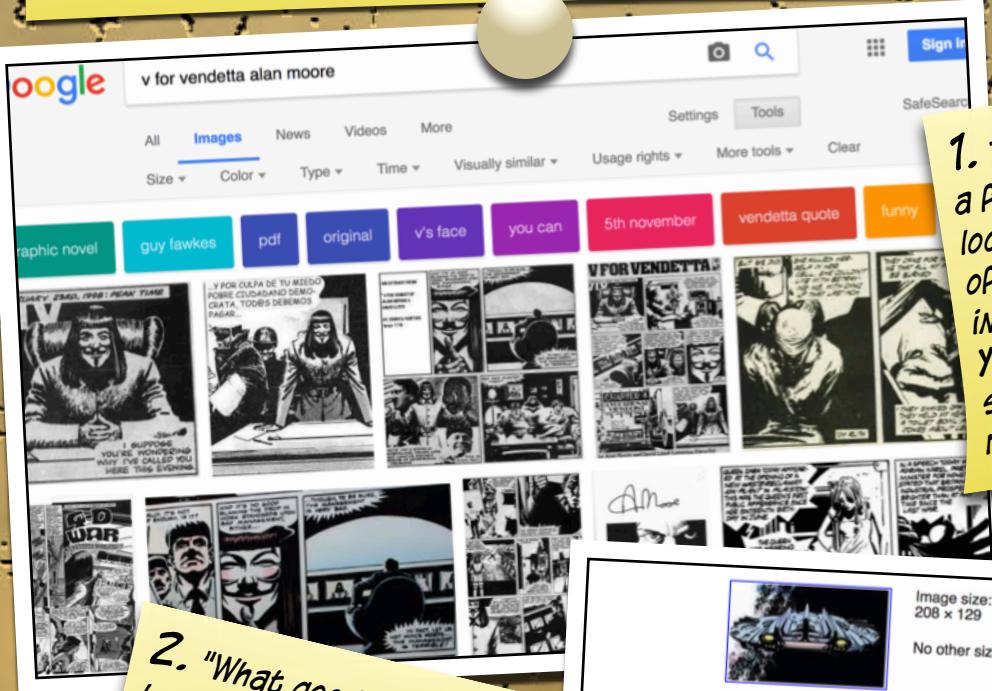


# Reverse-Image Lookup



1. The giant search engines support a feature called "reverse-image lookup." You can either enter the URL of an online image, or upload an image file, and Google, Bing, and Yandex will try to identify its source and match similar image resources on the web! Cool!



Was Valerian a Star Wars Inspiration? How the Franchise Copied ...  
<https://www.thrillist.com/entertainment/nation/valerian-comics-star-wars-inspiration> ...  
Jul 20, 2017 - There Would Be No 'Star Wars' Without This Wild French Comic From the 60s ... In the n volume, The World Without Stars, Valerian rescues ...

'Valerian and the City of a Thousand Planets' Borrows From the 'Star ...  
[www.hollywoodreporter.com/.../valerian-city-a-thousand-planets-borrows-star-wars-p...](http://www.hollywoodreporter.com/.../valerian-city-a-thousand-planets-borrows-star-wars-p...) ...  
Jul 22, 2017 - 'Valerian' Learned a Few Tricks From the 'Star Wars' Prequels. Luc Besson's ambitious fi suffers from the same pitfalls as George Lucas' ...

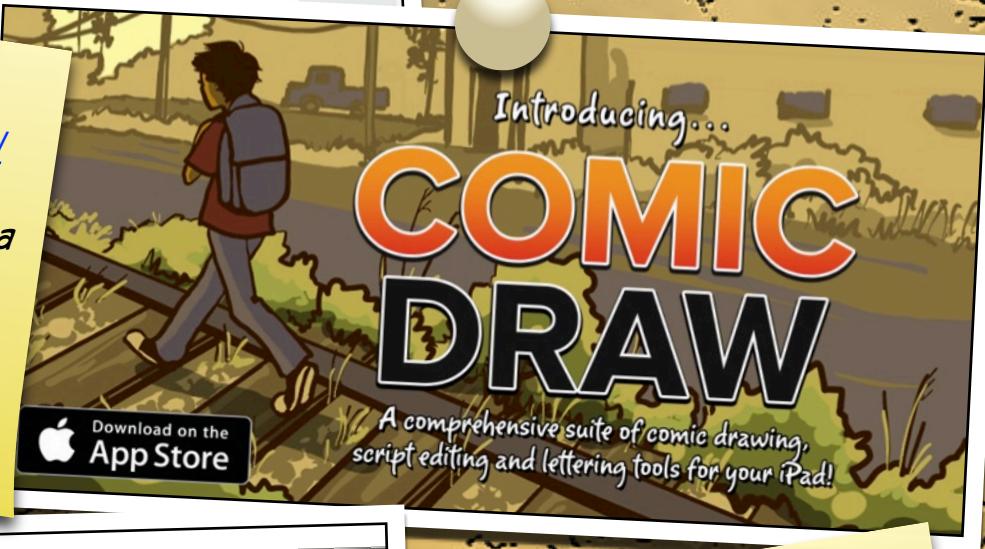
Visually similar images



3. "Intertextuality" describes the situation when one text is dependent on another, a basic "factual" undergirding humanistic research. Art historians plot the migration of images over time and across variant media. "Reverse-image lookups" harness the power of big data to perform similar analyses of the "Web of Images".

