

Comics in Academia: A Visual Insight to its Trends & Innovation

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Abstract—Comics are among the notable medium in the creative industry. Comic Studies is an academic field that focuses on comics that examines comics from the point of view of critical analysis in terms of genre, style, formal properties, history and various more. This paper is intended to illustrate the important insight of comic studies which purposely demonstrates the reason why this hybrid medium is gaining interest among the academia. First, the article begins with the debatable definition of comics. Then, the disciplines that involve comics are briefly outlined. For the most part, the discussion focuses on the success of comics in education. Finally, this paper explores how this unique art form has earned recognition from the scientific community. From the discussion, further scholarly works on comics and are highly encouraged.

Index Terms—comic studies, graphic novel, graphic narrative, visual communication.



1 INTRODUCTION

COMIC studies are becoming an established field in Academia. The rising number of articles published in practitioner journals which accentuated comics' literary potential [1] had instigated university programs in the UK to officially incorporate comics as part of their curricula [2]. Further serious recognition towards comic is exhibited when more institutions offer the avenue to study comics at postgraduate level [3].

As stressed by [4], comics deserve a critical and scholarly attention as much as prose-based novels and traditional films due to their presentation and development complexity. As a result, comics are attracting widespread interest in the field beyond art such as education, cognitive science, and multimedia [5]. Being the oldest form of non-photorealistic visual representation, [6] stated that the study of comics has been executed for a long time. [7] articulated that analyzing the multimodality of comics is as important as understanding the internet, film, and television. Successively, the increasing number of comic-centric MA theses and doctoral dissertation submitted to ProQuest demonstrates the growth of comic studies as an actual field [8].

2 OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

Following the innovative footsteps of [9], [10], and [11], who published their academic articles in a comic form, this paper is intended to illustrate the important insight of comic studies which purposely demonstrates the reason why this hybrid medium is attaining interest among the academia. Fig. 1 visualizes the breakdown of topics within the comic.

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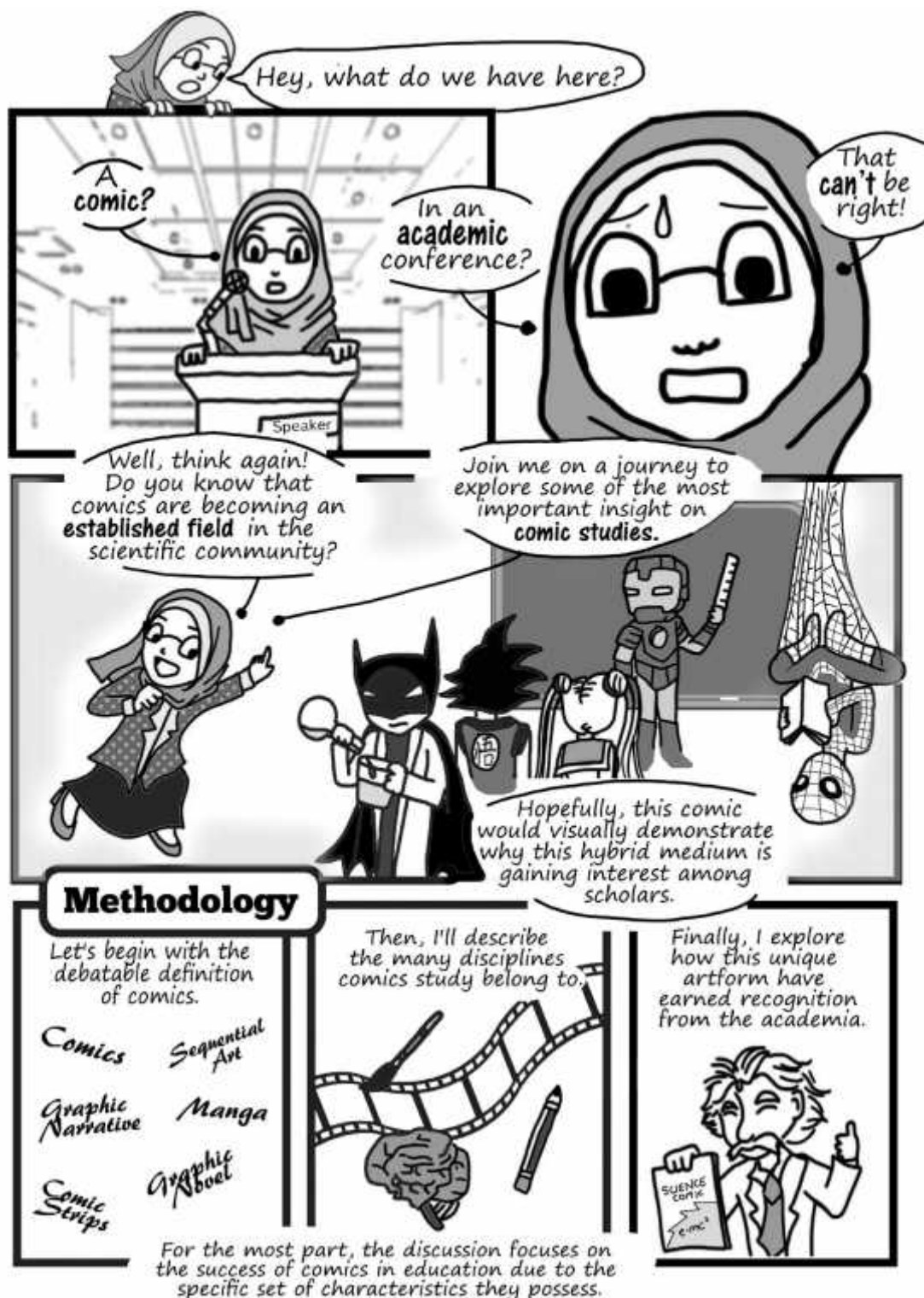


