

Anti-Hero Design to Grow the Meaning of Heroes from the Comic Entitled "Second Shot"

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ABSTRACT

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Development of digital era encourages creative industry to continue grow by raising many issues, nowadays many are found in various visual media using anti-hero characters as main character. Anti-hero is hero character who has traits and characters that deviate from depiction of a hero in general (Bagaskara, 2021). They have the same goal of doing good but in a way that may sometimes be wrong or unjustified (Wahyudi, 2020). This character is very appropriate to express human imperfection which in life always has advantages and disadvantages. In contrast to superhero characters who are too perfect to be used as exemplary figures in real life. The media that will be used is comic with theme entitled "The Second Shot" where main character who is half human and alien will be faced with many choices that can determine the future of the world, besides being disappointed or having hidden hatred as well. From past events from both human side who had deceived him and aliens who only took advantage of him. The use of comics media as visual media is based on fact that target audience is younger generation between ages 18-25 years who are more interested in reading picture books than those that contain too many words.

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INTRODUCTION

The field of art is the field that deals with the forms of self-expression of the artist. There is a lot of information or education given to the public regarding various issues, one of which is the increasing use of anti-hero characters as main characters. When we talk about anti-hero characters, of course there are also many people who ask what is meant by anti-hero and the difference with hero figures. Anti-hero is a hero character who has differences in character behavior and depiction. Although they have in common to do good, what makes the difference is the action or decision taken (Nariswari, 2021).

This has sparked debates about the pros and cons, especially for those who first hear or rarely see visual works depicting anti-hero figures. Whereas in real life this figure best describes us which has advantages and disadvantages (Utama, 2016). As humans, of course, we also grow with our egos and pent-up desires for what we want, such as a simple example of wanting to pass the exam to make our parents happy. Until someone uses cheating or cooperating with friends. Unknowingly it also becomes part of a small example of antihero nature.

The concept of "The Second Shot" itself will use comic media as a form of education to the public, especially the target audience. With the use of language and a storyline that contains an introduction to the background of the characters, conflicts, climaxes, and solutions. This concept was made based on references from the previous design, but with a different theme which explains the Visual Communication Design department to upper secondary students in detail and clearly for the target audience so that it can be practiced and learned in real life.

DESCRIPTION OF ANTI HERO CHARACTERS

Anti-hero characters are characters who have unique and unconventional personalities like hero characters in general, this can be seen in several aspects:

Characteristics of Anti-hero Characters:

1. Doing the right thing but in a way that sometimes causes debate or pros and cons.
2. Always have a hidden meaning in every action taken.
3. Have a bitter experience with an event that causes severe trauma and sometimes become PTSD.

Various kinds of Anti-hero (Aziz, 2020):

1. Anti-Hero Characters Classic, has a depiction that does not show the character of a
2. Disney Anti-Hero hero, has a depiction that shows hero nature but there is always a shrimp behind a rock or a certain mode.
3. Ferocious Antihero, has a depiction that will do all the dirtiest ways to achieve the goal with the.
4. Hero as just a Name, has a depiction of always looking for or seeing the return of good deeds that were conducted.

Interviews with several target audiences based on self-research results:

1. Do you know what an anti-hero character is?
 - Kevin Jonathan, knowing for sure the anti-hero character because fans of Marvel comics, where a lot of people have used anti-hero as the main character.
 - Nyoto Ariel Hardian, knowing it because he is used to watching movies with his girlfriend both in theaters and streaming.
 - Stanley Dion Alvindo, knowing from films that he watched and has been involved in the process of making.
 - Johan Handoko's indie films, knowing it from films and philosophy.
 - Louis Audric Robianto, reading it daily, often watching the streaming and films.
2. What makes an anti-hero character more interesting than a hero character?
 - Kevin Jonathan, because of taking a character concept that was not common, and the storyline was unpredictable but very interesting.
 - Nyoto Ariel Hardian, the storyline did not become flat but also had a comedy spice that made the atmosphere less stiff.
 - Stanley Dion Alvindo, more interesting because it is still rare to find films or Indonesian works that tell of the figure of anti-hero.
 - Johan Handoko, more interesting and the story less boring because there are various kinds of mysteries that must be solved.
 - Louis Audric Robianto, easier to remember and become a figure that is talked about every day in everyday life (from conversation with friends).

