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"Normal" Feelings in "Abnormal" Worlds: On the Political Uses of Emotion in Science Fiction Manga

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“NORMAL” FEELINGS IN “ABNORMAL” WORLDS

On the Political Uses of Emotion
in Science Fiction Manga

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AUTHOR'S NOTE

This dissertation uses the 16th Edition of the Chicago Manual of Style as the basis for its citations, with some minor changes made for clarity and readability. Citations are written in full author-title format upon first appearing in a chapter, with subsequent mentions listing only the author, an abbreviated title, and page number, provided that information is available. For the reader's convenience, full citations are repeated initially in every chapter. All publication dates listed are for the edition used: in the case of books that are translated from other languages, this means that the dates refer to the English-language version, and for manga this means the publication year of the collected volume used, as opposed to the date of serialization or the original edition. In order to date the works, years of original publication are included in the main text. Life spans for authors are not included in this dissertation, so any start or end dates of manga should not be confused as such.

Because this study uses manga and other Japanese sources, there are often multiple titles for a given work, especially if they have been licensed in English. This dissertation uses official English titles taken directly from translated adaptations where available, while sources with only Japanese titles are written out in a modified Hepburn style followed by a translation in English. All words in a Japanese title that are either written in English or use the *katakana* script for an English word are written in English and capitalized, such as "*Realism*" instead of "*riarizumu*." Additionally, if a certain Japanese word in a title is a part of the work's identity when un-translated, it is kept in Japanese, such as "*Shūkan shōnen Sunday* [Weekly shōnen Sunday]." If a source has only been published in Japanese but has a prominent English-language title that can be found directly in the source, that title is used instead and capitalized in the same manner as an English title (*Coppelion* instead of *Kopperion*).

Japanese names are written in the Japanese order (family name first) using Modified Hepburn Romanization. The main exceptions are if an English-language publication uses a specific spelling for the author's name (Yaginuma

Kou instead of Yaginuma Kō), or if a name is a mix of English and Japanese, in which case given name is listed first. In order to make finding the source material easier, "adapted" spellings are used in the citation, while the Hepburn spellings are used in the main text. If Japanese publishers have an established English spelling for their companies, then it is used instead of the Japanese Romanization. Additionally, all relevant Japanese terms are written in italics and then followed by a translation in English or vice-versa. Both Japanese terms and English translations are used throughout this dissertation according to what is appropriate in a given situation, though English is generally preferred. Notable exceptions are "manga" and "anime." All quotes that are originally in Japanese in the material referenced are translated by me unless otherwise stated.

This dissertation uses some e-books, omitting page numbers due to the inconsistencies across e-book readers. To compensate, chapter titles are given, as well as subchapter titles where available. These subchapter titles are listed towards the end of the citation, where the page number normally would be. Though not an e-book, this format of citation also applies to the manga *Coppelion*, which has neither page numbers nor full consistency in chapter titles.

All figures that are pages from manga are read and ordered from right to left, unless otherwise noted. This includes manga pages that are not directly connected, as well as images taken from completely different works. The images taken from manga for this dissertation are solely for the purpose of academic analysis and comply with fair use. While commonly only individual panels are used in most analyses of comics, this dissertation emphasizes the importance of looking at the entire page, which necessitates the inclusion of full pages.

Among these images, some are taken from Japanese-language sources, so translations have been provided. The translations by themselves do not specify which character is making which statement, making it necessary to cross-reference them with the actual images. Different symbols are also used to indicate the purpose of various types of text as listed below.

"Speech."

("Thoughts.")

<Narration.>

[actions and sound effects]

/Signage/

TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

3.11 The Tohoku Earthquake and Tsunami on March 11, 2001

7BN *7 Billion Needles*, a manga about symbiotic aliens

anime Japanese animation

flow (nagare) The emphasis on movement from one panel to the next in manga in order to create a smooth reading experience

kyara The qualities of a character design that give the character a sense of “life”

otaku A hardcore fan, typically associated with an obsession with anime and manga

panel layout (komawari) How panels are laid out onto the manga page as a whole

manga Japanese comics

manga, josei Manga officially published for a demographic of adult women

manga, seinen Manga officially published for a demographic of adult men

manga, shōnen Manga officially published for a demographic of young to adolescent boys

manga, shōjo Manga officially published for a demographic of young to adolescent girls

novum The “scientific novelty” of a science fictional narrative

sekai-kei Stories that link the outcome of the world to the relationship between characters, often a boy and a girl

SF Science fiction

TEN *Through the Eye of a Needle*, sequel to the SF novel *Needle*

YA Young adult fiction

ZKC *Zettai Karen Children*, a manga about girls with psychic abilities

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