4. How do I do it? First, you need an image file. It is easy to "grab" most graphic web content by using the "save image as" web browser feature, activated by the contextual menu with your computer mouse.

5. Try it: Go to [https://www.facebook.com/pg/plasqcom/about/?ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/pg/plasqcom/about/?ref=page_internal), right-click on the banner, and save it as a jpg (give it a sensible name first). Save it somewhere where you will remember it.



Reverse Image Search

REVERSE IMAGE SEARCH

Enter Image (url)...

Search Similar Images

6. Now, navigate to <http://www.reverse-image-search.com/>, hit the blue button to the left of the "enter image (url)...", locate the image file in your computer, and click "choose".

G Images that are similar with your provided image according to Google Check Images

B Images that are similar with your provided image according to Bing Check Images

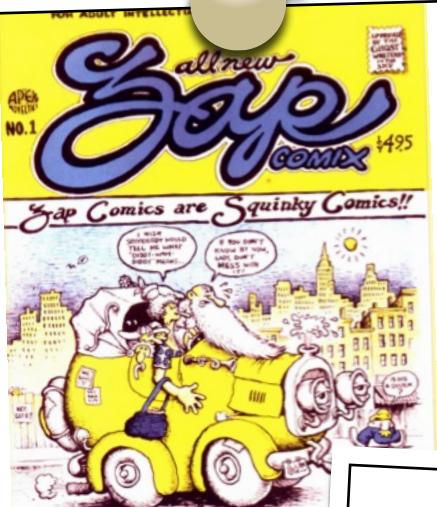
Y Images that are similar with your provided image according to Yandex Check Images

7. Hit the "Search Similar Images" button. You should see three blue boxes with "Check Images" options. Each of these will upload the image to Google, Bing and Yandex reverse-image lookup portals. Try it!



8. That technique is dandy for a stand-alone image, but you will probably want to perform reverse-image lookups on single panels or objects within a panel, like a face, mask, spaceship, or anything of research interest.

9. A free and powerful online image editor can help. I recommend pixlr editor (<https://pixlr.com/editor/>), but there are several to choose from. Use it to select objects from a comic book panel, save the extracted image as a jpg, and voila! you're in business.



10. What works? Comic books that are (in)famous, have been around for several years, have derivative movies or video games, are likely to have been copied by someone and distributed on the web where the search engine bots found them and indexed them.

11. Do understand that there are no guarantees here! The search engines exist to foster e-commerce and bankroll the stockholders, and the internet is a dynamic tapestry woven by millions of human hands following their own agendas!

A screenshot of a Yandex search results page. At the top, it shows the uploaded image and search bar. Below that, it displays the original image and its dimensions (1280x959, 1024x768). To the right, a table lists the image's dimensions in different sizes: Large (1280x959, 1024x768), Medium (768x1085, 735x1050), Small (360x524, 340x270), and other smaller sizes. Below this, there are sections for "Similar images" showing other comic book panels.

12. We believe that your use of copyrighted images for this form of digital humanities research falls under the provisions of the Fair Use Act, provided that you upload no more than 10% of any given comic book and that you make no commercial use of the images.



# FAIR USE?



## Fair use law

**UKCCS**  
The UK Copyright Service

Fair Use is a legal doctrine that provides legal use of copyrighted material by third parties. The idea behind it is that if the copyright holder is not harmed or would not be deprived of revenue from the use, then it is reasonable for the user to have the right to use the work.



Under the fair use law you may have an exemption to the exclusive rights of a copyright holder. Fair use may be used for the following:

- The use is done for educational purposes.
- The portion of material is justified, and no more than necessary is included.
- The source of the quoted material is mentioned, along with the name of the author.

13. Let's get to work! *Valérian et Laureline* is a French sci-fi comic published between 1967 and 2010. It enjoys global popularity, has been translated into numerous languages, an animated television spinoff appeared in 2007 and a feature film directed by Luc Besson was released in 2017.



Image size:  
208 x 129

No other sizes of this image found.

Best guess for this image: [valerian star wars](#)

Was Valerian a Star Wars Inspiration? How the Franchise Copied ...

