

Designing a Soul Without a Face

Why Mio v2 abandoned avatars for a pulsing light orb.

The Pivot

The Burden of a Face (Human Avatars)

- Triggers the uncanny valley (creepiness in micro-expressions)
- Strict App Store scrutiny for parasocial manipulation
- Anchored to specific cultures (e.g., a Chengdu girl preset)

The Freedom of an Orb (Mio v2)

- Zero cultural baggage; universally global
- Ambient, abstract emotional core
- Sidesteps roleplaying a fictional character

Emotion State:
HAPPY (Warm Gold).
Bouncing motion with
outward particles.

Conversational Onboarding

Personality isn't configured. It emerges.

1. The Seed

"I just arrived..." Natural dialogue extracts a baseline vibe. Slang tilts the AI casual; long sentences mirror formal registers.

2. The Voice

The only hard choice. Users pick 1 of 4 physical voice samples, as voice cannot be inferred from text.

3. The Refinement

Gradual drift. A lightweight extractor updates the persona subtly based on daily interaction patterns.

hmm!

Emotion State: CALM (Pale Blue).
Slow, rhythmic breathing.

Emotion as Ambient Body Language

Sidestepping the complexity of facial micro-expressions.

Emotion State:
SAD (Muted Purple).
Shrinking inward,
slower pulse rate.

The Core Concept:

Abstract forms invite projection. Users fill in the gaps and feel what they need to feel.

Variable 1: Color

Mapped directly to
the emotional state
(Mood).

Variable 2: Motion

Mapped directly to the
animation intensity
(Energy).

AI Light Orb

Built for One Relationship

Radical UI simplicity powered by React Native Skia

Chat: 99% of your time

Orb + Messages. No tabs. No badges.

Settings: Hidden away.

Voice, memory, account.

Tech Stack: React Native Skia renders the orb via GPU shaders (60fps).

Emotion states change via real-time parameter interpolation, not pre-baked keyframes.

Emotion State: **SLEEPY (Deep Blue)**

Nearly still, occasional faint flicker.





Memory & Scale

True companionship is shaped by shared history.

Mio v1 (Authored)

Fixed cultural personas.
Hard to scale
internationally because
local characters must
be manually built for
each region.

Mio v2 (Emergent)

Language-agnostic.
The AI learns user
preferences (e.g.,
directness, hobbies)
through a growing corpus
of memory accumulation.

Emotion State: **EXCITED**

(Bright Orange/Pink).
Rapid expansion with
scattering particles.

**After 3 months, two users who name their AI
'Mio' will have completely different companions,
uniquely adapted to their actual relationship.**