Fig. 1. Comic Page 1.

3 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In Fig. 2, the debatable definition of comics and the interdisciplinary nature of comic studies are explored.

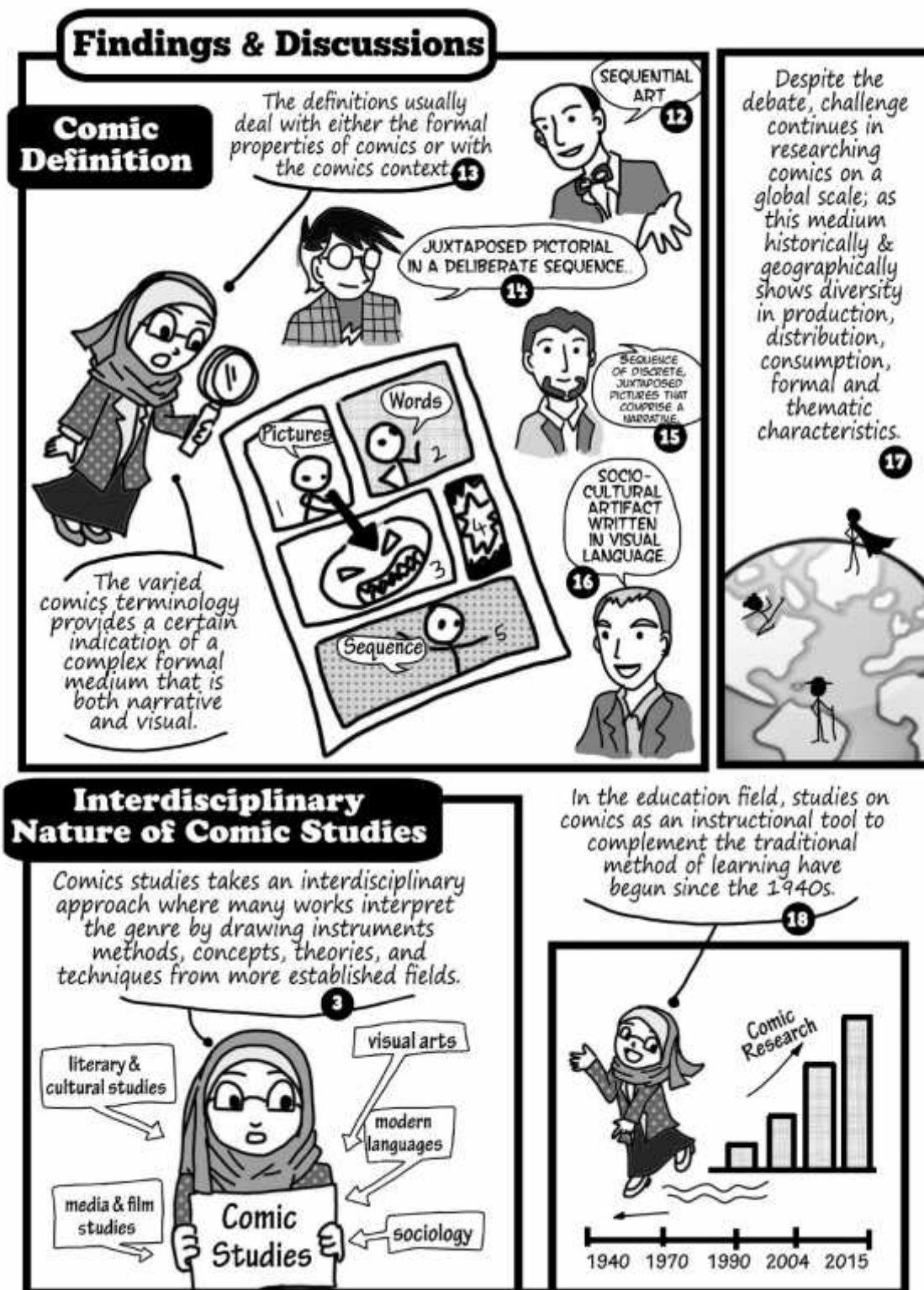


Fig.2. Comic Page 2.

Next, Fig. 3 discusses furthermore on the adoption of comics in educational settings.

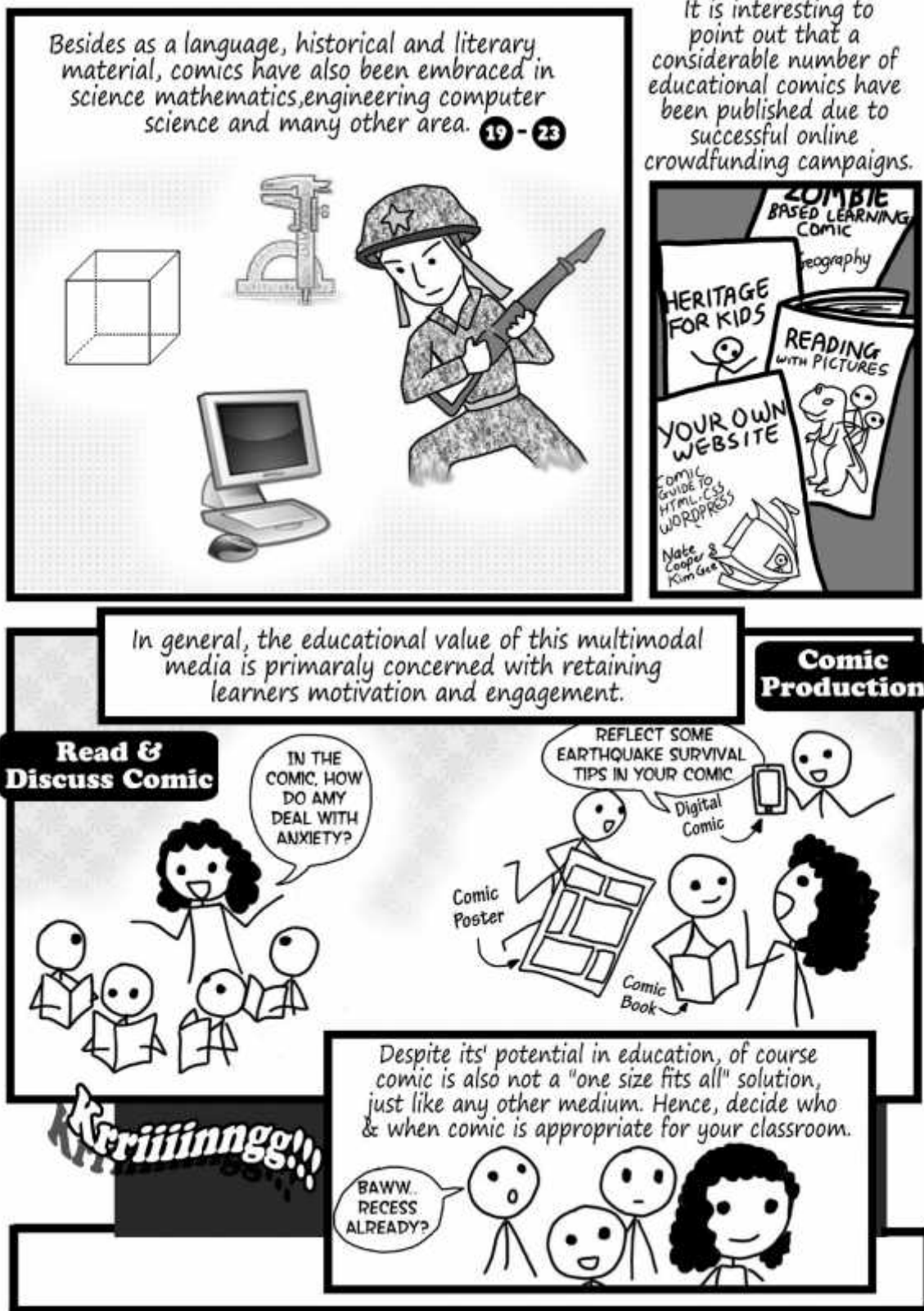


Fig.3. Comic Page 3.

