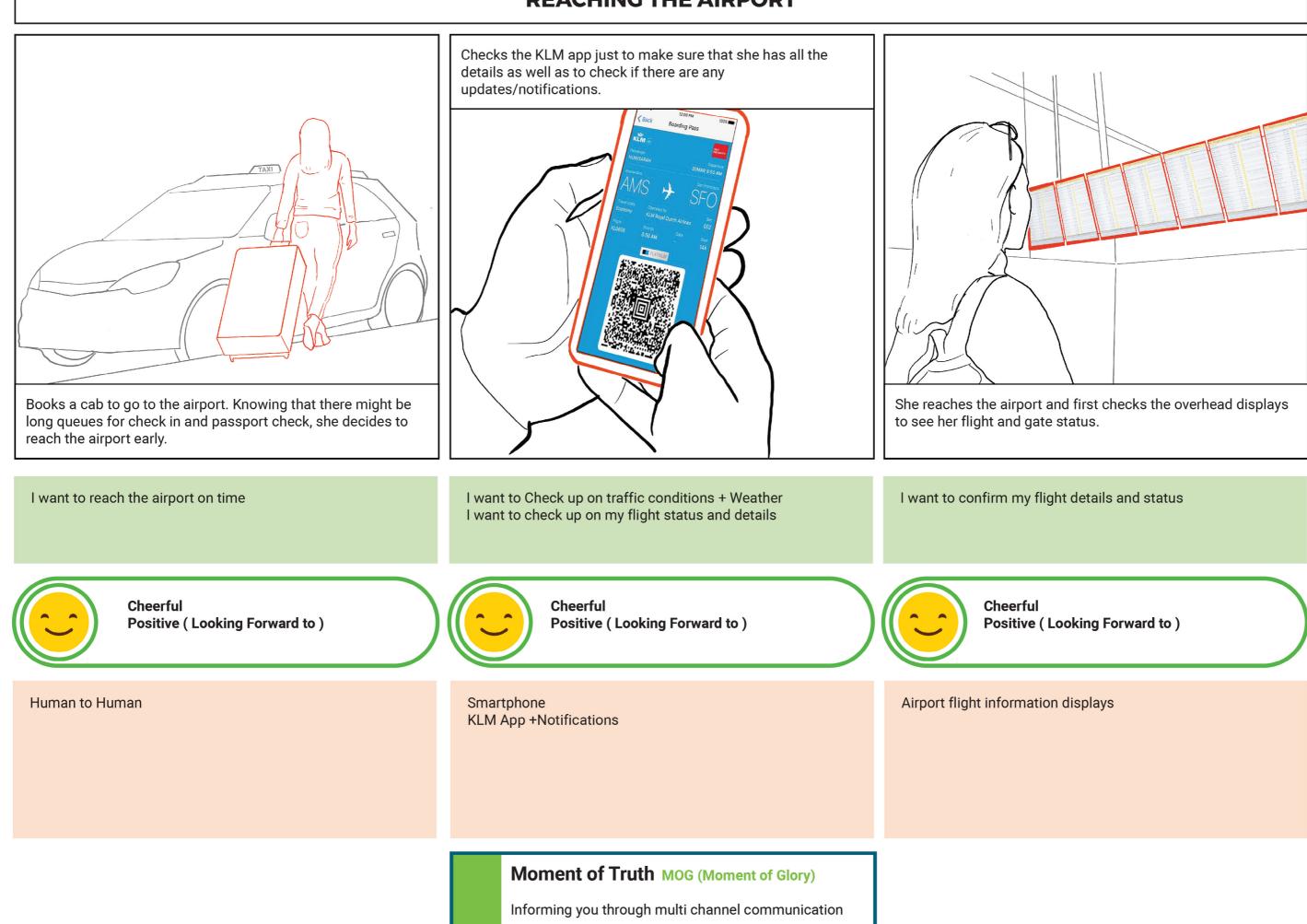
"I like to make sure that I have everything ready so that my travel is as smooth as possible."



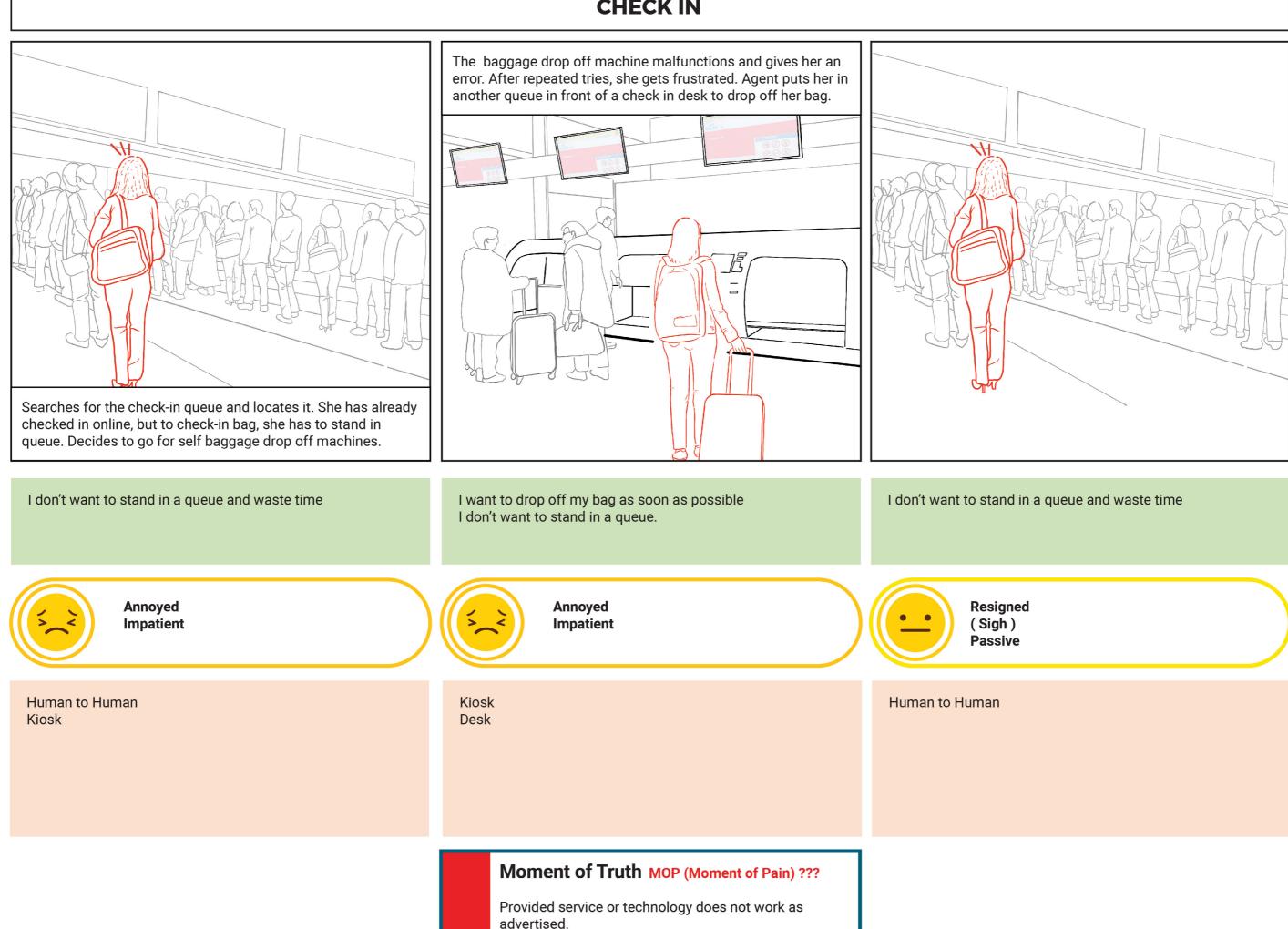




#### **REACHING THE AIRPORT**



# **CHECK IN**



# Finally reaches the check-in counter and gets her bag checked trays for scanning. in. SECURITY SECURITY dHH2 SECURITY 0 Gets stuck in long, slow moving line for security check. I want to get through this process as soon as possible. I don't want to stand in a queue and waste time. I want to be done with this process. I don't want my bags to be searched. Resigned Annoyed Resigned (Sigh) (Sigh) Impatient Passive Passive Human to Human (Staff) Human to Human (Security Staff) Human to human Desk Moment of Truth MOP (Moment of Pain) ??? Non KLM / Subcontracted personal may not be as enthusiastic or motivated to give high level service.

**CHECK - IN** 



I don't want the contents of my bag to be on display.

### **CHECK - IN**

#### CHECK - IN (Dealing with Delay)

Something is wrong. Is asked to step aside for extra scan and told to open her bag completely for extra checks. Very annoyed!!



I want to be done with this process. I don't want my bags to be searched. I don't want the contents of my bag to be on display.



Angry Embarrassed

Human to Human (Security Staff) Desk

Looks at screens and notices her flight has been delayed.



I want to know about what's happening to my flight. I want to know the reason for the delay and what steps are being taken to rectify it.