3. Have you played the video game “The Last of Us Part 2”?
 - Kevin Jonathan, never seeing it from reviews or streaming by the content creator.
 - Nyoto Ariel Hardian, trying to play but has not had time to finish it.
 - Stanley Dion Alvindo, playing the story mode and finished it.
 - Johan Handoko, watching the story mode and finished it, but never played it at all.
 - Louis Audric Robianto, never playing it, but several times watched reviews of some content creators.
4. Do you agree that the main character of “The Last of Us Part 2” is an anti-hero character?
 - Kevin Jonathan, agree because it really expresses an anti-hero figure who dares to fight for justice even though in a way that cannot be justified.
 - Nyoto Ariel Hardian, agrees because there is a purpose behind every action, and it can explain why and what causes the main character to become an anti-hero.
 - Stanley Dion Alvindo, agrees because the background is the reason the main character becomes the anti-hero figure.
 - Johan Handoko still hesitates to be able to explain specifically but there is some strong evidence that supports the anti-hero figure.
 - Louis Audric Robianto, still doubts but calls the game “The Last of Us Part 2” an interesting game to play.
5. What is your level of satisfaction with the story telling of “The Last of Us Part 2”?
 - Kevin Jonathan gave a score of 8 because of the interesting description and storyline but it is a bit difficult to understand if the audience does not see from the beginning.
 - Nyoto Ariel Hardian, gave an 8 too but said the game was a bit too long so that the audience got a bit bored if they were not interested from the start.
 - Stanley Dion Alvindo, gave a 9 score because he was very satisfied in all aspects of the story.
 - Johan Handoko, gave a score of 8 because the story was very interesting even though he did not really understand the storyline.
 - Louis Audric Robianto, gave a score of 7 because he played it for too long and was not interested in finishing it unless he really did.

The design concept will use visual media in the form of comics. Comics are visual media in the form of illustrations that display a sequence of images, often combined with text in word balloons. The reason why comics are used is that they are suitable for the target audience aged 18-25 years who are more interested in reading illustrated images to explain the storyline starting from the background, character introduction, conflicts, and existing solutions than books that have too many words so that they can cause boredom. In the design there will be several important points, including:

- The use of an illustration style with a style inspired by foreign comics, especially from DC Comics and Marvel.
- Coloring using pop designs to be able to explain the atmosphere, emotions, and feelings that exist in each scene in the comic.
- Showing the storyline back and forth to be able to explain in detail from the background of the characters and the beginning of the conflict to the solution that will appear at the end.

Characteristics of target reader are described below:

1. Demographics
 - All genders
 - Between the ages of 18-25 years
2. Psychographics
 - Having a hobby or a penchant for reading comic media.
 - Readers who critical in exploring comic story lines and describing in depth.

3. Geographical

- Entire area

4. Behavior

- Likes to collect and collect various kinds of comics.
- Have a curiosity about the theme issues raised in comics.

The story will focus on the utopian era where humans must fight to defend the earth from Aries, just an alien named Aries who came to invade the earth. The focus of the story will focus on a main character who is a mercenary. The character named James "Jag" Frost has a background that is very full of disappointment by the government where he used to be a government soldier. In an attack incident he was captured and made into an experiment by Aries who wanted to create half-human Aries as a spy to sneak into the human environment. Jag will wake up 20 years later, with amnesia for several moments, one of which is his capture by Aries. Jag, who feels like a human, feels angry and annoyed because he is in an isolation room at Aries' headquarters. Jag then finds a way and manages to trick the guards into escaping from Aries' base. On the way he will meet two brothers named Alexandra "Alex" Walker and Caleb Walker III. They are on their way to Atlanta to join a rebel group called "Phoenix".

