

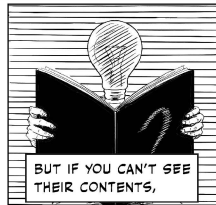
COMICS BEYOND SIGHT

A Highly Visual Case for Blind Access

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COMICS TAKE US PLACES.



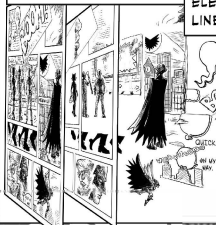
BUT IF YOU CAN'T SEE THEIR CONTENTS,

THOSE PLACES ARE CLOSED OFF.

HOW MIGHT COMICS BE MADE ACCESSIBLE FOR BLIND AND LOW VISION READERS?

COMICS ARE A DECEPTIVELY COMPLEX NETWORK.

ELEMENTS INTERACTING IN LINEAR AND NON-LINEAR WAYS. EVEN

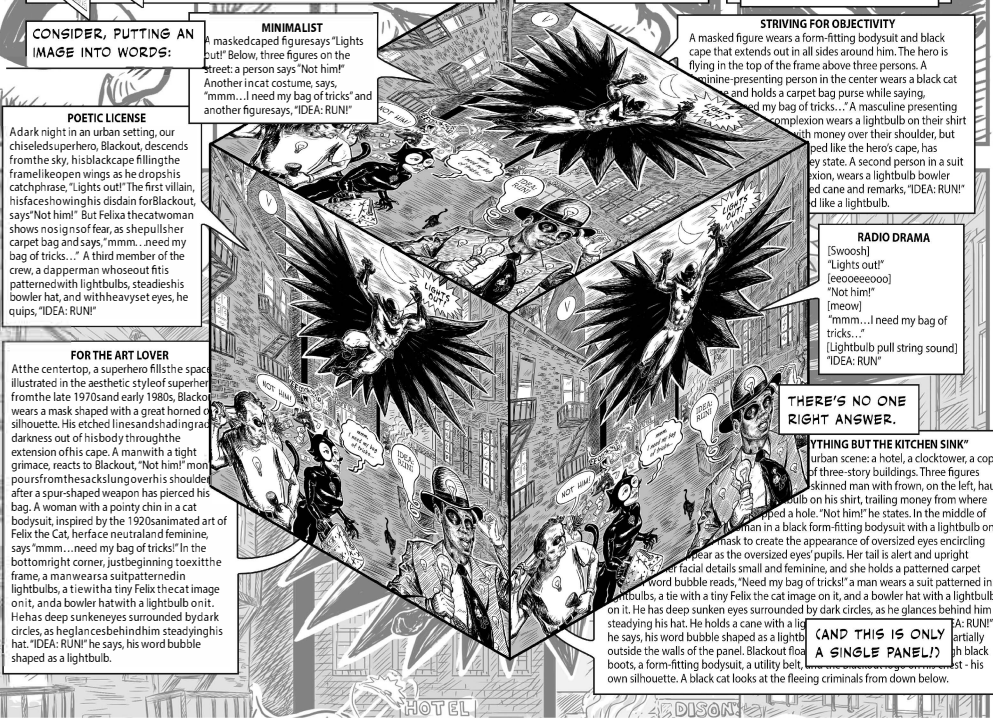


CONSIDER, PUTTING AN IMAGE INTO WORDS:

MINIMALIST
A masked cape figure says "Lights out!" Below, three figures on the street: a person says "Not him!" Another in a cat costume, says, "mmm...I need my bag of tricks!" and another figure says, "IDEA: RUN!"

POETIC LICENSE
A dark night in an urban setting, our chiseled superhero, Blackout, descends from the sky, his black cape filling the frame like open wings as he drops his catchphrase, "Lights out!" The first villain, his face showing his disdain for Blackout, says "Not him!" But Felixa the catwoman shows no signs of fear, as she pulls her carpet bag and says, "mmm...need my bag of tricks..." A third member of the crew, a dapper man whose outfit is patterned with lightbulbs, steadies his bowler hat, and with heavy eyes, he quips, "IDEA: RUN!"