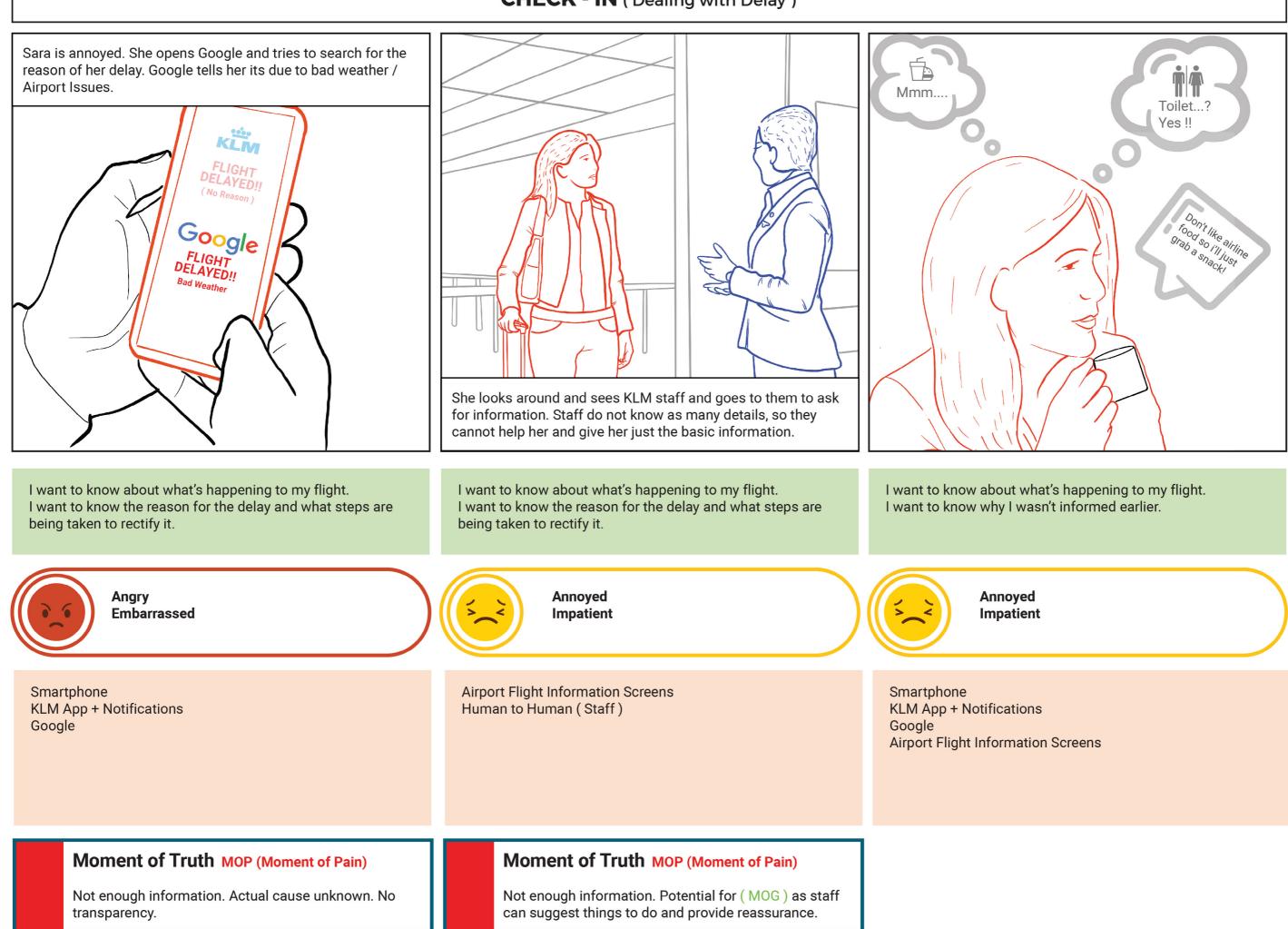
Smartphone KLM App + Notifications Google

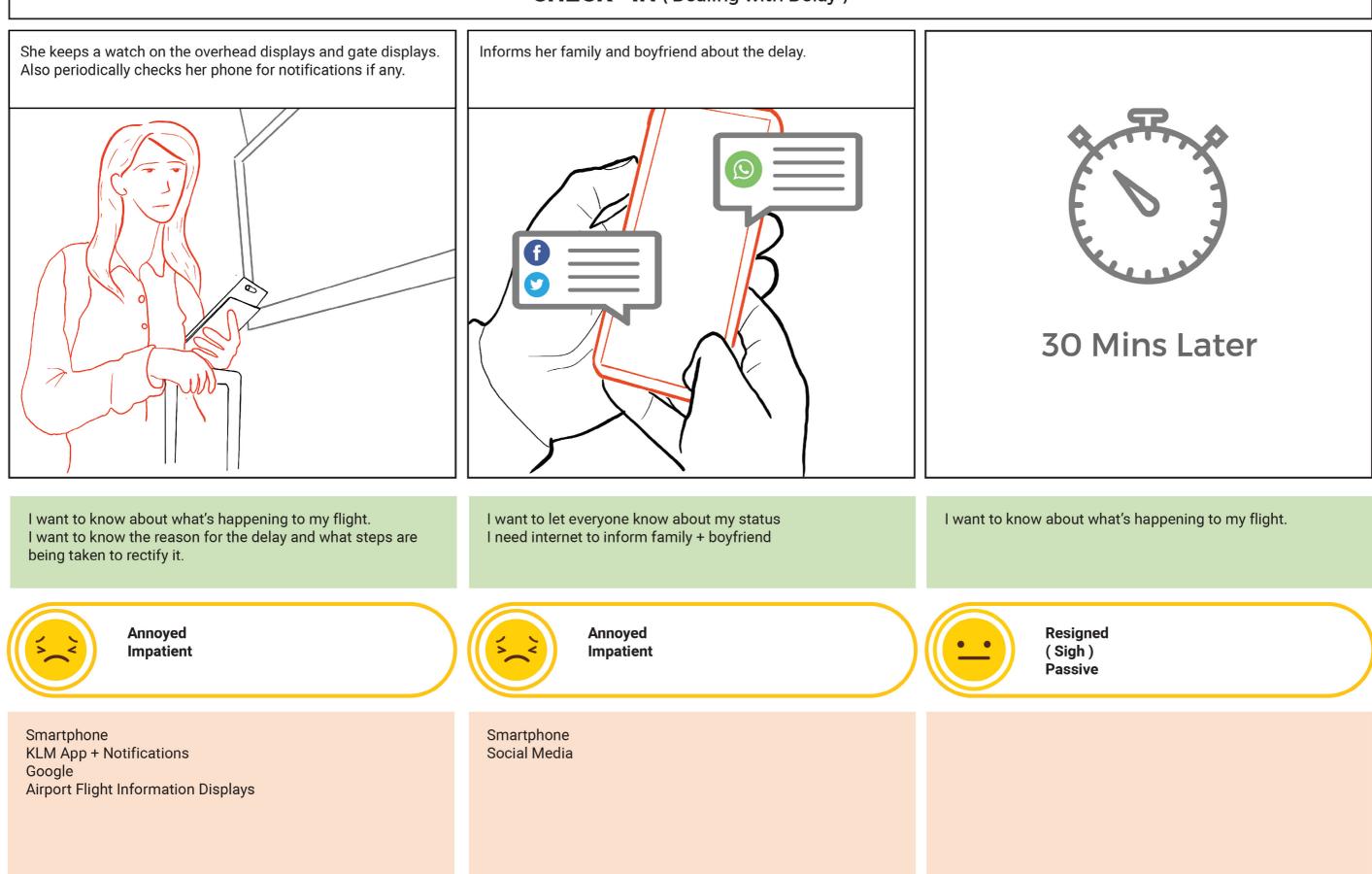
Annoyed Impatient

Airport Flight Information Screens Smartphone

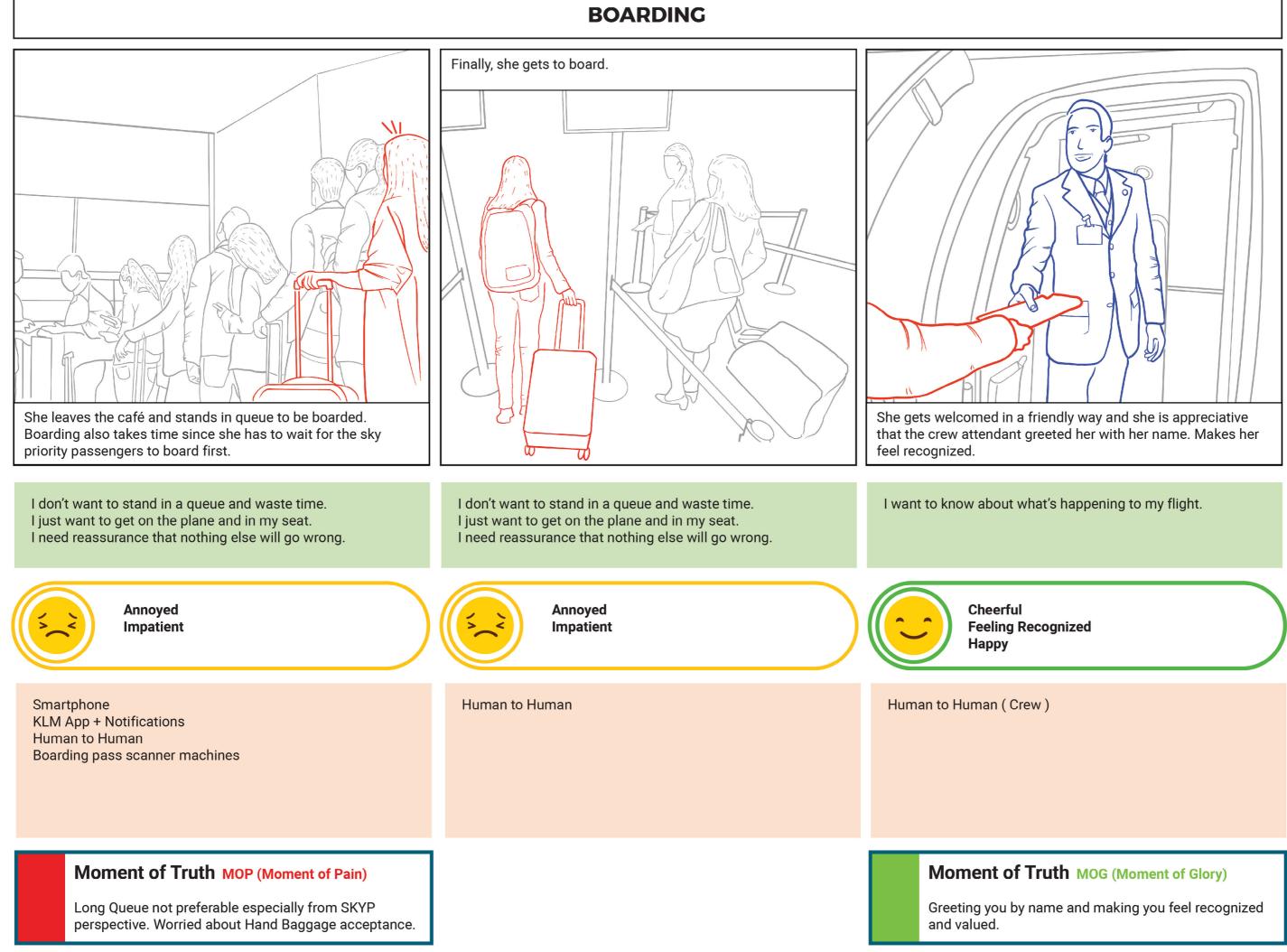
She checks her phone, opens the KLM app to check if there is a notification about the delay but no reason.   Image: the she character of the she character o	
FLIGHT BELAYED!! 30 mins	any more information regarding the delay. There is a
I want to know about what's happening to my flight.	FLIGHT DELAYED!!
I want to know the reason for the delay and what steps are being taken to rectify it.	
Angry Irritated	

#### CHECK - IN (Dealing with Delay)



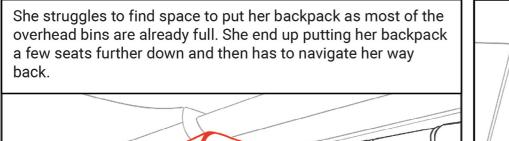


#### CHECK - IN (Dealing with Delay)

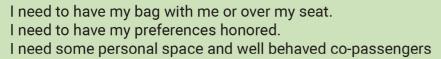


#### **BOARDING**

#### **IN - FLIGHT**







Moment of Truth MOP (Moment of Pain)

Not having space to put bag despite expected promise

by KLM that space will be there. Bag enforcement?

