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

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PROPOSITIONS

- 1) The manga format encourages a view of the external physical world and the internal psychological world of its characters with equal importance, thus providing an environment for science fiction manga that is more capable of treating emotion as a part of its logical and historical processes.
- 2) Fictional emotions, even portrayals of commonplace ones, can contribute to science fictional exploration given proper context.
- 3) Manga panels are fragments, pieced together to create a cohesive whole that is greater than the sum of its parts.
- 4) Emotions in science fiction manga are not inherently simplistic in breadth or depth, but rather can be utilized to express a multitude of ideas in great detail.
- 5) In spite of Theodor Adorno's claims, mass culture is culture nevertheless.
- 6) Science fiction is an ever-evolving concept, and should not be limited by the definitions of the past.
- 7) Regardless of their relationship in reality, emotion and cognition in fiction are only as separate as we allow them to be.
- 8) The aesthetics of manga are not a compensation for a lack of artistic and narrative talent but an affirmation of it.
- 9) Skepticism should not become cynicism; partial victories should not be undervalued.
- 10) Humanity is better off without antiquated notions of masculinity.
- 11) Manga and food are much alike; even the most humble serving is worthy of appreciation, but it is in sheer variety where their beauty truly lies.