

COLOUR

CAMILLE ROSE GARCIA

FORM

Garcia uses a wide range of different colours within this image, however, the majority seems to contain cool and calming colours like blue, green and light purple, which seems to establish the effect that it is nighttime. This makes the image appear scarier and darker.

The background mainly uses dark blues which makes the foreground (which uses bright colours like white, green and pink) stand out by using visual contrast. Garcia could have used this feature to draw the attention of viewers to the main characters/figures first, or could have wanted a 3-D approach to the image through the use of the darker shades in the background and the lighter shades in the foreground. Garcia always uses bright and vibrant colours like pictures in kids story books, but even though her art may appear childish at first, the viewer soon realises that Garcia's artwork will always have a darker theme lying underneath.



LINE Garcia's lines are always precise and neat instead of being messy, undefined and all over the place. When drawing the characters she will always paint using a different coloured outline, which is different from how she paints scenery (which usually uses similar colours and no lineart). This could be used to distinguish the characters as separate content from the background and surrounding scenery. Black linearts are a common feature in American comics and cartoons, which Garcia might have been influenced from.

Garcia draws cartoon versions of people and animals, but she makes them unrealistic compared to their real counterparts. For instance, she gives her animals facial features that are more similar to humans than animals. The crocodiles in this picture all have eyelashes, eyebrows and are crying pink tears. This is of course unrealistic in the sense that crocodiles do not obtain any of these features within the real world, and further evokes the sense that picture is unrealistic.

Apart from making the animals look like humans, Garcia also makes the humans look like animals. The folds of the sleeves on the woman's dress resemble bat's wings. Her teeth are also like the bat's teeth, and she has a similar apple on her head like the apple the bat is eating. It is almost like the woman is mimicking the bat and the crocodiles are mimicking the woman. Garcia could have painted this to suggest the relationship between animals and humans, or because she may think animals and humans aren't that different.

The female in this image is crying but instead of looking emotional or sad, she looks as though she is serious. The crocodiles are also crying, but you can see from their mischievous grins that they are not sad either. This idea is represented in a ton of Garcia's art where characters are crying and there is that 'sombre' or 'melancholy' tone within the image, when in fact the picture does not include depressing or sad content. This could be because she wants to alter the stereotypical aspects included with emotions in drawings, or she could have done it to reflect on her own attire in the real world. Her style of clothes is very punky, but in all of the interviews I've read about her, she seems very nice and gentle.

COMPOSITION

Within the image you can see that the crocodiles and the woman are both standing in an upright vertical position, yet their eyes and bodies are placed in a diagonal direction. This arranges a grid-like formation of the picture. The first two crocodiles that are on the left are closer together than the last crocodile, which suggests that the last crocodile is further away and gives the idea of distance within the image.

The way the woman is standing and the way her arms are placed make her look symmetrical. This could have been done to make her stand out from the background, or to divide the pond (which is on the left) from the trees and land (which is on her right) because they are on either side of her body.

The characters that are in the foreground are arranged within a grid-like formation, which is different from the background which appears to vanish off into the distance. This is created through the use of squiggly clouds and trees that get smaller and appear as though they are disappearing into the background. The composition of this picture is complex because the characters and the scenery are all arranged in different angles and directions. The larger elements are placed in the front while the smaller elements are placed in the background. Garcia would have made this to create an illusion that shows distance within an image.

TONE

The majority of this image contains dark tones which are able to create an eerie atmosphere within the picture. Garcia may have done this to suggest that the image is set at nighttime, or because she wanted to add a creepy or mysterious emotional effect to the picture. Garcia uses small amounts of tone compared to Leonardo da Vinci who uses a lot of tone (which creates the realistic effect of his paintings), but I think Garcia's cartoon style is caused by the small amount of tone she uses, because it makes it seem flatter and more 2-D than realistic paintings.

There seems to be an existing light source at the front of the picture because the foreground is lighter than the background. Garcia could have done this to create distance within the image, or make use of light colours in the foreground to make the characters stand out from the background.

Garcia has used a wider range of tone on her characters compared to other items (like the trees and drips in the background). This could suggest that the characters are of more importance than the objects that don't have as much tone in them. The trees in the background look more 2-D and flatter because they have hardly any tone or shading within them. Garcia may have done this to draw the viewer's attention to the characters rather than the 2-D trees in the background.



