

Critique

My (Insecure) Confessions is a story about the ubiquitous action of confessing one's feelings for another person after being probed. The art style contains the many emotions that one may go through when they are confessing one's feelings to someone that they are good friends with and care about immensely. The chibi art style encapsulates the raw emotions that the author, or rather the protagonist was going through during this time. The artist had two recurring characters that showed up throughout the manga, and both were drawn with different features. The artist attempted to try many different forms of eyes, body positions and action movements in the drawings. The artist also attempted to draw hair, and shade, but that may have been a failed attempt. More effort will be needed on those details in the future.

The drawings are mainly in black and white, with a couple drawings in the head having some color to show that the characters are wearing some form of clothing. This black and white color scheme also allows us, the reader, to focus more on the poses of the chibi, and the details that may be found in the eyes or the face in general. In many of the illustrations, there are eyes that convey the emotions of the chibi well when the body itself does not contain much detail. Since the detail is in the eyes and the hair, the attention of the reader is brought directly to the emotion conveyed in the face.

The story follows a very simple story line, in which the main protagonist, Ciente, is asked by his love interest if he likes her. This sudden questioning upon waking up ends up causing him to fall into an existential crisis as he's trying to figure out if he should tell her how he feels, or if he should just tell her she's a friend and let his emotions fizzle out. This led for a funny way of Ciente exposing himself and his insecurities that led him to keep doubting himself and the

potential feelings and reactions of his crush. He seems to have a very interesting imagination and is able to convey how he was feeling in the art very well.

The first two pages contain many items that can be found in the background. This includes things such as a bed, a stand, a clock, laundry, and other assorted items. When the panic of the main character begins to occur, there is a lot more usage of whitespace. This seems to be done on purpose by the author to illustrate the tunnel vision and lack of spatial awareness that one witnesses or observes when they break into a panic attack or start having an existential crisis in the case that their crush wanted to know if they had feelings for them. The white space becomes chaotic and filled in times when the character wants to display some form of anger or frustration, or any emotion that wasn't dread from feeling the need to confess and doubt themselves. The whitespace was utilized effectively in most cases, however there were a couple panels in which it seems that the character had calmed down for a minute, which means that the other objects and items should've come back. There was the common recurrence of the alarm clock or time being shown on the phone to show the amount of time that had passed. This was an effective way of showcasing how much time had passed and how much thought went into each decision before the main character decided to make a decision. The use of whitespace was done quite well.

There were two characters that showed up in the manga: the main character and his love interest. Well, his love interest never actually made an appearance, yet the versions of her that were in his head as he was going through his crisis. The details that Ciante had were very simple on his body. Most of the details, as mentioned beforehand, showed up in his eyes and face. This is what really showcased the emotions that he was feeling as he was navigating his thought process. His love interest, on the other hand, had much more detail in just about everything. Her hair had more detail, she had details in the eyes, and had fingers and clothes present in each

drawing of herself. Ciente's character happened to sometimes be naked and sometimes had clothing, there was no real reason why sometimes he did and did not wear clothing.

In some panels there was also a lot of text rather than drawings or illustrations. Sometimes this added to the panel when he was deep into what he wanted to say to her, however there were other times where the words kind of just dominated the entire panel and it took away from the drawings that occupied the same panel. But the emotions could also be felt in those words. The fact that the words were handwritten, it adds to the stress that his mind was going throughout the entire process.

Overall, the manga was well done for someone that cannot draw, and it ended up being much more entertaining than when he first sought out. There were a mix of emotions and you can see the insecurities that he was facing going through the entire manga. It made for an entertaining mix of emotions that had you laughing at the obliviousness, and idiocy of Ciente, but also feeling bad for his love interest and he kept playing with her feelings because he thought she would not like him.

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