<https://www.thrillist.com/entertainment/nation/valerian-comics-star-wars-inspiration> ▾  
Jul 20, 2017 - There Would Be No Star Wars Without This Wild French Comic From the '60s ... In the n volume, 'The World Without Stars,' Valerian rescues ...

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[www.hollywoodreporter.com/.../valerian-city-a-thousand-planets-borrows-star-wars-p...](http://www.hollywoodreporter.com/.../valerian-city-a-thousand-planets-borrows-star-wars-p...) ▾  
Jul 22, 2017 - 'Valerian' Learned a Few Tricks From the 'Star Wars' Prequels. Luc Besson's ambitious fi suffers from the same pitfalls as George Lucas' ...

Visually similar images



14. Hans Solo's sojourn in a block of carbonite echoes an adventure that befell Valerian. Laureline looks an awful lot like Princess Leia in her harem outfit.

Why didn't George Lucas bring suit?

Perhaps because the Valerian image matches predate the earliest Star Wars Movie by several years...

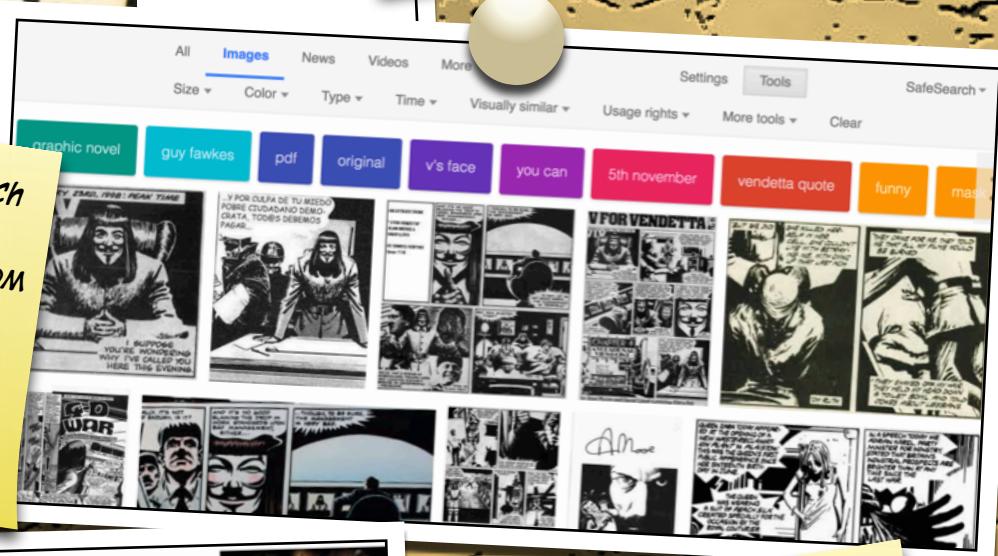
13. There are many, many visual and conceptual similarities between *Valérian et Laureline* and the original *Star Wars* films. Example: Valerian's spaceship bears an uncanny resemblance to the Millennium Falcon, as this Google reverse-image search attests.





15. Ripple effect: the 1988 graphic novel, *V for Vendetta*, written by Alan Moore and illustrated by David Lloyd, with a stylish film release in 2006, transformed the "Guy Fawkes Mask" icon into an international symbol of corporate and governmental protest.

16. Google search results on such images usually begin with panels from the graphic novel, or stills from the movie....



17. but Many, many derivative images spun off by creative individuals will appear among the hits, whether you perform a reverse-image lookup in Google, Bing or Yandex.

This is Google.



18. This is Yandex.



Image size:  
344 x 396  
No other sizes of this image found.

Best guess for this image: [facial expression](#)

#### Facial expression - Wikipedia

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Facial\\_expression](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Facial_expression)  
A facial expression is one or more motions or positions of the muscles beneath the skin of the face.  
According to one set of controversial theories, these ...

In pictures: Scientists map 21 facial expressions and emotions ...

[www.telegraph.co.uk/News/Picture-Galleries/How-about-that/](http://www.telegraph.co.uk/News/Picture-Galleries/How-about-that/)  
Researchers Ohio State University have discovered how we can convey a much wider range of emotions through facial expressions than previously thought.

#### Visually similar images



**20.** Google produced the reverse-drawing I extracted from Daniel Clowes' graphic novel *Ghost World* (1997).

Bing produced the reverse-image lookup on the right.



Original image  
344x396

The same picture was not found

#### Similar images



**22.** Another example of Google's fidelity to color scheme is this reverse-image lookup performed on a headshot of the television anchor woman in the 1986 miniseries *Batman: The Dark Knight Returns*, written by Frank Miller and illustrated by Miller and Klaus Janson.