Irritated (Furious)?

Human to Human (Passengers + Crew) **Overhead Bins** 

Angry

0 Due to the delay, the time of serving the meals has changed. She is disappointed that the meals are also delayed as she is hungry. She gets served her meal finally. But the food is not uncomfortable. nice. I need my meals on time I want service when I request it I want most if not all my requests honored. Cheerful

Impatient

Human to Human (Crew)

Seats IFE

Annoyed

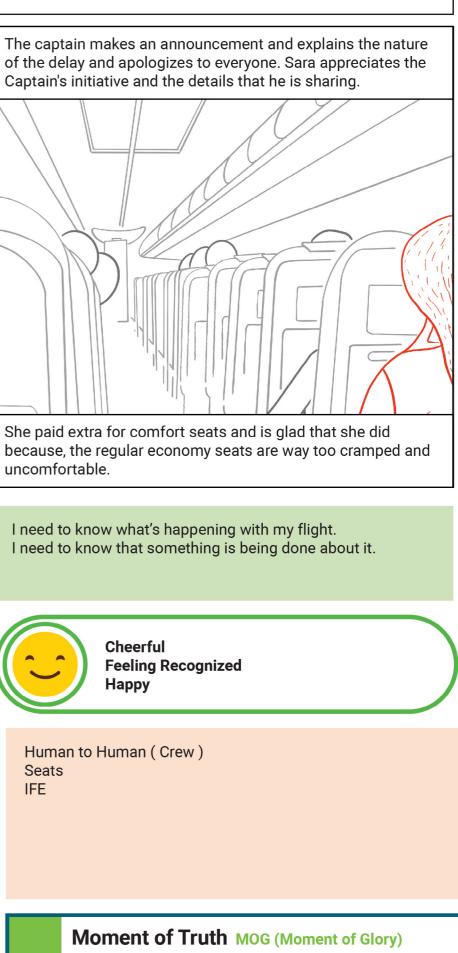
Moment of Truth MOP (Moment of Pain)

Meals + water is not served on time.

Happy

Seats IFE

authentic + reliable.



Apologies + explanation by captain. Perceived as more

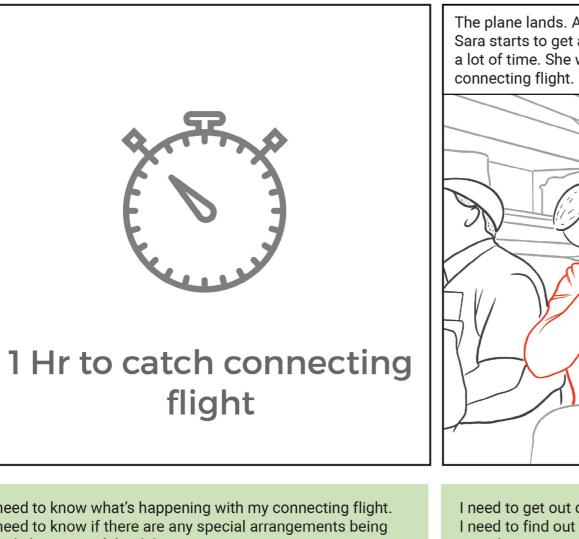
**IN - FLIGHT** 20 mins before landing, the captain announces that the transfer flights information will now be displayed. 0 She calls a flight attendant to ask her for details. The attendant Checks her IFE screen but her connecting flight is not displayed. Starts to get worried. Checks the time and starts to cannot provide too much information. Has no idea which gate really get stressed as her connection time is now really short. she has to go to and how far she has to travel. I need to know what's happening with my connecting flight. I need my meals on time I need to know if there are any special arrangements being I want service when I request it made because of the delay. I want most if not all my requests honored. flight. I need to know that I can make it to my flight. Anxious Anxious Annoyed Impatient Panic Panic Worried Worried Worried Human to Human (Crew) IFE Seats Seats IFE

#### Moment of Truth MOP (Moment of Pain)

Lack of information + lack of next steps or solution. No reassurance or confidence provided to passenger that they will make their flight.



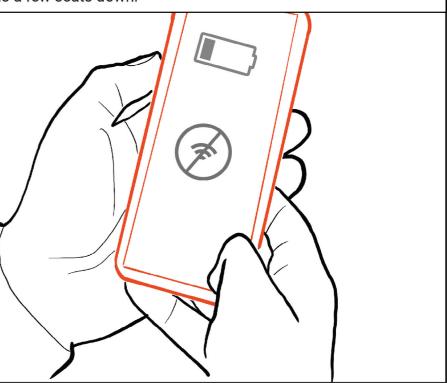
#### **IN - FLIGHT**



The plane lands. All passengers get up and line up in the aisle. Sara starts to get a little impatient as the de-boarding is taking a lot of time. She wants to de-board quickly to make it to her

FA

She checks her phone, but has no network / low battery. She is also stuck in her seat and has to wait for passengers to start moving before she can get out and gather her backpack which is a few seats down.



I need to know what's happening with my connecting flight. I need to know if there are any special arrangements being made because of the delay. I need to know that I can make it to my flight.



Anxious Panic Worried I need to get out of this plane ASAP

I need to find out where I have to go for my connecting flight I need internet to move forward and inform family + boyfriend. I need internet for updates from KLM

> Annoyed Impatient

Human to Human (Other Passengers + Crew) Seats **Overhead Bins** 

Worried

I need to find out where I have to go for my connecting flight I need internet to move forward and inform family + boyfriend. I need internet for updates from KLM.

