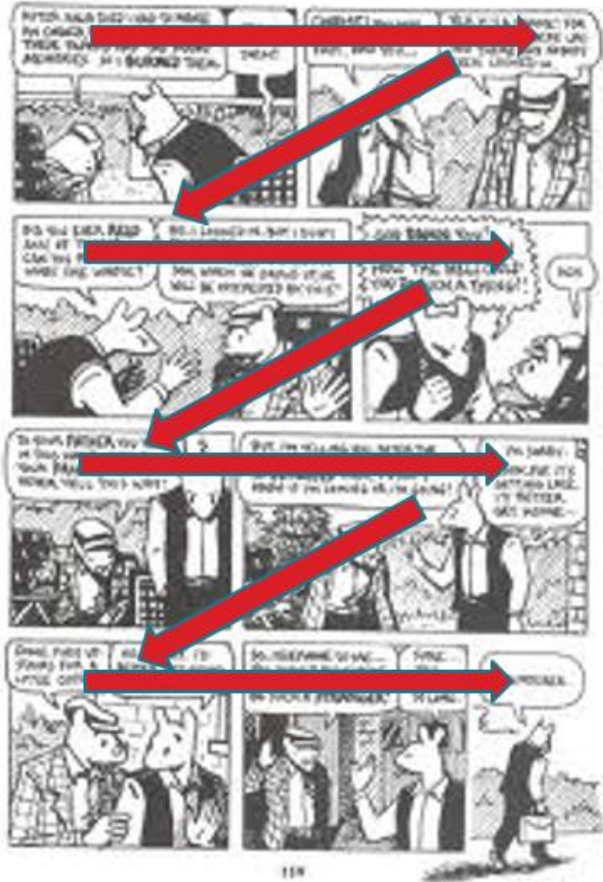


# GRAPHIC NOVELS

What are graphic novels?

*A graphic novel uses the interplay of text and illustrations in a comic-strip format to tell a story. Instead of relying on just text to construct a narrative, it uses graphical elements such as panels, frames, speech/thought balloons, etc. in a sequential way to create and evoke a story in a reader's mind.*

Like any other text, graphic novels are read from left to right, top to bottom.



Dialogue balloons are read left to right, top to bottom.



What elements do graphic novels contain?

- Panels—squares or rectangles that contain a single scene.
- Gutters—space between panels.
- Dialogue Balloons—these contain conversations between characters.
- Thought Balloons—these contain the thoughts of a single character.
- Captions—these contain information about a scene or a character.
- Sound Effects—these are visual sound cues (i.e. whap, pow, boom, zip)