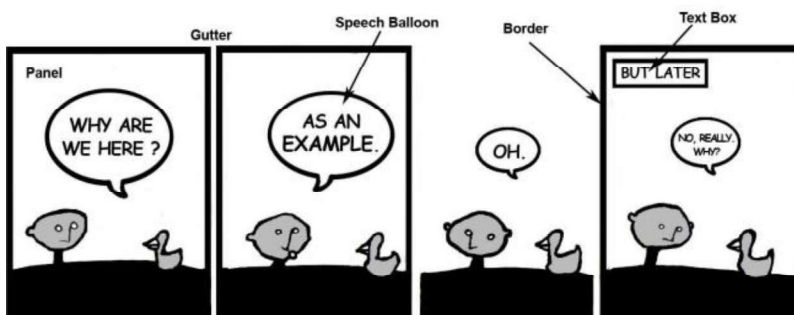


Comic Strip Analysis (A condensation from: [comic.original.pdf \(duke.edu\)](#) /Lone Thoft 2022)

Page layout

How is the page organized? (look at variety, shape, size, if they vary, how does it affect the meaning?)

- **Panels:** Single frames placed in a sequence. Normally rectangular borders but can have any shape, even no border at all.
- **Pictorial images:** Each picture in the panel, normally containing drawings, painting, photographs, text, speech, thought balloons, text boxes.
- **Gutter:** The blank area outside the borders of the panel.



Art style

What is your first impression of the art style? Use the film expressions to analyse the framing (long shot, close up, zoom, ultra-zoom), angles (bird's eye view, worm's eye perspective, point of view)

- Is there color, and, if so, what is the palette?
- Is the style cartoonish, abstract, photo-realistic, etc.?
- What does that tell you about the world the creator(s) are depicting?
- Are there backgrounds? If so, are they detailed or schematic?
- Does the point of view remain constant (as in the example above), or does it vary? If so, how?
- Does the art focus your attention on particular actions? How?

Text and Image



Alan Moore and David Gibbon, *Watchmen*. New York: DC Comics, 1987. Chapter III, page 1.

How do the **text boxes** comment on the main scene? (Ironically, neutral background information)

- Is there color, and, if so, what is the palate?
- What do the speech balloons tell us about the characters (tone, mood, characterization, volume)
- Are there any sign texts? What do they tell us about the narrative/setting?