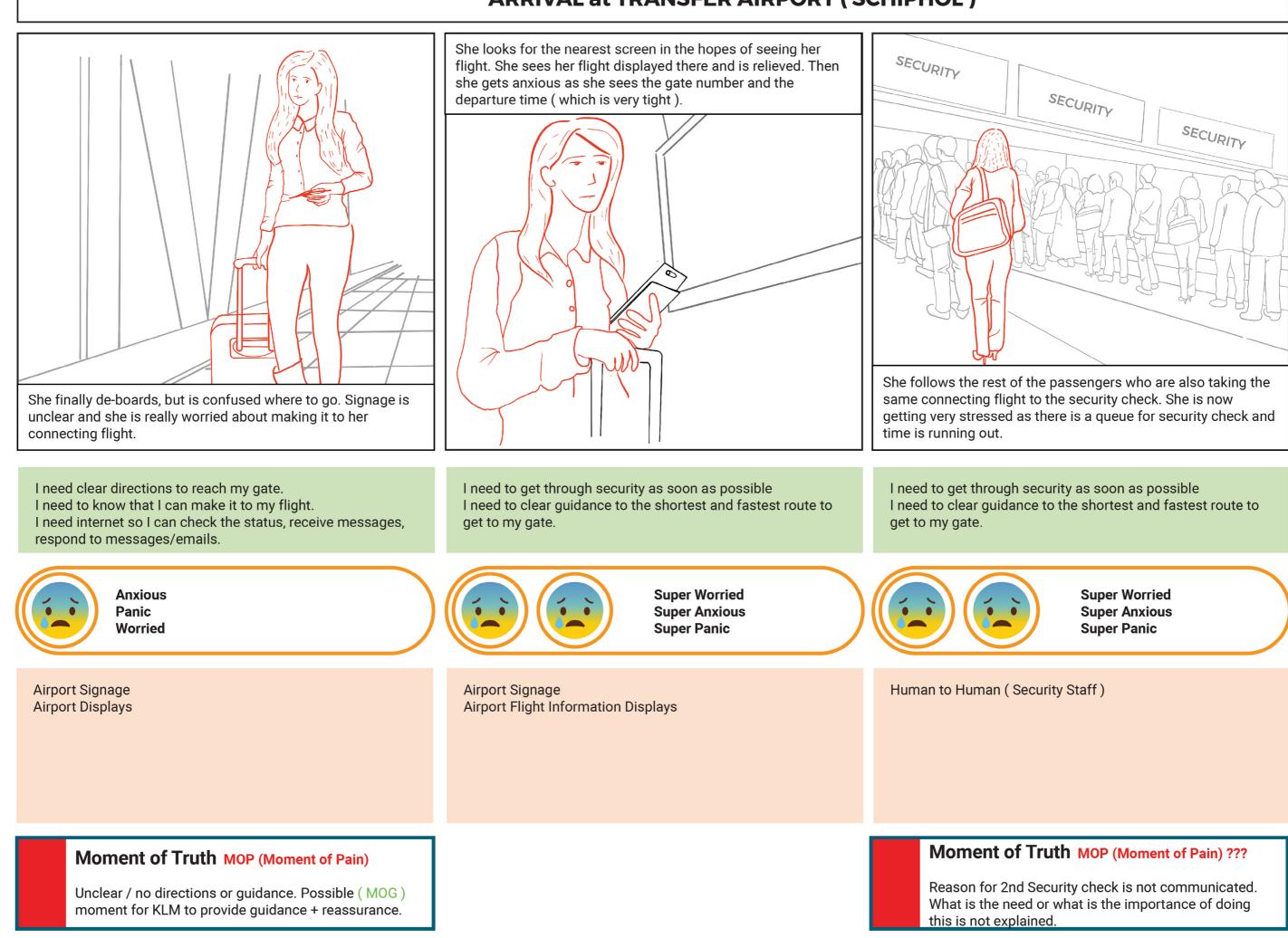
Anxious Panic Worried

Smartphone KLM App + Notifications Google

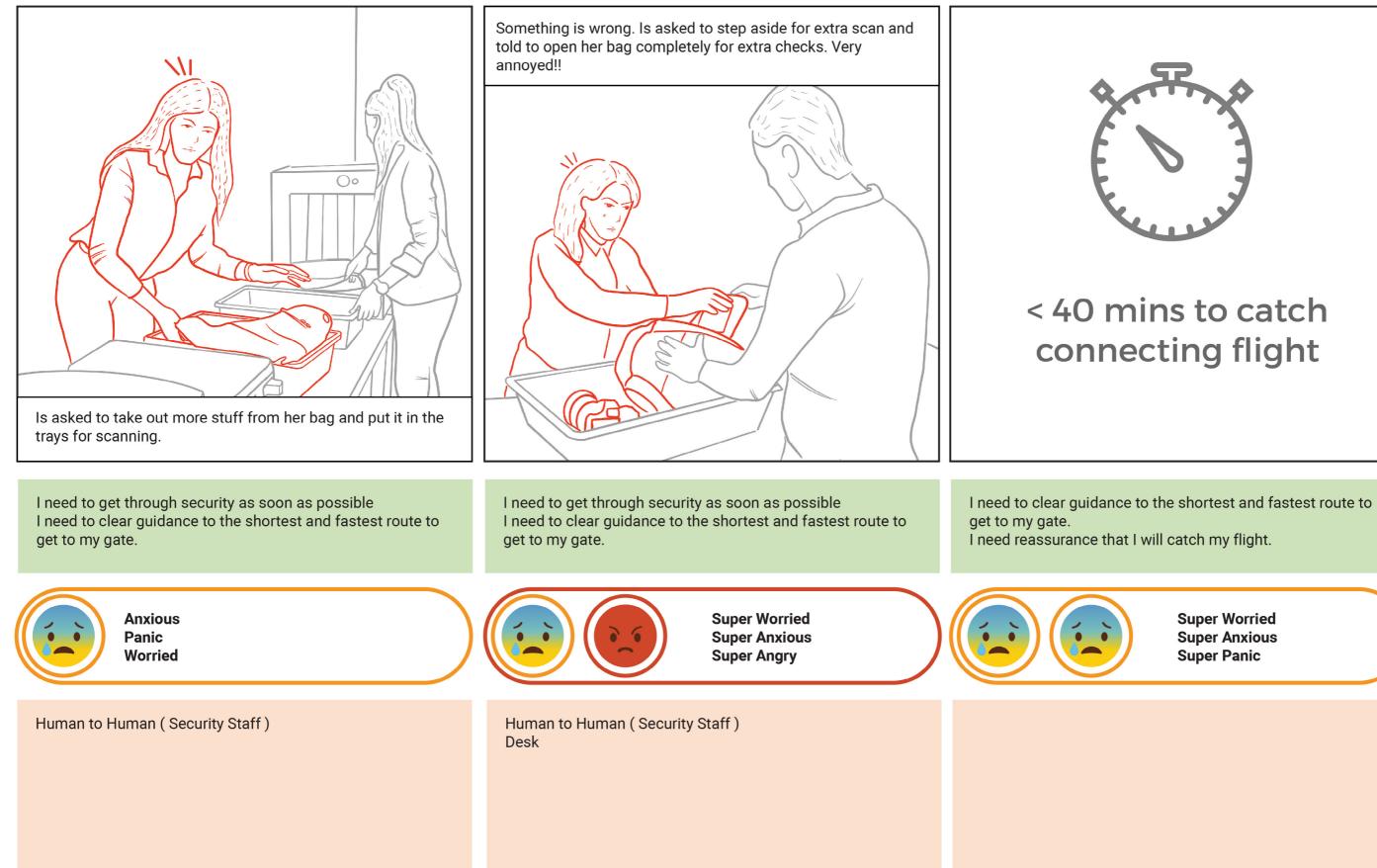
#### Moment of Truth MOP (Moment of Pain)

Not feeling acknowledged. Stuck in line. Possible (MOG) moment could be to make de-boarding passengers with tight connections a priority or by giving extra reassurance that they will catch their connecting flight.