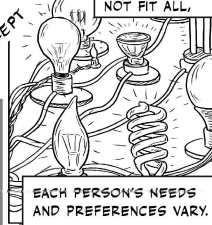
FOR THE ART LOVER
At the bottom right corner, just beginning to exit the frame, a man wears a suit encrusted with lightbulbs, a tie with a tiny Felix the cat image on it, and a bowler hat with a lightbulb on it. He has deep sunken eyes surrounded by dark circles, as he glances behind him standing in his "IDEA: RUN!" he says, his word bubble shaped as a lightbulb.



THAT THIS MEANS IS A VISUAL CONCEPT

ACCESS IS NECESSARILY MESSY.

ONE SIZE DOES NOT FIT ALL.



EACH PERSON'S NEEDS AND PREFERENCES VARY.

STRIVING FOR OBJECTIVITY

A masked figure wears a form-fitting bodysuit and black cape that extends out in all sides around him. The hero is flying in the top of the frame above three persons. A villain presenting person in the center wears a black cat mask and holds a carpet bag purse while saying, "Need my bag of tricks..." A masculine presenting person wears a lightbulb on their shirt with money over their shoulder, but he is not the hero's cape, has a suit. A second person in a suit with a lightbulb bowler hat and cane and remarks, "IDEA: RUN!" and like a lightbulb.

RADIO DRAMA
(Swoosh)
"Lights out!"
(eooooeoooo)
"Not him!"
(meow)
"mmm...I need my bag of tricks..."
(Lightbulb pull string sound)
"IDEA: RUN!"

THERE'S NO ONE RIGHT ANSWER.

NOTHING BUT THE KITCHEN SINK
urban scene: a hotel, a clocktower, a cop of three-story buildings. Three figures: a masked man with frown, on the left, hauls money on his shirt, trailing money from where he stepped a hole. "Not him!" he states. In the middle of the frame, a man in a black form-fitting bodysuit with a lightbulb on his chest and a lightbulb on his head. He has deep sunken eyes surrounded by dark circles, as he glances behind him standing in his "IDEA: RUN!" he says, his word bubble shaped as a lightbulb. Outside the walls of the panel, Blackout floats in a black form-fitting bodysuit, a utility belt, a tie with a tiny Felix the cat image on it, and a bowler hat with a lightbulb on it. He has deep sunken eyes surrounded by dark circles, as he glances behind him standing in his "IDEA: RUN!" he says, his word bubble shaped as a lightbulb. Outside the walls of the panel, Blackout floats in a black form-fitting bodysuit, a utility belt, a tie with a tiny Felix the cat image on it, and a bowler hat with a lightbulb on it. He has deep sunken eyes surrounded by dark circles, as he glances behind him standing in his "IDEA: RUN!" he says, his word bubble shaped as a lightbulb.

(AND THIS IS ONLY A SINGLE PANEL.)

AMBIENT SOUND

Audio Adaptations

CONVEY DRAMA RICH DESCRIPTION

DIALOGUE FACTORS

Assistive Technologies

BREAK DOWN BARRIERS TO GRASP A COMIC'S ORIGINAL FORM.

Tactile Renderings

ALLOW THINKING IN PICTURES.

KEY Nothing about us without us.

FOR ACCESS IS AN ART OF TRANSLATION - ITS OWN CREATIVE JOURNEY.

FOR INSTANCE, WHAT WORKS VISUALLY MAY NOT TO TOUCH.

NEW HORIZONS TO BE EXPLORED.

EVERYONE DESERVES ACCESS TO THE PLACES COMICS TAKE US.

WITH MULTIMODAL TOOLS, COMICS CAN GO BEYOND SIGHT!

WITH WORDS AND SOUNDS TO FIND ITS OWN PATH.

TO MAKE AN ACCESSIBLE VERSION, WE PRESERVED THE MEANING OF THE DRAWN COMIC -

THIS COMIC TAKES DELIBERATE ADVANTAGE OF THE VISUAL AFFORDANCES COMICS OFFER -

DENSELY LAYERING IDEAS IN WHAT ONLY COMICS CAN DO.

BOTH AIM TO PROVIDE A DISTINCT EXPERIENCE.

WITH MULTIMODAL TOOLS, COMICS CAN GO BEYOND SIGHT!