

Hot Graphic Novels: Highlighted Titles

Compiled by Robin Brenner, Brookline Public Library * October 2009

Picture books, chapter books, and more!

Binky the Space Cat by Ashley Spires
Dinosaur Hour! (series) by Hitoshi Shioya
G-Man: Learning to Fly by Chris Giarrusso
Graphic Spin (series) by various authors
Kit Feeny (series) by Michael Townshend
Long Tail Kitty by Lark Pien
Lunch Lady (series) by Jarrett J. Krosoczka
Salt Water Taffy (series) by Matthew Loux *
The Storm in the Barn by Matt Phelan
Wonderland by Tommy Kovac *

Adventures in Learning

Adventures in Cartooning by James Sturm, Andrew Arnold, and Alexis Frederick-Frost

Manga Guide to... (series) by various authors

- ...Calculus
- ...Databases
- ...Electricity
- ...Molecular Biology
- ...Physics
- ...Statistics

Manga Math Mysteries (series) by Melinda Thielbar, Tintin Pantoja, and Yuko Ota *

Moyasimon: Tales of Agriculture (series) by Masayuki Ishikawa

The Secret Science Alliance and the Copycat Crook by Eleanor Davis *

Robots, Heists, and Goths, oh my!

Atomic Robo (series) by Brian Clevenger and Scott Wegener

Calamity Jack by Shannon Hale *

The Crogan Adventures (series) by Chris Schweizer *

- Crogan's Vengeance**
- Crogan's March**

Gunnerkrigg Court (series) by Thomas Siddell

Smile by Raina Telgemeier *

Yotsuba&! (series) by Kiyohiko Azuma

A Window Into History

A.D. New Orleans After the Deluge by Josh Neufeld

A Family Secret by Eric Heuvel

The Search by Eric Heuvel

The Photographer: Into War-Torn Afghanistan with Doctors Without Borders by Emmanuel Guibert

Trotsky: A Graphic Biography by Rick Geary

The Vietnam War: A Graphic History by Dwight Jon Zimmerman and Wayne Vansant

Novels Reborn, Classics Reinvented

Bayou (series) by Jeremy Love

Cirque du Freak (series) by Darren Shan and Takahiro Arai

Fahrenheit 451: The Authorized Adaptation by Tim Hamilton

Maximum Ride (series) by James Patterson and NaRae Lee

Pluto (series) by Naoki Urasawa and Osamu Tezuka

Manga: Expect the Unexpected

After School Charisma (series) by Kumiko Suekane

Children of the Sea (series) by Daisuke Igarashi

Kiichi and the Magic Books (series) by Taka Amano

The Lapis Lazuli Crown (series) by Natsuna Kawase

Rin-ne (series) by Rumiko Takahashi

Saturn Apartments (series) by Hisae Iwaoka

* = great for middle school. To contact me for advice or information, please email me at robin@noflyingnotights.com

Hot Graphic Novels: Review Resources

Compiled by Robin Brenner, Brookline Public Library * October 2009

Professional Reviews

Booklist

Graphic Novel Spotlight special issue published annually every February. Graphic novel and manga reviews interspersed throughout the review section

Library Journal

Bi-monthly review column by Steve Raiteri and Martha Cornog. At the Library Journal website (<http://www.libraryjournal.com>), they also provide web-only weekly Graphic Novel Xpress reviews.

Library Media Connection

“Getting Graphic” column by Michele Gorman. Reviews periodically in the review section.

Publishers Weekly

Regularly covers manga and anime trends in short feature articles. Graphic novel and manga reviews interspersed throughout the review section.

School Library Journal

Graphic novel and manga reviews interspersed throughout the review section.

Voice of Youth Advocates

“Graphically Speaking” bi-monthly review column by Kat Kan. Graphic novel and manga reviews interspersed throughout the review section, marked with an oval red “g” symbol indicating the graphic format.

Online Reviews and Lesson Plans

Bookshelf from Diamond Comics

<http://bookshelf.diamondcomics.com/public/>

A great start for using comics and graphic novels in schools, including articles, lesson plans, and core lists.

Comics in the Classroom

<http://comicsintheclassroom.net/>

An excellent resource for using comics and graphic novels in the classroom— including lesson plans!

Good Comics for Kids

<http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/blog/54000654.html>

A new blog at School Library Journal devoted to comics for kids and teens, featuring commentary and reviews from librarians, parents, educators, and comics experts.

Graphic Novel Reporter

<http://www.graphicnovelreporter.com>

From the folks behind Teenreads.com comes a strong online destination for graphic novels including interviews with everyone from creators to librarians and substantial reviews from the library and educator point of view.

Kids Love Comics!

<http://www.kidslovecomics.com/>

A growing site from the new nonprofit organization run by Amelia Rules! creator Jimmy Gownley

Teaching with Comics

<http://www.flummery.com/teaching/>

From one of the leaders in Maryland's Comic Book Initiative of the Maryland State Department of Education, a collection of templates and advice on teaching comics in school.

Teaching Comics

<http://www.teachingcomics.org/>

From the National Association of Comics Arts Educators, lesson plans and resources, focused on teens and adults.

Books

Understanding Manga and Anime

By Robin Brenner

ISBN: 978-1-59158-332-5

This is my own recently published guide to the wide and complex world of Japanese manga and anime, for anyone curious about the medium.

Getting Graphic! Comics for Kids

by Michele Gorman

ISBN: 978-1-58683-327-5

A clear, useful annotated bibliography of over one hundred titles for ages 4-12.

