

Visual Storytelling

Comm.312

Fall 2020 | Southwestern College
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Assignment #4 "Wordless Novel"

DELIVERABLES

Create a *wordless novel*: a short graphic novel that tells a story (of your own) without including any words. The novel must use multiple panels on each page (similar to a typical graphic novel or comic book). It must be at minimum three pages total. It's dimensions must be 1280 pixels wide and 1920 pixels tall. It must be completed entirely in Adobe Illustrator.

COMMENTS

Silent novels were important precursors to what we now consider graphic novels and comic books. Counterintuitively, they came to prominence in the United States in the late 1920's (around the time that silent movies were being replaced by "talkies"). Yet through their limited mode of communication — and at a distance from their historical context — they are significant for allowing us to aim directly at the *visual* component of visual storytelling.

MOTIVATION

Gods' Man by Lynd Ward was an influential example of a wordless novel. Its story unfolds quickly, but the stark simplicity of its images evince a high degree of subtlety and consideration.