In the initial introduction of the two brothers, especially Alex, he was wary and suspicious of strangers. Especially when living in a utopian era, everyone can become friend or foe in an instant. Jag explains that he is not a bad person at all, even though he doesn't remember his name and what year it is now. Before the two Walker brothers intended to leave Jag a storm suddenly came so they had to stay overnight until the storm passed. While waiting Caleb then approached Jag and asked one more time. It also tells the background of why they headed to the city of Atlanta to join the rebellion and betray the government. Caleb explains that his parents are considered members of the Phoenix because they refuse to provide information about the rebel group. Jag who was listening was then touched by his heart to help the two brothers to the city of Atlanta. Caleb then asks about his background to ensure their trust in a stranger like Jag. But Jag had made it clear that he himself did not remember the specifics of who he was unless he was a former mercenary. At that time Alex immediately pointed a gun and threatened because as mercenaries, they have been known to often attack and kill anyone for money, including innocent humans. Jag says that now he is not a mercenary himself and doesn't know where to go.

But Jag promised if they both agreed, he would accompany them on their way to the city of Atlanta to meet the rebel group. After a long discussion, they finally agreed to invite Jag to join on the condition that if there was anything suspicious, then Alex would not think twice about killing Jag immediately. They will then continue their journey to the city of Atlanta to join a rebel group called "Phoenix".

James "Jag" Frost

James "Jag" Frost is the main character in the comic "The Second Shot". Is a former government soldier and mercenary. Jag has a background full of great disillusionment with humans. Although actually from the bottom of his heart he is a person full of empathy and humanity. Jag's own character represents people who live with anger and irritation with all the events that have happened to him. So that the experience that attacks psychologically has an impact on changing the character and nature, even though it is only temporary. The character of Jag has a sturdy, firm and strong appearance in accordance with his military background and a typical southern accent because he is from Texas.

Table 1. Storyline comic

Prologue /	Background Explanation “The Second Shot”	Aries, Human	1-2
Laboratory and Facility	James Frost wakes from suspended animation until he escapes from the facility	Aries	3-17
Prescott, Arizona	James Frost identifies how the earth in 2048	James Frost and Aries	18-24
Prescott, Arizona	James Frost interacts for the first time with the Walker Brothers	James Frost, Alexandra Walker, Cade Walker III, Aries	25-30
Atlanta, Georgia	Walker brothers recount their background and reasons for traveling to Atlanta, to join forces with “Phoenix” group	James Frost, Alexandra Walker, Cade Walker III, several leaders, and members of Phoenix	31-33
Prescott, Arizona	James Frost with the Walker Brothers begin their journey to Atlanta, Georgia	James Frost, Alexandra Walker, Cade Walker III	34-36
Navajo Desert, Arizona	They use steep routes to hide from surveillance	Aries	37-40
		James Frost, Alexandra Walker, Cade Walker II I	



Figure 1. Appearance of James "Frost" Frost character

Alexandra "Alex" Walker



Figure 2. Appearance of Alexandra “Alex” Walker character

Alexandra "Alex" Walker is a companion character from the comic "The Second Shot". Alex is the older sister of Caleb Walker III. As the eldest child and become an adult figure. Alex becomes a strong character and is full of alertness to his surroundings, even to humans. By becoming a figure that balances the nature of his sister who tends to be a bit childish. Alex becomes a figure who will have a big influence on the course of the storyline herself.

Caleb Walker III

Caleb is the third generation of his family who goes by the name Caleb Walker. As the youngest child and sister of Alexandra Walker. Caleb is always passionate, fun and sometimes a little childish. But deep inside,

Caleb has a deep trauma, especially when he sees his parents being killed by government soldiers for refusing to provide information. Caleb always gets emotional when he sees guns pointed at innocent people.

The character of Caleb Walker is inspired by many events or phenomena where people who look happy are not necessarily what they show. Caleb is a person who tries to cover all pain and emotions with a happy face.



