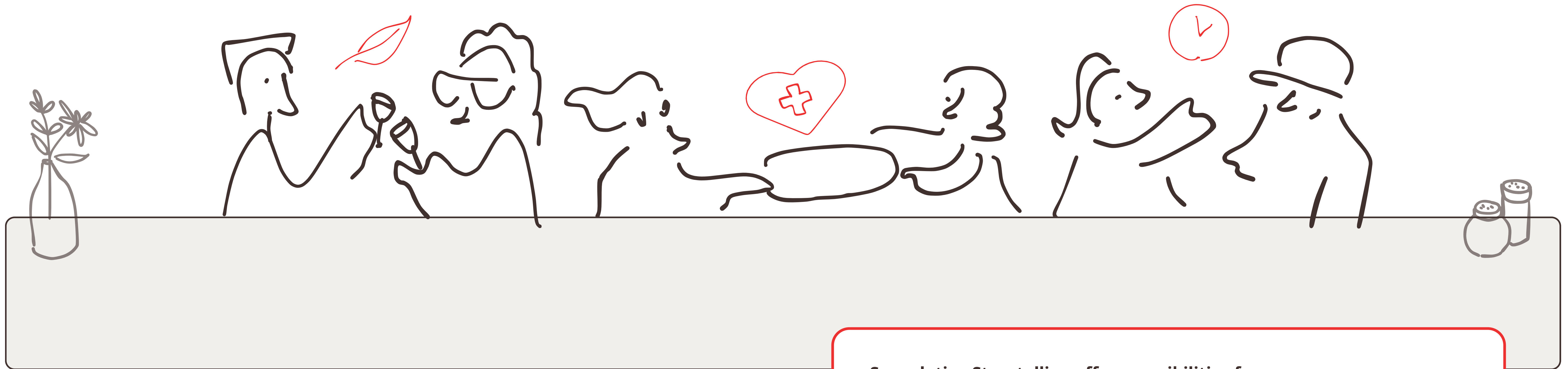


SETTING THE TABLE

Collective storytelling about the future with a
community, Volkskeuken



This research explores how community storytelling at Volkskeuken, a communal dining initiative at Verhalenhuis Belvédère in Rotterdam, can shift from reflecting on the past to imagining inclusive futures. Rooted in a multicultural setting, Volkskeuken brings people together through shared meals and personal narratives. This study introduces speculative storytelling as a way to envision community-driven futures.



Speculative Storytelling offers possibilities for...

- Deepened Self-Understanding: Workshops helped participants reflect on their roles, relationships, and values within Volkskeuken, sparking conversations about identity, inclusion, and the future of the community.
- Relational Futures Thinking: By centering speculative storytelling on relationships rather than abstract goals, participants envisioned futures grounded in care, collaboration, and shared purpose—both within Volkskeuken and in connection to greater Rotterdam.

Crystal Mah

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