Getting Graphic! Using Graphic Novels to Promote Literacy with Preteens and Teens

by Michele Gorman

ISBN: 1-58683-089-9

A concise and creative guide to using graphic novels to promote literacy

The Power of Reading

ISBN: 1-59158-169-9

by Stephen Krashen

Features an amusing and illuminating chapter all about the influence of comics on vocabulary and literacy

Graphic Novels in Your Library Media Center: A Definitive Guide

ISBN: 1-59158-142-7

by Allyson Lyga and Barry Lyga

The best one-stop guide to graphic novels in schools

Understanding Comics

ISBN: 0-060-97625-X

Making Comics

ISBN: 0-060-78094-0

and Reinventing Comics

ISBN: 0-060-95350-0

by Scott McCloud

The entertaining and informative guides to the history, creation and current status of sequential art, comics, and graphic novels

Graphic Novels: A Genre Guide to Comic Books, Manga, and More

ISBN: 978-1-59158-132-1

by Michael Pawuk

A guide to all kinds of graphic novels, a great quick reference resource

A Librarian's Guide to Graphic Novels for Children and Tweens

ISBN: 978-1-55570-626-5

by David Serchay

A solid guide with valuable historical insight on graphic novels for young audience.

* = great for middle school. To contact me for advice or information, please email me at robin@noflyingnotights.com

Hot Graphic Novels: Online Resources

Compiled by Robin Brenner, Brookline Public Library * October 2009

Online News

ICv2

<http://www.icv2.com>

This pop culture industry website is the place to go for industry news especially for statistics and market information. Their excellent Retailer's Guides on both graphic novels and anime and manga providing an up-to-date look at the state of each industry, the best-selling titles, and the latest trends.

Graphic Novels in Libraries Listserv (GNLIB-L)

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GNLIB-L>

This email listserv is the place to be for any librarian working with graphic novels, whether you are just beginning a collection or are trying to decide between the two latest popular titles. Participants include interested professionals, librarians, teachers, publishers, reviewers, columnists and library staff. Go here to get speedy and informed answers for "where does X title belong in my library?" to "What's the best shonen manga?" to "Help! I've got a challenge to defend!" Please note we've changed to Yahoo! for the group home.

Online Blogs

Comic-Con's The Pulse

<http://www.comicon.com/pulse/>

Run by the folks who present the most popular and well-reputed Comics convention in the U.S., the Pulse follows every possible thread of comics news succinctly and promptly. A great site to keep up on what's happening in the industry, the bulk of content is interviews, features, and articles rather than reviews.

Journalista

<http://www.tcj.com/journalista/>

The one-stop-shop for all kinds of comics and graphic novel news, from one of the most trusted, erudite journals on the industry. This one is potentially not safe for work, as blogger Dirk Deppey covers all manner of comics, but it's always a fascinating read.

Mangablog

<http://www.mangablog.net>

Brigid Alverson's site highlights the discussions and news items for any manga fan, acting as a touchstone site connecting all of the other online chatters together.

Precocious Curmudgeon

<http://precur.blogspot.com/>

David Welsh, a columnist for The Comics Reporter, writes with humor and insight on the world of comics, manga and fandom.

Publisher Websites

Aurora: <http://www.aurora-publishing.com/>

Broccoli Books: <http://www.broccolibooks.com>

Dark Horse: <http://www.darkhorse.com/>

DC Comics: <http://www.dccomics.com>

Del Rey Manga: <http://www.randomhouse.com/delyrey/manga>

Digital Manga: <http://www.emanga.com>

Drawn & Quarterly: <http://www.drawnandquarterly.com>

Fanfare/Ponent Mon: <http://www.ponentmon.com>

Fantagraphics: <http://www.fantagraphics.com>

First Second: <http://www.firstsecondbooks.com/>

Go Comi! Manga: <http://www.gocomi.com>

Graphix: <http://www.scholastic.com/graphix/>

Hyperion: <http://www.hyperionbooksforchildren.com/>

IDW Publishing: <http://www.idwpublishing.com>

Image Comics: <http://www.imagecomics.com>

Marvel: <http://www.marvel.com>

NBM: <http://www.nbmpub.com>

Netcomics: <http://www.netcomics.com>

Oni Press: <http://www.onipress.com>

Pantheon: <http://www.randomhouse.com/pantheon/graphicnovels>

Red 5 Comics: <http://www.red5comics.com/>

Tokyopop: <http://www.tokyopop.com>

Toon Books: <http://www.toon-books.com/>

Top Shelf: <http://www.topshelfcomix.com>

Vertical: <http://www.vertical-inc.com>

VIZ Media: <http://www.viz.com>

Yen Press: <http://www.yenpress.com>

Online Manga Sites

IKKI (VIZ):

<http://www.sigikki.com>

Shonen Sunday (VIZ):

<http://www.shonensunday.com>

Distributors

Diamond Comics: <http://www.diamondcomics.com>

Publisher Age Ratings

CMX (DC Comics):

<http://www.dccomics.com/cm/?action=about>

Del Rey Manga:

<http://www.randomhouse.com/delrey/manga/images/RatingsPage.pdf>

Marvel:

<http://www.marvel.com/catalog/ratings.htm>

Oni Press:

http://www.onipress.com/ratings_faq.php

Tokyopop:

<http://www.tokyopop.com/corporate/booksellers/879>

Yen Press:

http://yenpress.us/?page_id=23

* = great for middle school. To contact me for advice or information, please email me at robin@noflyingnotights.com