**19.** When the reverse-image lookups fail to identify an image as a comic object, character or part of a work, other algorithms kick in. One of these algorithms results in stylistic matches with similar drawings. These algorithms pay rapt attention to human faces, binary gender markers, shading vs. line drawing and pixel coloration.

344 x 396 · jpeg · Image may be subject to copyright.

Related images

**21.** And here is Yandex's rendition. Google clearly does a more workmanlike job of matching graphic color schemes.



Image size:  
807 x 402  
No other sizes of this image found.

Best guess for this image: [cartoon](#)

#### Cartoon Network | Free Games, Online Videos, Full Episodes, and ...

[www.cartoonnetwork.com](http://www.cartoonnetwork.com)  
Cartoon Network is the best place to play free games and watch full episodes of all your favorite kids TV shows with apps and online video!

#### Cartoon - Wikipedia

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cartoon>  
A cartoon is a type of two-dimensional illustration, possibly animated. While the specific definition has changed over time, modern usage refers to (a) a typically ...

#### Visually similar images

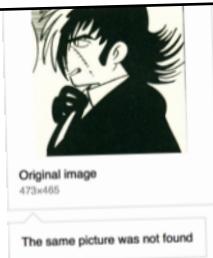
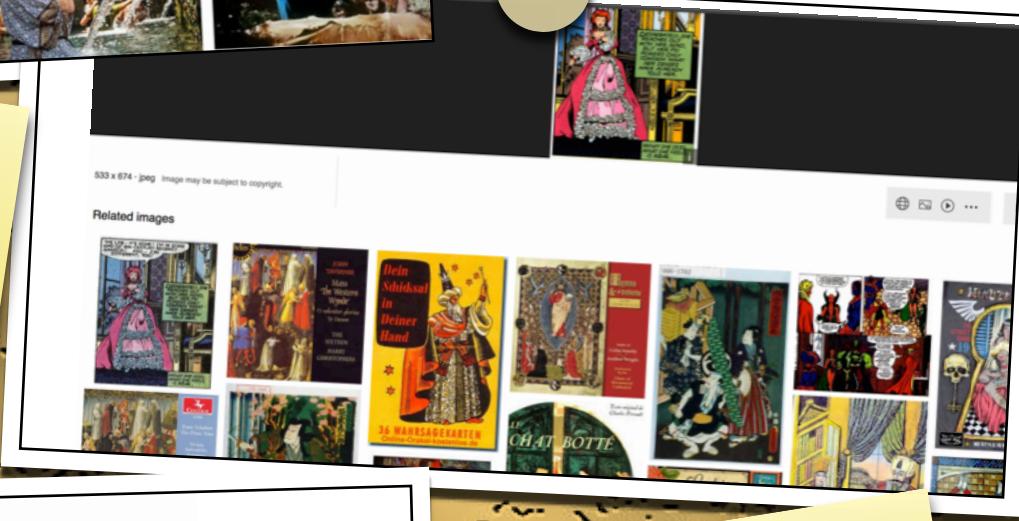




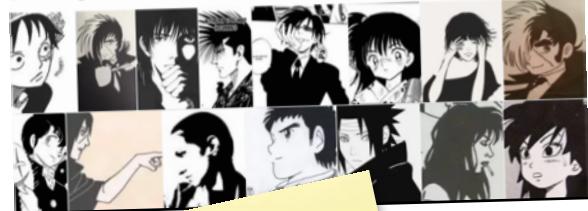
23. Bing produced this fascinating reverse-image lookup on a panel from the born-digital *Star Wars 2015* (033). Most of the top-layer hits are of male-female pairs, suggesting that Bing "knew" who Luke Skywalker and Princess Leia are, and injected the semantics of binary gender-typing into its search query. That's an educated guess...



24. Notice the way that Bing focused on clothing, spatial geometry and room decor in this reverse-image lookup using "Dark Phoenix" in *Uncanny X-Men* #125 (1979).



Similar images



26. Google image lookup claims to support filtering on date, style ("Type"), color and More, but none seem to actually work, probably due to lousy metadata. Filtering a search for V for Vendetta, 2004-2006, for instance, should have netted many graphic novel hits, but nothing happens. Good luck -- happy hunting!!!

Attribution  
CC BY

v for vendetta

Images Videos Shopping News More Settings

Color Type Jan 1, 2004 – Dec 31, 2006 Usage rights

wallpaper hd assassin's creed minecraft face phone w

vendetta - did not match any image results. [Reset search tools](#)

[HTTPS://CREATIVECOMMONS.ORG/LICENSES/BY/4.0/](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/)

25. Manga nets Manga! Yandex reverse-image lookup on a profile shot of Black Jack, the lead character in Osamu Tezuka's classic Medical Manga by that name (1973-83) is nearly all black-and-white Manga with the exception of a kodalith.