

Cour, Erin La, Universiteit van Amsterdam, Netherlands

Queering the Medium

The graphic novel offers an interesting perspective on the discourse of the term “medium.” Using Rosalind Krauss’ argument, this paper establishes graphic novels as their own medium through illuminating their self-reflexivity, which at once elevates them from comics, which she argues are “the most degraded form of mass ‘literature,’” and simultaneously queers the idea of high vs. low art. Through an exploration of Alison Bechdel’s *Fun Home: A Family Tragicomic*, this paper will explore both time and space within the graphic novel, paying close attention to the functions of the image both in terms of its individually-paced viewing vs. the real-time viewing of cinematic visual forms, as well as its ability to explore sexuality, and specifically homosexual sexuality, in a mass-produced manner not subject to the censorship of other mass media.