Finally, the innovation of comics in research is concluded in Figure 4.

cultural, educational, and cognitive phenomenon, the prominence of the multi-disciplinary study of comics and the form as used in various media should not be overlooked.

CONCLUSION

As a conclusion, witnessing scholars growing direction to a deeper understanding of comics as a literary, artistic,

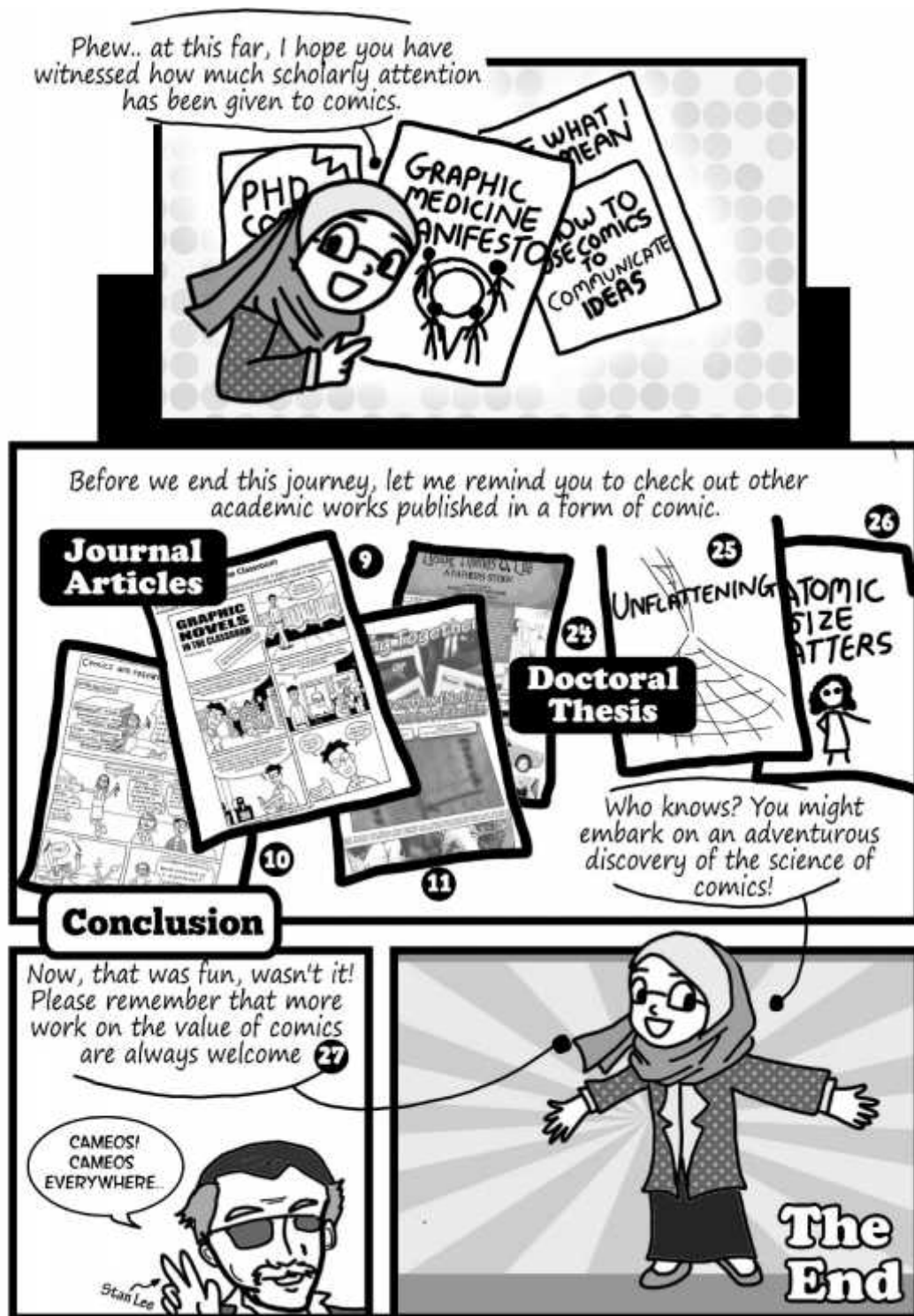


Fig.4. Comic Page 4.

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