ANALYSIS

Camille
Rose Garcia

WHAT?

Garcia had created all of the illustrations for a 2010 remake of the famous book 'Alice in Wonderland'. This picture shows Alice falling through the rabbit hole. She has painted the flow and direction of Alice's dress, which ripples to the top of the page and suggests that she is falling downwards. The direction of the hair and ribbon also ripples upwards to further suggest this point.

I think that the use of random squiggle lines and unrealistic mushrooms correspond to the fact that Alice is in Wonderland- a place of the imagination and all things that are mad and unreal.

The grotesque eyelashes, nose and fingers make the picture a bit 'darker', which I think is more appropriate to the book. Even though it is a children's novel, it still contains themes such as madness and violence (the beheadings).

How?

Garcia has outlined her artwork with black ink. Then she coloured the picture using watercolours. It was unusual for her to use watercolours, because most of her other paintings use acrylic paint on wooden canvases. She has used a lot of vibrant

colours within the image, which could relate to the intensity and the fact that Wonderland is Alice's dream- a place where any object can be any random colour. She has coloured Alice's hair yellow, and her dress blue, which are the same colours as the original drawings of Alice by Sir John Tenniel who drew her in both colour and lineart. Even though Garcia could have changed Alice's appearance I guess she chose not to because she didn't want to stray too far from the original and make it unrecognizable.

Why?

As I previously stated, Garcia has made these paintings to be featured within a 2010 copy of Alice in Wonderland. Garcia's take on the book makes her art 'darker' than the original drawings. This is shown with the unusual and gross eyelashes, and the fact that her pointy hands almost look like talons or claws. This ties in with the issue concerning madness and violence within the actual novel. I think that it was appropriate to choose Garcia as the artist for the book because she has a very cartoonish style, and cartoons are usually directed at kids rather than adults. The cartoon style was also a better option than let's say, a realism painting, because Wonderland is a fake place with unrealistic scenery and characters. I think a realism type of painting wouldn't be able to portray that as well as a cartoon, due to the fact that it would be difficult to make something like a dancing mock turtle because you wouldn't be able to use any real references to gather the correct anatomy, whereas if you use cartoons, they can have unrealistic proportions and still look good.



How?

This image is a sticker but it was originally completed in acrylic paints. Thompson always uses bright and vibrant colours which give her artwork a very childish and cartoonish vibe. Her style is also very childish and unrealistic- she contains huge heads and unreal proportions. In this image there seems to be a hybrid of a woman and a squid, which would usually be quite frightening but through the use of bright colours and her lively style the mutation feels fun and childish.

Why?

In a New Zealand interview with Tanya Thompson she mentioned that she had an 'incredible childhood' which was the major inspiration as to why her work is very childish. She also mentions that she admires her mum (who is also an artist) and that she comes from 'a really strong woman family' which would be an influence in her art. She draws a lot of females and weird creatures, but I have yet to notice any male characters within her art. She used to daydream and doodle a lot of sketches while she was in school, which could be where her imaginary and child-like characters originated from. But she also went through some traumatic experiences when she was younger (her grandma died and her parents broke up when she was 11) which I think also have an influence on her art. She has an entire collection of art which she titles 'Misery', where a lot of the main characters have sad or blank expressions across their faces. I think a mixture of the happy and emotional scenarios in her life influence the content she draws today.

Thompson's artwork has a similar effect to graffiti, where there are big bold colours and fun designs. The sticker is appropriate for this feature, because stickers are almost a form of graffiti because you place them on top of books, laptops and heaps of other things.

ANALYSIS

Tanya Thompson

WHAT?

This is a sticker that contains an artwork of New Zealander artist Tanya Thompson, called 'Squidly Ink' which was originally done with acrylic paints. Her artwork always contains images of the imagination where a really fun and upbeat vibe is encased within the image. This includes a hybrid of a woman and a squid, a clown and a couple of other characters. Usually clowns or squid mutations would be scary but Thompson has managed to make them look friendly and inviting with the use of bright and vibrant colours. The sticker is for her collection of artwork titled 'Misery', where she has her own unusual characters in unrealistic and childish landscapes.