CMX 304: Making Comics 1
IX: Picture-less improv comic

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Response Gallery 22: Picture-less improv comic. 7-panels picture-less 1 page comic

Instructions: You may draw up the 7 panels before you start or as you go. Panel will have no drawings in a representational sense – this is a comic made of panel borders, words, word supports (word balloons, thought bubbles, captions, SFX), and emanata (symbols emanating from a character (unseen in this case) that indicate some sort of internal state). The comic must use at least 7 of following as you see fit (if you want more randomness to it, roll a die to see which option you use for each panel, but this is not necessary!). You may use multiple options in a single panel, and you may invent a new option (please name it!):

1. word balloon or other dialogue device
2. Shouting dialogue/whispering dialogue
3. Other multimodal form of dialogue (icy text, overly friendly, ...)
4. play with where the word balloon tails come from/shaped like...
5. A narrative caption
6. A sound effect
7. Sound effect or balloon that transgresses panel borders
8. Thought balloon
9. Title lettering (ala Eisner’s The Spirit and certainly Krazy Kat as well...)
10. Some bit of words gleaned from a recent text message or similar on your phone
11. Emanata (symbols emanating from a character (here unseen) giving insight into internal/emotional state
12. Sound/voice coming from outside setting – mediated by phone, radio, zoom, something that indicates it is transmitted from elsewhere
13. Panel in the shape of a word?
14. Hint at what's been unseen in all the panels...
Mikyla
For this activity, I chose to include color which I have not done for the majority of the semester. I felt that without being constrained to what I am able to draw, I was able to be more creative with this comic. The lack of images also allows for more mystery and tension because it leaves it up to the reader to fill in the blanks.
The monitor is normal.

"It sure is"

Does that mean I can go home?

... ? ?

Ms. Evans, do you know why you're in the hospital?

I...

You're on a 72 hour hold.

Can I call my dad?

"Your father knows you're here."

Please? I want to talk to my dad.

Hello?
Pictureless Comic

Drawing a comic without pictures was hard for me. I kept thinking that there should be a reason why there is no pictures in the comic, so the only thing I could think of at the time was that the lights were off and characters could not see anything either.
Cody:

I KNOW WHERE WE ARE...

WHERE ARE WE?

I'm lost.

Jennifer:

When are they going to stop arguing?

Sigh...

Yes, stupid...

I don't care...

There's still something...

There goes the vase.

Hi! Great look what they did!

I'm all alone.

She can hear us?

She asked, 'Nope, I'm awake here.'
Pictureless Comic

This activity required us to make a story without pictures. I struggled at first, but I think it worked well in the end. I played around with the panels and speech bubbles and wrote a story of a guard scolding a colleague for falling asleep on the job.
Pictureless Comic

For this comic we had to use just words and panels to tell the story.

Naturally when I imagine a comic without pictures, I think of a character stumbling in the dark. So for my comic that's the story I decided to tell.
AFTER QUITE A BIT OF CONVINCING, MY FRIENDS GOTA ME TO SLEDDOWN A MASSIVE HILL...

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THIS STINKIN' SLED!

IT WILL BE FINE. DON'T THINK ABOUT IT.

HERE I GO... WHEE WHEE WHEE!

WATCH OUT!

AHHH! THERES SO MANY TREES!

IT'S OKAY, EVERYONE!

HUH?

BUMP!

WHEE!

OODD... OH... MY HEAD...
Long, long ago

There lived a...

'Princess'

She preferred other titles

That better fit her life, style of passions, flying, and powerful magic.

Look at her skills!

So if you meet her in your wanderings, you'll know.

The Witch
KNOCK KNOCK!

ANYONE HOME?!

"HELLOOOO?"!

DING DONG? DING DONG DING DING DING DING DING!

Step, Step, Step, Step

PHEUU!!

*beep*

*beep*

*beep*

*beep*

Thank You! Love already!

Please go away!

*beep*

Face down!

Aghhh!
BOUNCE
Lillard from half-court!!

BANG!

Stephen Curry dribbles the ball to half court

BOUNCE BOUNC

CURRY FROM HALF-COURT

[can't believe we ended the half like that]

SPASH

WOOOOO!!!
Hey!
Yeah?
Let's hide here.

CRASH!

Dang it!

Hey!

Shhh!

They're gonna find us.

Have you found them?

Not yet...

Silence

There you are!
I really liked making the pictureless comic, although I don’t think it’s a format that I will use in the future because I like adding drawings to my comic. Coming up with the idea behind this comic and the placement of the speech bubbles, use of colors, and different fonts was very fun for me trying to show two different people speaking without actually showing those people.
WAKE
UP
CRASH!

Im up
Jeez
I'm
Fragile

PSHH

SHIT

DING
DONG!!!

Get the
door!

 Uh...

Package
for ya
Congrats
on
my
new
Nikwax!!!

No prob...

I coughed

in

my

mouth

Cough!!

Who
was it?

Mail
man with
my
Nikwax.
He called me
an
nerd

Well...

you are

kinda

nerdy

Wow

thanks

I feel the

love...

Cherokee
Turning off the light at the bottom of the stairs you feel like you’ve trapped and every noise heard fills you with nothing but dread.

**WHAT’S THAT NOISE?**

**I’M HOME ALONE...**

**CHEEEEAAHHH**

You tell yourself:

- don’t turn around
- don’t turn around
- don’t turn around

**Don’t turn around**

Don’t turn around don’t turn around don’t turn around don’t turn around

You shutter to think what would you do if you actually saw something if you turned around.

The closer you get to the top of the stairs the more you crave the freedom from the fear and then you finally make it to the door.

Brian and Katie were nowhere to be seen.
Matthew

1. Click

2. Click

3. Bang

4. Ahh, my toe!

5. Step step step

6. Crash

7. Two hours later

8. Phone rings. Thank you for calling, PAPA.

9. Please note that a representative will be with you shortly.

10. I'm going to sleep

11. W.T.F.