### **ARRIVAL at TRANSFER AIRPORT (SCHIPHOL)**

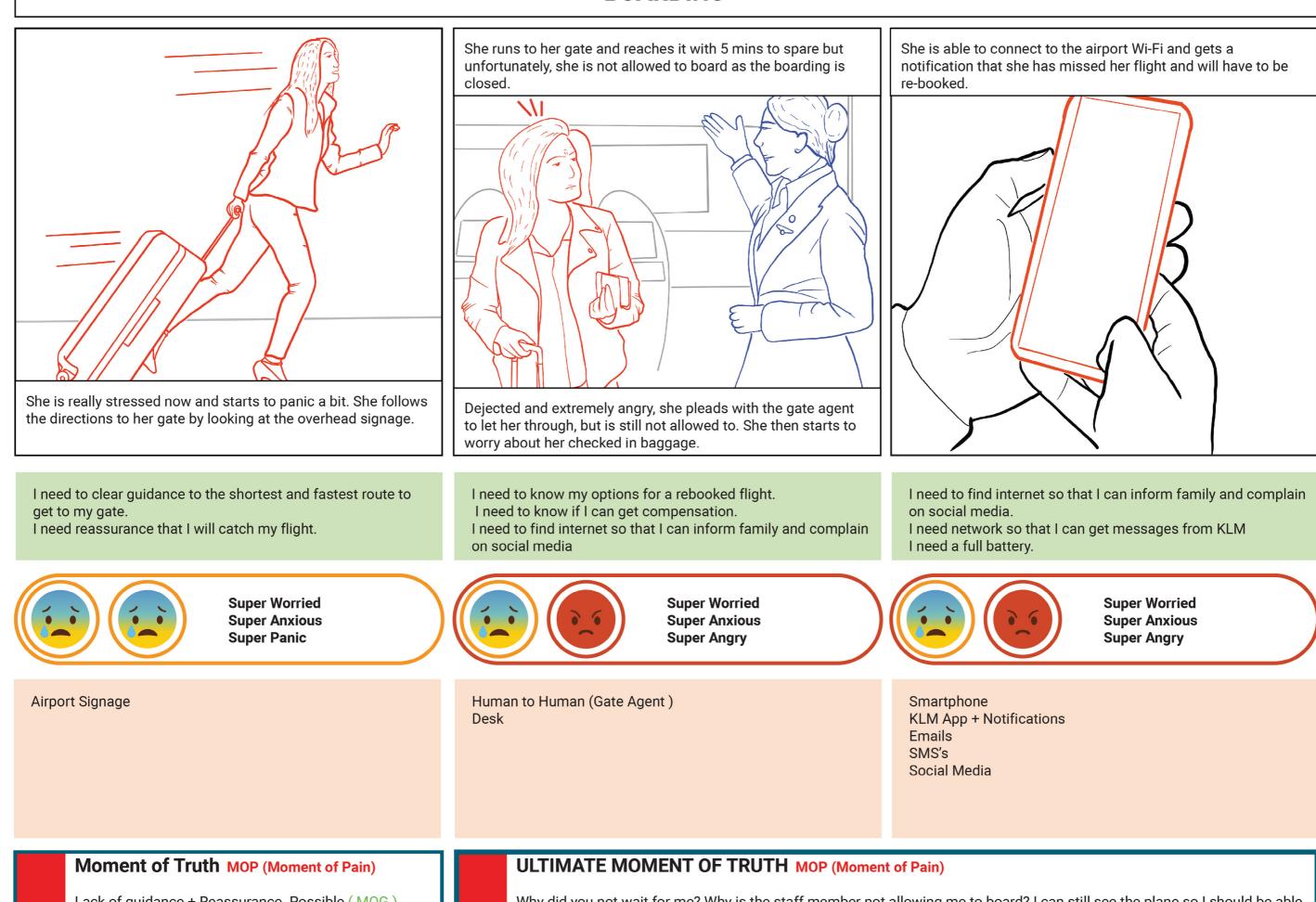


#### TRANSFER at SCHIPHOL (SECURITY CHECK)



**Super Worried** Super Anxious Super Panic

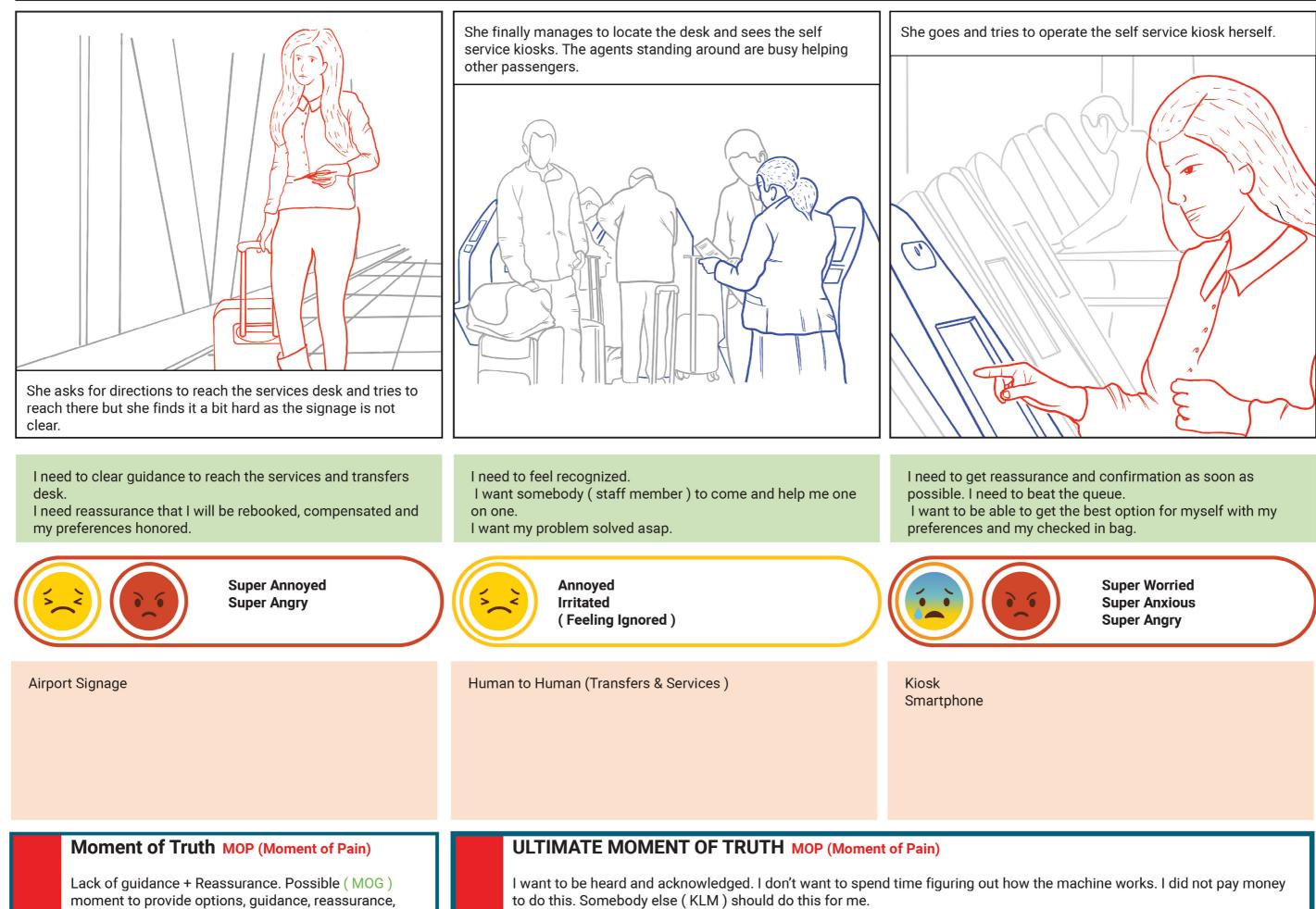
#### BOARDING



Lack of guidance + Reassurance. Possible (MOG) moment to reassure people that the plane will wait for them especially during short connections.

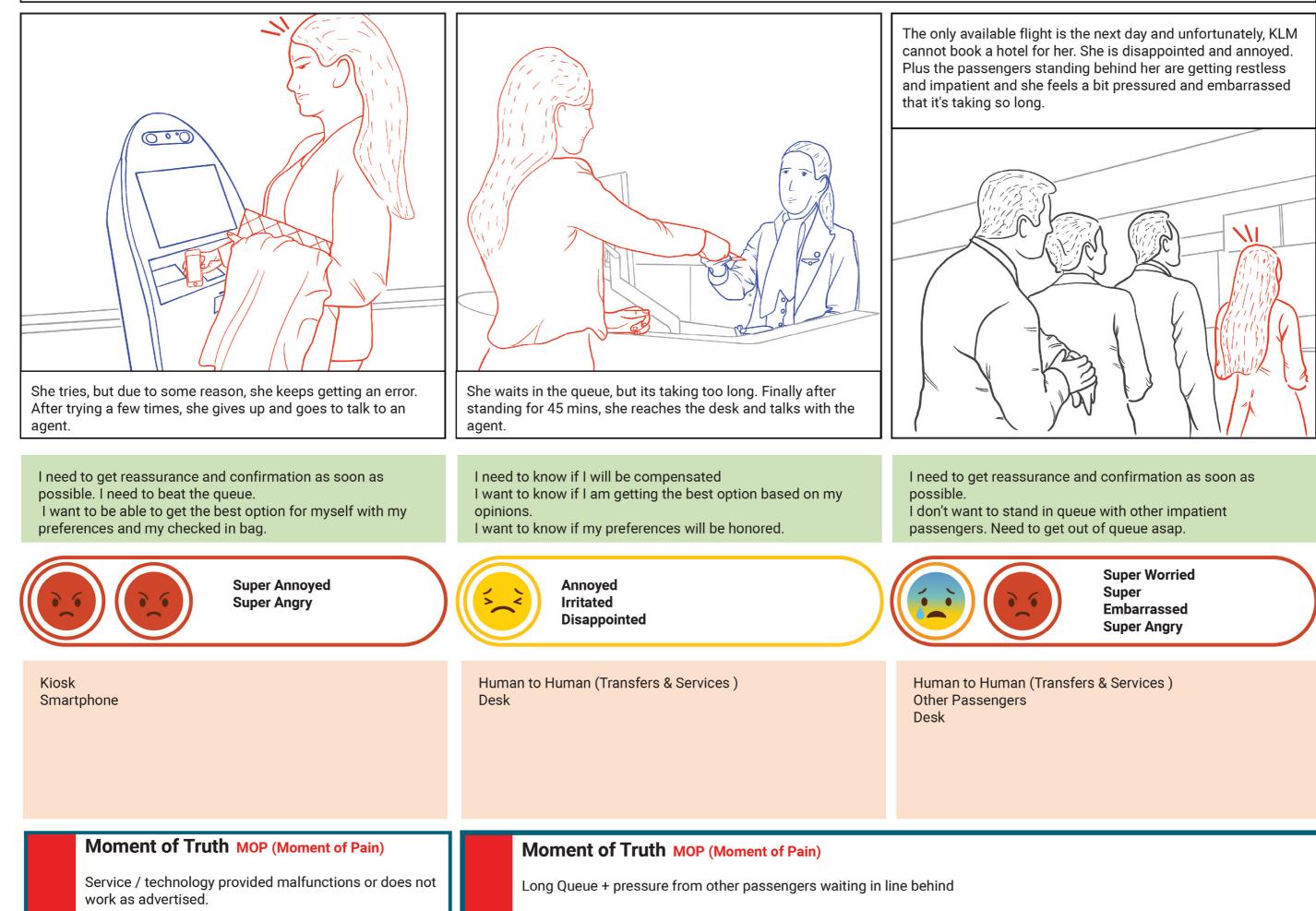
Why did you not wait for me? Why is the staff member not allowing me to board? I can still see the plane so I should be able to board. Not feeling acknowledged/recognized.

#### **SERVICES & TRANSFERS DESK**



directions and compensation options.

#### **SERVICES & TRANSFERS DESK**



### HOTEL (Self) BOOKING

**SERVICES & TRANSFERS DESK** Finally the agent's able to rebook her. She asks for the  $\mathbf{N}$ 1/ vouchers and is given a food voucher. FOOD VOUCHER She is not able to pick up her checked in luggage so she is forced to get an overnight kit. She is really angry now. She would like to have her bag with her when she goes to the hotel. I need to know how i can redeem this voucher. I need to know if I will be compensated I want to know if I am getting the best option based on my I want to know what other form of compensation will I get. I want to know if I am getting the best option based on my preference. I want to know if my preferences will be honored. preference. Annoyed Resigned Irritated (Sigh) Disappointed

e connects to the air

She connects to the airport Wi-Fi which is really slow and tries to book a hotel for herself. After a lot of attempts by calling, she is able to get a room in a hotel in Amsterdam. She takes out her notebook and makes a note of the hotel address and asks the person for directions as to how to reach the hotel. The person just tells her to get a taxi or a bus from Schiphol.

I need to book a hotel as fast as possible.I need a hotel as close to the airport as possible.I need the hotel to be affordable and withing my budget.I want reassurance that my expenses will be compensated.



Smartphone

Human to Human (Transfers & Services ) Voucher ( Printed Sheet )

Passive

Human to Human (Transfers & Services ) Desk

Angry

**Moment of Truth MOP (Moment of Pain)** Small MOG - I was successfully rebooked.

The voucher does not justify what I have gone through. Need to do more to show me that KLM cares for me.

#### ULTIMATE MOMENT OF TRUTH MOP (Moment of Pain)

KLM unable to provide hotel booking or suggest options. Need to book and reach hotel on my own. No help, guidance or practical next steps provided.



Super Worried Super Panic Super Angry

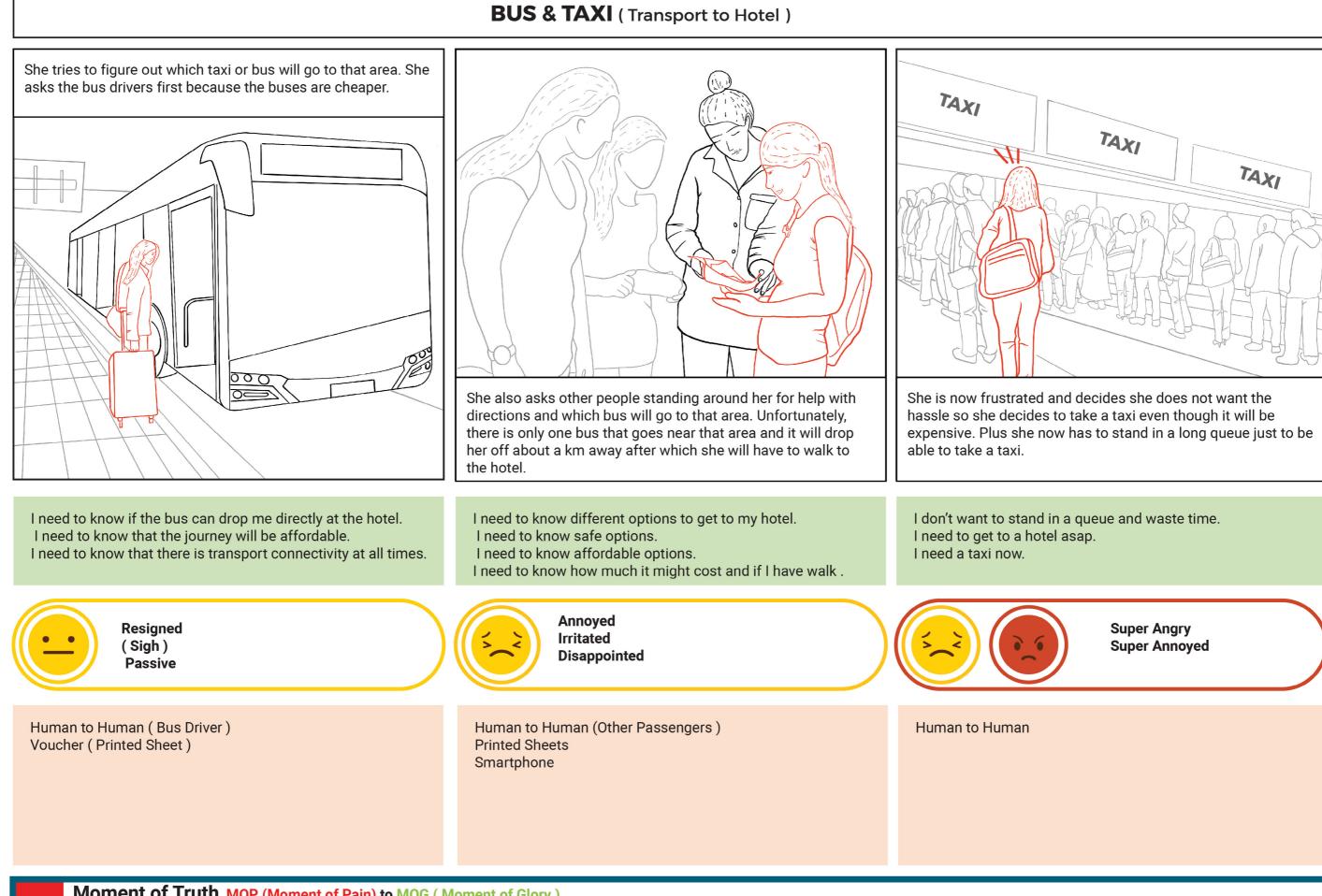
# HOTEL (Self) BOOKING **FINAL DESTINATION AIRPORT** She comes out of the airport, but now has no network since she is not able to connect to the Wi-Fi/ phone battery is really low. Meanwhile..... Her boyfriend is waiting destination. I need internet to find the best route to the hotel. I need to find a power outlet to charge my phone. I need to connect with her and talk to her. I need to inform family and boyfriend. I need to find most affordable transport to reach hotel. Annoyed Irritated Panic Smartphone Smartphone KLM App Social Media Moment of Truth MOP (Moment of Pain) No way to contact family, friends. Possible (MOG) moment where KLM can enable / provide ability to contact loved ones.