Figure 3. Character appearance Caleb Walker III

Aries

They are antagonist characters in the comic "The Second Shot". Aries are aliens who came from the constellation Aries to invade the earth and make it home. Aries sees the earth as a potential planet that can be used as a place to live. Besides they see humans as a primitive nation and very easy to use. Aries had a very cold, cruel, and cunning portrayal. They would not think twice about killing people including small children. In addition, the special ability that Aries had is that they can blend in with humans and imitate their faces in a similar way. The nature they had as Aries becomes a weak point to find out their identity.

This character is inspired by the figure of Zartan in the GI Joe series. Where has the ability to blend in and imitate someone's appearance as closely as possible. The original appearance of Aries is to have yellow skin and a bald head.



Figure 4. Appearance of Alien Aries character

The use of the comic story title "The Second Shot" itself is the meaning of a second chance. In the storyline, the main character is Jag, who must deal with many disappointments in life and is exploited by two parties who use it for personal gain. Besides that, both parties also want Jag to die if he chooses one side over the other. Jag's character eventually grows up with many choices and a lot of pressure to weigh the many causes and effects that will be obtained. This story has the meaning to teach that in us as humans we must maximize all opportunities that exist in life. Don't make decisions that you will regret later. Because in every human life second chances will not always come. Perhaps we easily cross the line for personal gain or indulgence by hoping for a second chance to atone for all our mistakes. But it will also happen when it comes and not everyone can get it. This story taking place in two states in America.



Figure 5. Reference Place Setting (Prescott, Arizona)



Figure 6. Reference place setting (Navajo Desert, Arizona)



Figure 7. Reference place setting (Clifton, Arizona)



Figure 8. Reference place setting (Atlanta, Georgia)

Comic page design concept:

1. Using A4 paper size (21 cm x 29.7 cm)
2. A total of 40 Pages
3. The type of paper used is
4. Full Color Coloring

Comic text balloon design concept using some examples of comic speech bubble such as shown in Figure 9.

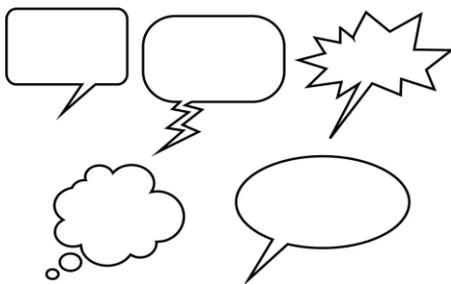


Figure 9. Reference letter speech bubble



Figure 10. Reference letter fonts

Números / Numbers												
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9			
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9			
Alfabeto Minúsculo/Lowcase												
a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m
a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m
n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	x	z	w	y
n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	x	z	w	y
Alfabeto Maiúsculo/Uppercase												
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	X	Z	W	Y
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	X	Z	W	Y

www.maiafontes.com/montserratbold

Figure 11. Reference of the letter font

CONCLUSION

Through initial research and initial design of the concept of the comic "The Second Shot" can be concluded several things, among others, the anti-hero character is a phenomenon. The emergence of anti-hero characters is caused by a growing and dynamic market. Many target audiences as samples consider the arrival and appearance of anti-hero characters as a form of refreshment for the creative industry, especially visual media. Anti-hero characters get a positive response because the depiction is very close to human life. In addition, character and character traits that are more human than hero characters who are too perfect to be used as exemplary figures in everyday life are also important factors.

From a visual perspective, comics will be used because they are more interesting to read by the target audience. Moreover, the younger generation prefers to read visual works that have pictures as a form of illustration rather than books that contain too many words, so they tend to feel bored reading to the end of the page.

The concept of the story that is raised is very close to the depiction that occurs in real life where many people will experience indecision to choose which one to choose. Sometimes it can also shape the way of thinking so that it is always weighed and weighed in making all decisions. The past is also a mandate where every human being is born and develops from every event experienced during his life. But that is not a reason for us to act according to the circumstances because every human being has problems with different levels but that is also according to a person's capacity at one point in his life.

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