

SAMPLE COUNTER-ARGUMENT 1

Critics, such as Grant Morrison, question the very nature of these “superheroes” in *Watchmen*. He argues that superheroes “never let you down” and that they are like the “sci-fi Jesus,” (Morrison 419). Morrison sees superheroes as righteous beings, praised for their work to save people of the Earth. He claims that superheroes are seen in good light at all times and never are pressured under the turmoil, that is, real-life. Through criticizing Alan Moore’s work as being indecent to the comic book readers of today, Morrison claims that *Watchmen* is, in fact nothing more than a washed up graphic novel of “masked vigilantes.”

Where Morrison is wrong, is not in his assessment of Moore’s *Watchmen*, it is in the complexity in which he reads the novel. Moore creates a different realm where superheroes are persecuted and punished aside, developing a dark parallel to the stereotypical superhero stigma. Each character throughout the novel embodies a different character trait flaw that allows each character to seem human. Morrison likes to point out that these characters should be like gods walking the Earth as they please and being the savior of the world, however Morrison misses out on one key trait developed within the tangles of a superhero story. Morrison misses the fact that these beings are indeed humans. Most of these characters come from troubled backgrounds each with varying degrees of psychiatric torture that each has had to face and overcome. Morrison attempts to clash against the deeper meanings that surround the graphic novel as a way to comprehend the metaphysical philosophy within the cells.