l	
l	
l	
l	

g at the arrivals hall for her at her final

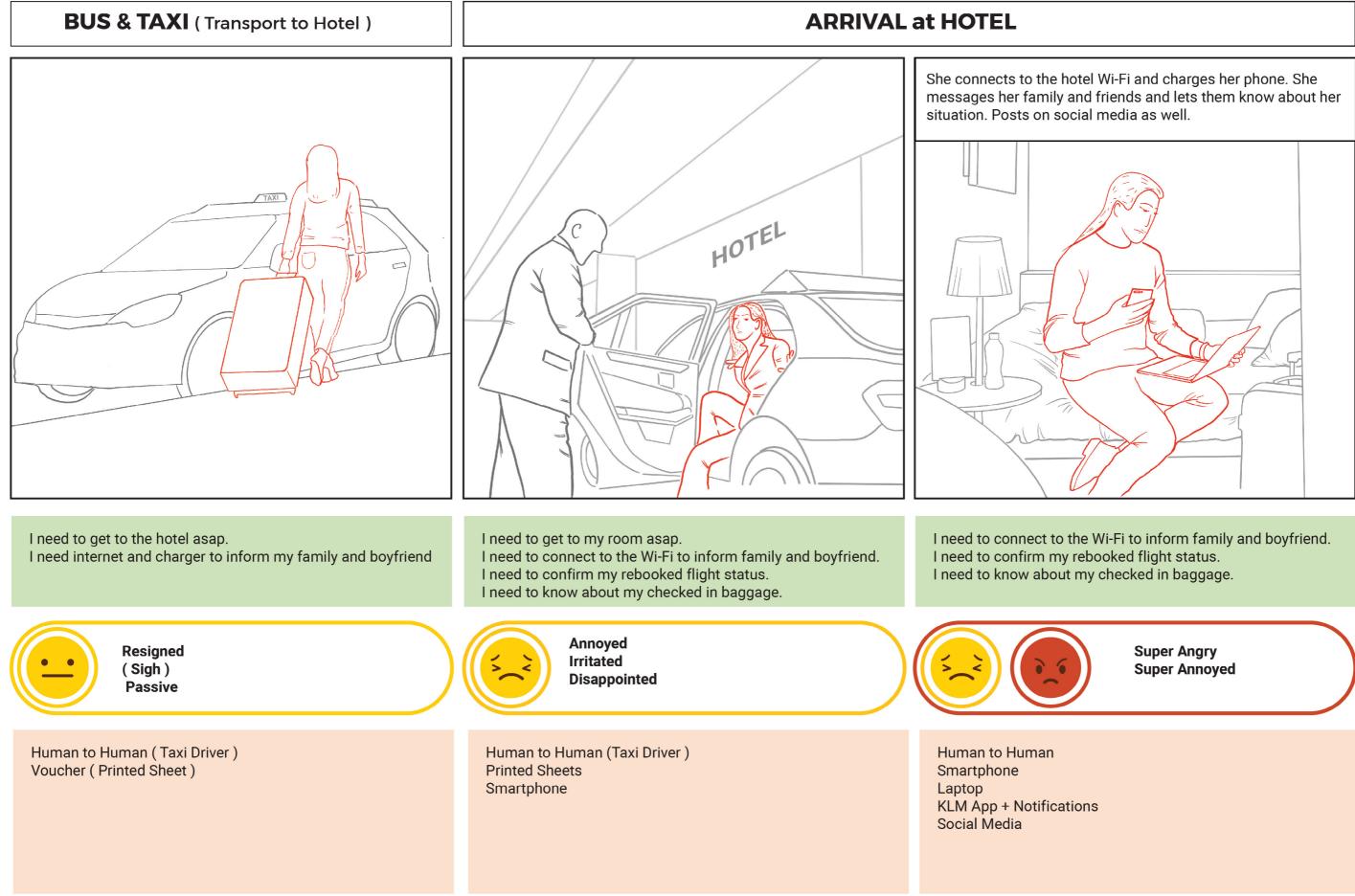
I need to know what's happening with Sara's flight. I need to know if there is something I can do to help her.

Super Worried Super Panic **Super Anxious** 



#### Moment of Truth MOP (Moment of Pain) to MOG (Moment of Glory)

Lack of feet forward steps plus lack of support. Feel like I have to fend for myself. Possible (MOG) moment could be if KLM partners with UBER or NS and pro-actively gives passenger the ability to reach their hotel or intermediate destination without any stress or hassle or extra cognitive loads.



#### **AT FINAL DESTINATION**

**AT HOTEL** Messages her boyfriend and lets him know about her situation. Updates him on the new flight details and new time of arrival. She is annoyed that she doesn't have her bag with her because she would like a change of clothes. Worried a bit about her checked in luggage which she could not collect. Bit anxious because she hopes that she will still get her extra legroom seats that she had paid for. I need internet and charger to inform my family and boyfriend. I need to tell him about my new flight details and arrival time. Resigned Relieved Passive Smartphone Social Media KLM App + Notifcations

Boyfriend is relieved that she is OK. Talks for a bit and makes a plan to reach the airport and receive her.

I need to get to my room asap.

I need to connect to the Wi-Fi to inform family and boyfriend. I need to confirm my rebooked flight status. I need to know about my checked in baggage.

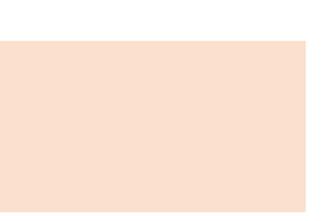


Smartphone Social Media

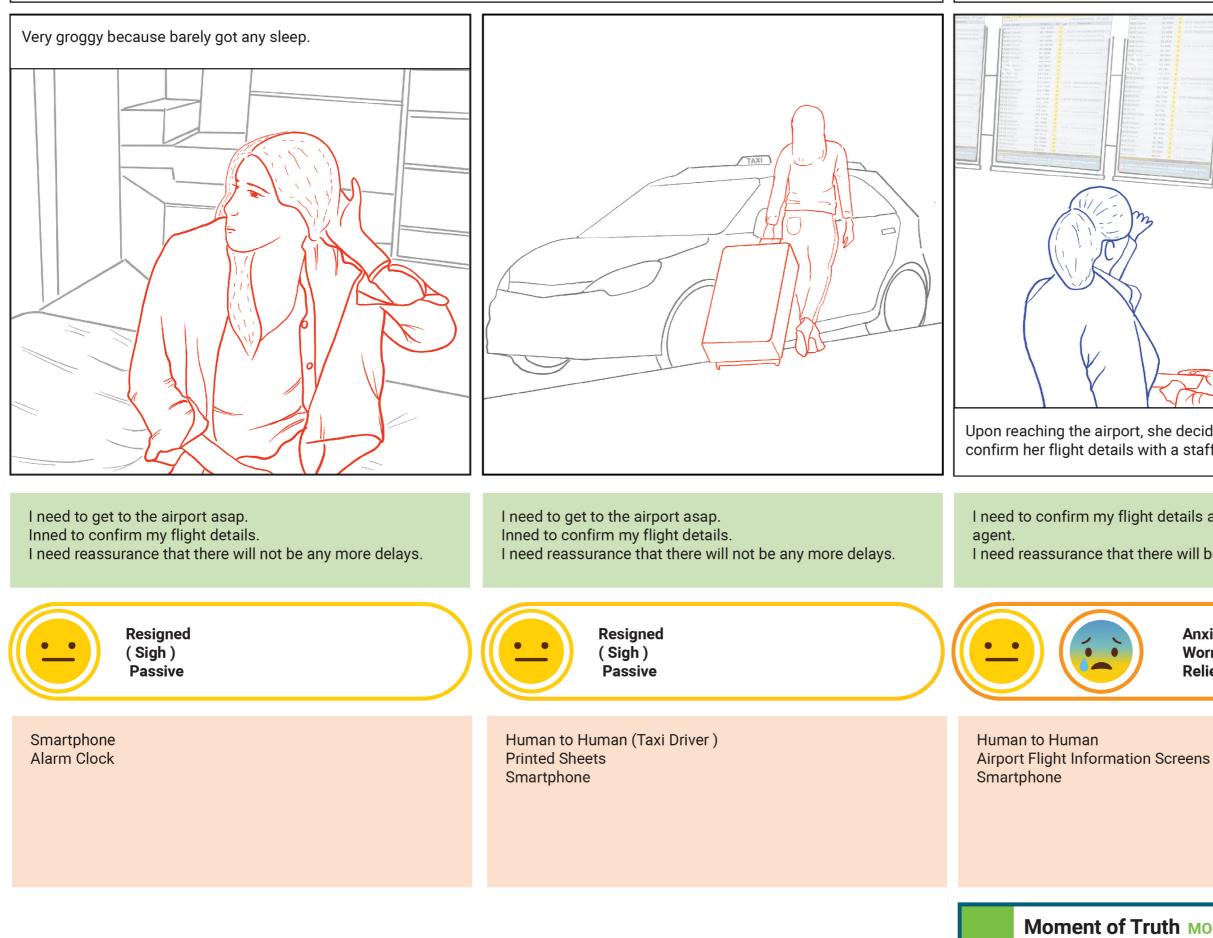
### **AT HOTEL**



# 3 Hrs Later...



#### **LEAVING HOTEL**



Forced??) disruption.

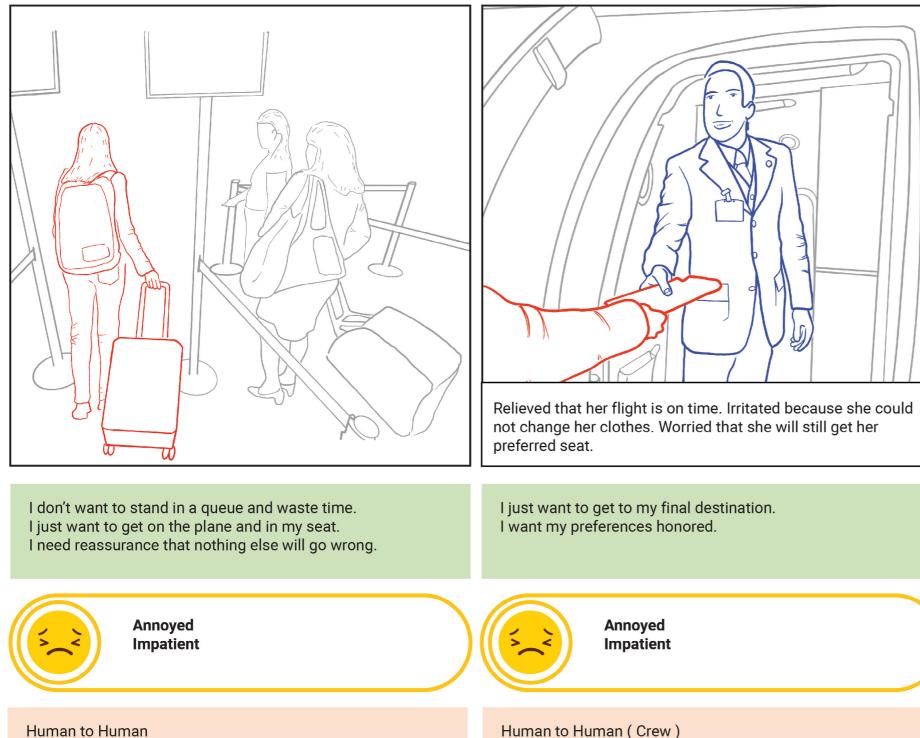
## **REACHING SCHIPHOL**

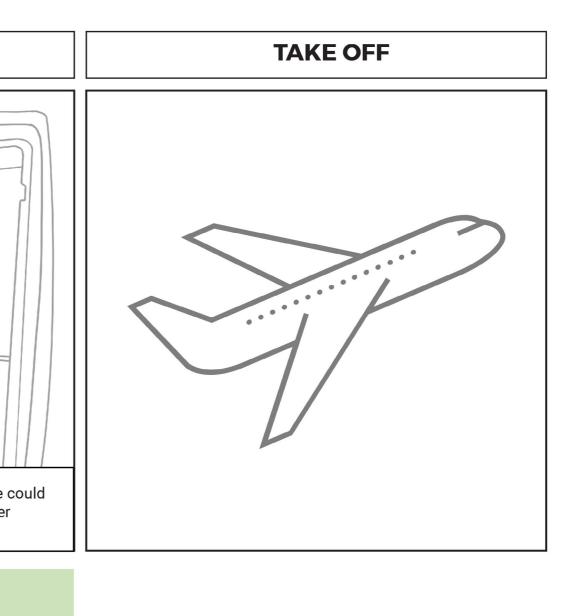
oort, she decides to double check and ils with a staff member.
flight details and status with a senior hat there will be no further problems.
Anxious Worried Relieved

#### Moment of Truth MOG (Moment of Glory) (

Reassured but feels like a MOG only because of the

#### **BOARDING**



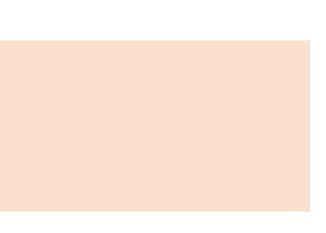


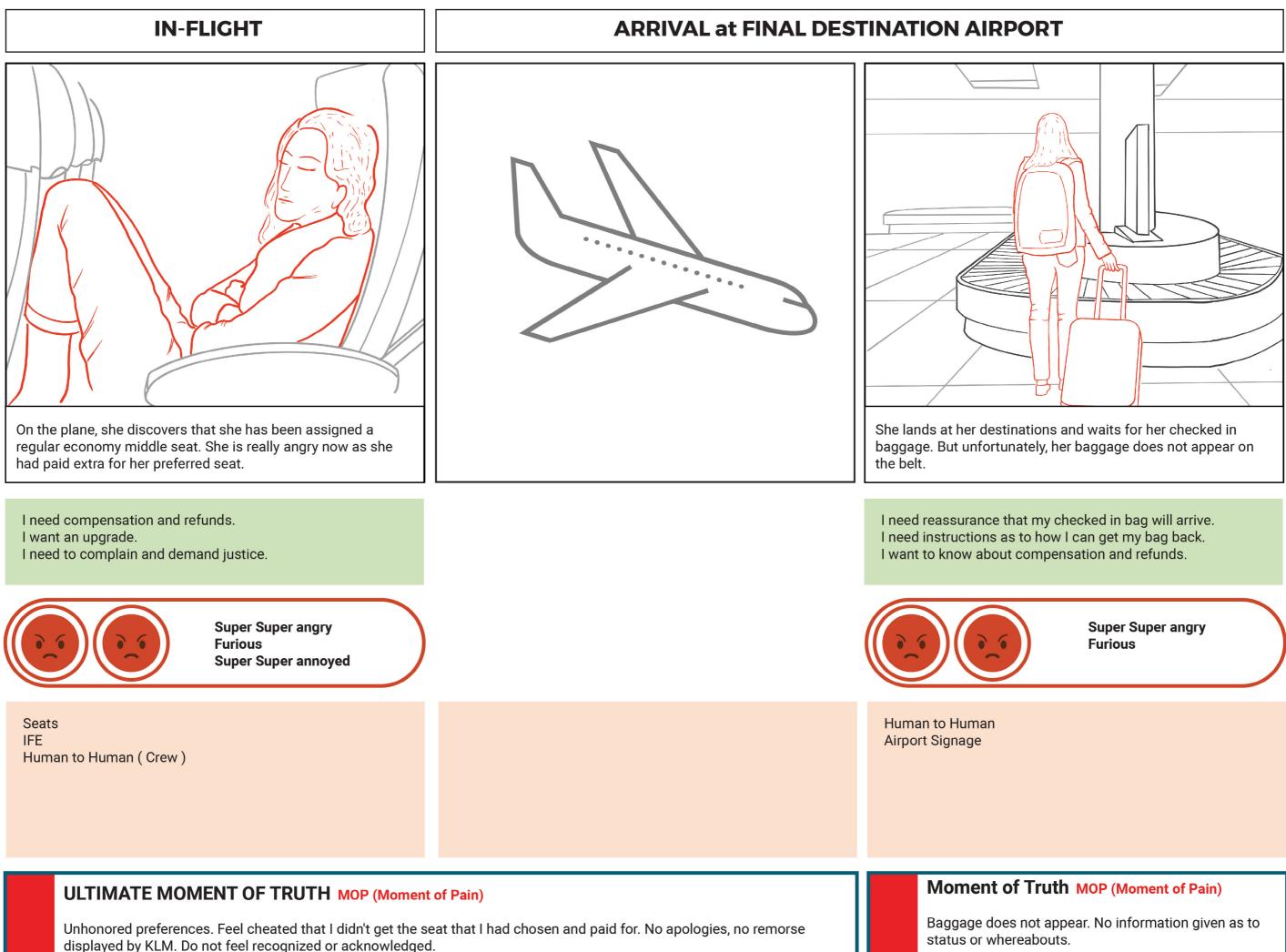
Human to Human ( Crew ) Smartphone (Boarding Pass)

#### Moment of Truth MOG (Moment of Glory) **SMALL**

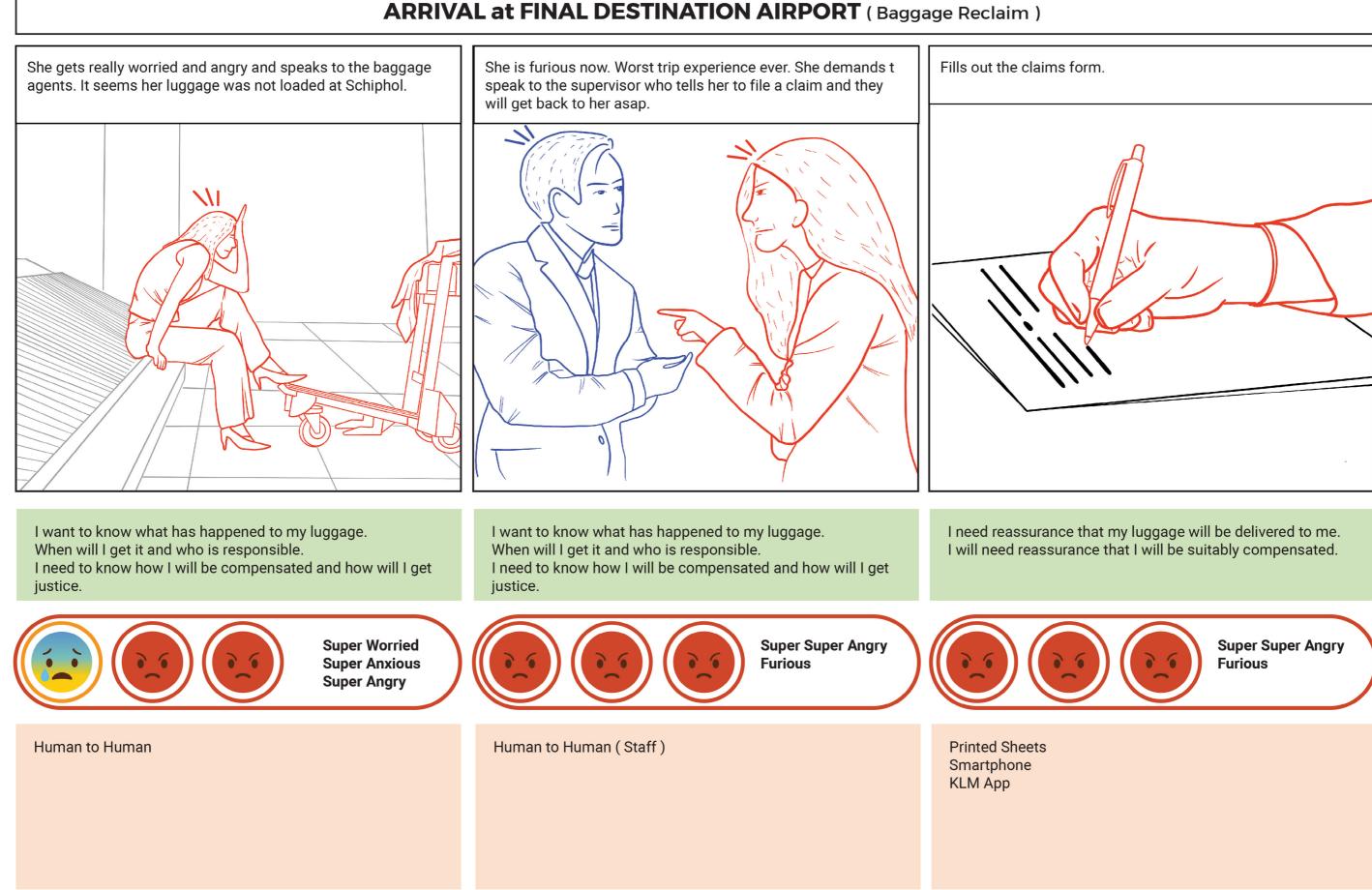
E

Very small moment. Not registered because it seems rehearsed and basic. Acknowledged but impersonal.





### **ARRIVAL at FINAL DESTINATION AIRPORT (Baggage Reclaim)**

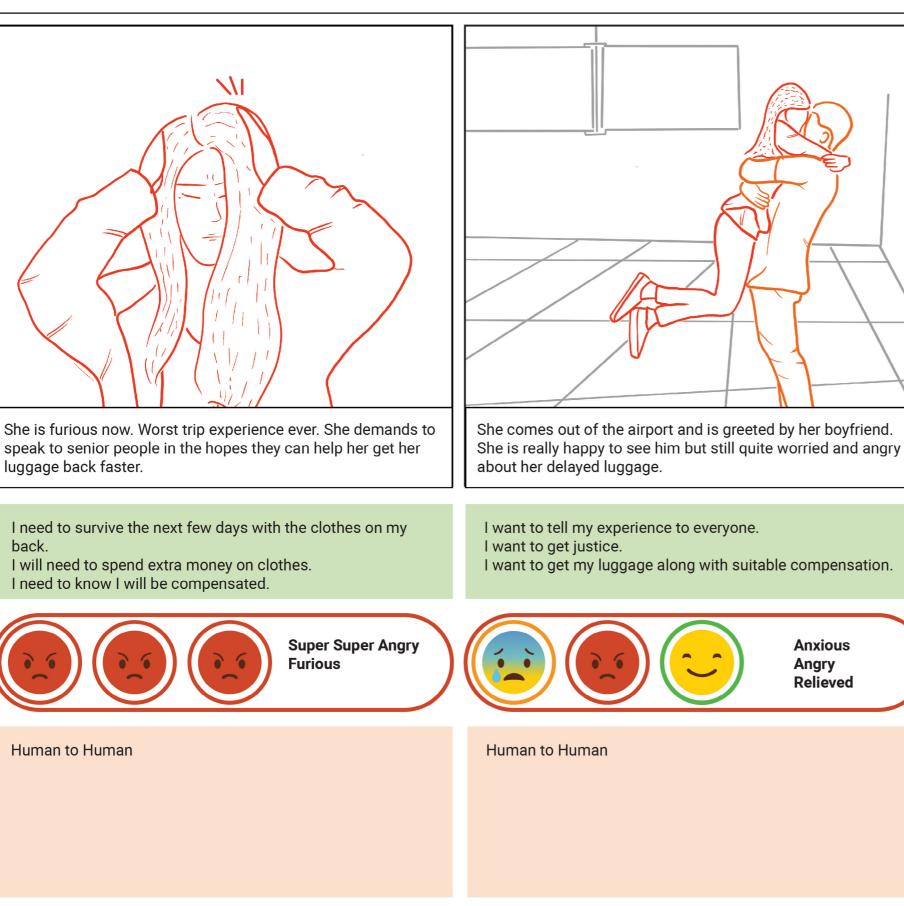


#### ULTIMATE MOMENT OF TRUTH MOP (Moment of Pain)

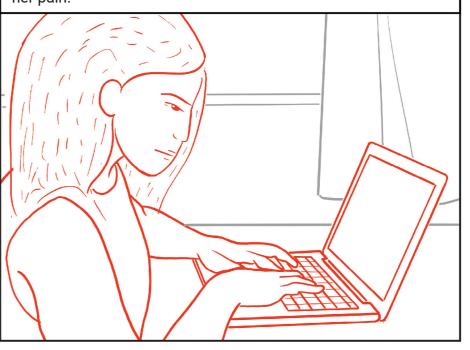
Who is responsible - KLM? Airport? Subcontractors?. No information or recourse provided. Process unclear and opaque.

#### **EXIT FROM AIRPORT**

### LOOK BACK & FOLLOW UP



Spends 2 days following up with KLM. Also posts on social media and informs friends and family. She gets frustrated and starts to look up the process on KLM's website. Also searches and talks to other people and experts for advice on how to get compensation. Feels vindictive and feels like KLM should feel her pain.



I need to follow up all the time to make sure my case is being looked into. I need reassurance that my luggage will be found and delivered.



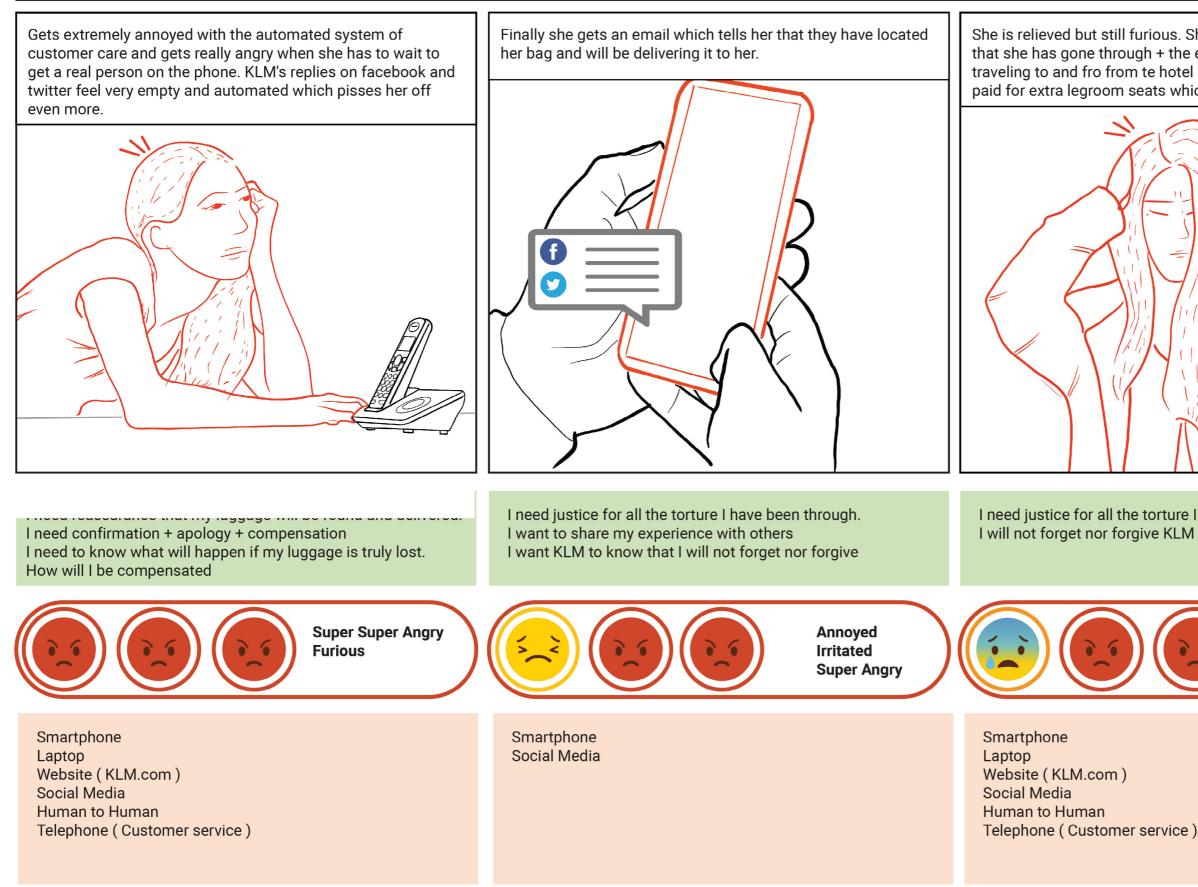
Smartphone Laptop Website (KLM.com) Social Media Human to Human Telephone (Customer service)

#### Moment of Truth MOP (Moment of Pain)

No response from KLM. Apologies do not seem sincere. No transparency as to what is being done to resolve this.



#### LOOK BACK & FOLLOW UP



#### ULTIMATE MOMENT OF TRUTH MOP (Moment of Pain)

Waiting is the worst. Waiting without any information update is way worse. No sense of urgency shown by KLM to the passenger. Apologies seem insincere. Standard replies. Feels like you are talking to a robot rather than a person. Even though, bag has been found, no compensation or extras offered to make up for dreadful experience. Does not seem fair. Do not feel valued or acknowledged as a KLM passenger.

She is relieved but still furious. She wants compensation for all that she has gone through + the extra money that she spent on traveling to and fro from te hotel + the extra money that she paid for extra legroom seats which she did not get on her flight. I need justice for all the torture I have been through. Super Worried **Super Anxious** Super Angry