

## Graphic Novels 101: Graphic Novel Resources

### Books

Gorman, Michele. "Getting Graphic! Using Graphic Novels to Promote Literacy with Preteens and Teens." Worthington, OH: Linworth Publishing, 2003.

Available at the State Library

Lyga, Allyson A. W. and Barry Lyga. "Graphic Novels in Your Media Center: A Definitive Guide." Westport, CT: Libraries Unlimited, 2004.

Available at the State Library.

McCloud, Scott. "Understanding Comics." Northampton, MA: Tundra Pub., 1993.

An outstanding analysis of what a comic is and how it works.

Miller, Steve. "Developing and Promoting Graphic Novel Collections." New York: Neal Schuman Publishers, 2005.

Available at the State Library

An excellent, thoughtful introduction to building graphic novel collections. A very useful resource for librarians and educators.

Weiner, Stephen. "Faster Than a Speeding Bullet: The Rise of the Graphic Novel." New York: NBM Pub., 2003.

Weiner, Stephen. "The 101 Best Graphic Novels." New York: NBM Pub., 2001.

A good, reliable resource for identifying standard graphic novels that belong in library collections.

Wright, Bradford W. "Comic Book Nation: The Transformation of Youth Culture in America." Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2001.

Available at the State Library.

## **Review Resources**

### **Booklist**

Available at the State Library.

Check with your local library service area.

### **Comic Shop News**

Published weekly by Comic Shop News and available in comic shops.

### **Library Journal**

Available at the State Library.

Check with your local library service area.

### **Previews**

Published monthly by Diamond Comic Distributors and available in comic shops.

### **Publishers Weekly**

Available at the State Library.

Check with your local library service area.

### **School Library Journal**

Available at the State Library.

Check with your local library service area.

## **Web Resources**

### **Diamond Comic Distributors**

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

The world's largest distributor of English-language comic books, graphic novels, and comics related merchandise. Primary source for comic shops and retailers. Includes a Comic Shop Locator Service link you can use to identify a shop near you.

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

Diamond Comic Distributors' link to a special page for librarians and educators.

## Web Resources - Continued

### Eisner Awards

<http://users.rcn.com/aardy/comics/awards/eisner.shtml>

The annual Eisner Awards are named for writer and artist Will Eisner. This site is a good resource for identifying the best graphic novels that are currently being published.

### Harvey Awards

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

The annual Harvey Awards are named after cartoonist, writer, and editor Harvey Kurtzman. Another good site for identifying the best graphic novels that are currently being published.

### GNLIB (Graphic Novels in Libraries) on the Web

<http://www.angelfire.com/comics/gnlib/>

Email discussion list.

### Graphic Novels for Public Libraries

<http://my.voyager.net/~sraiteri/graphicnovels.htm>

Good site for recommendations for a basic graphic novel collection by Steve Raiteri, a public librarian who also writes a regular column about graphic novels for "Library Journal."

### Comic Links

<http://ublib.buffalo.edu/lml/comics/pages/do-comics.html>

Another site by Steve Raiteri that links to many useful comics and graphic novel sites.

### Comic Books for Young Adults: A Guide for Librarians

<http://ublib.buffalo.edu/lml/comics/pages/do-comics.html>

Overview for developing graphic novel collections in libraries. Includes an especially good section "Do Comic Books Belong in Libraries?" that addresses concerns librarians might have about justifying the purchase of graphic novels for library collections.

## **Web Resources - Continued**

No Flying, No Tights

<http://www.noflyingnotights.com>

Reviews of graphic novels for grade school children and teens.

The Librarian's Guide to Anime and Manga

<http://www.koyagi.com/Libguide.html#anchor383097>

Site for understanding basic definitions for manga and anime.

## **Graphic Novel Publishers**

DC Comics

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

Includes links to imprints for Vertigo, Wildstorm, and CMX Manga.

Marvel Comics

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

Dark Horse Comics

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

Also publish manga titles.

Image Comics

<http://www.imagecomics.com>

Top Cow Comics

<http://www.topcow.com/cover>

Fantagraphics

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

NBM

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

## Graphic Novel Publishers - Continued

Drawn & Quarterly

<http://www.drawnandquarterly.com/home.php>

Oni Press

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

Top Shelf

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

## Manga Publishers

Tokyopop

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

<http://www.tokyopop.com/aboutus/libraries.php>

Link to "Welcome, Librarians!" page at Tokyopop. Includes online version of "The Librarian's Guide to Manga" that can be downloaded.

Viz

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

Del Rey

<http://www.randomhouse.com/delrey/manga/>

ADV Manga

<http://www.advfilms.com/manga.asp>

CPM Press

<http://www.centralparkmedia.com/cmpress/INDEX.cfm>

Manga University - US Campus

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

Site for a series of books about drawing manga.

## **10 Recommended "Classic" Graphic Novels for Young Adults and Adults**

1. *A Contract with God* (DC Comics) - Will Eisner
2. *Watchmen* (DC Comics) - Alan Moore and Dave Gibbons
3. *Maus: A Survivor's Tale* (Pantheon Books, 2 Vols.) - Art Spiegelman
4. *Batman: The Dark Knight Returns* (DC Comics) - Frank Miller
5. *Sandman Library* (DC/Vertigo Comics, 12 Vols.) - Neil Gaiman
6. *Sin City* (Dark Horse Comics, 7 Vols.) - Frank Miller
7. *The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen* (America's Best Comics, 2 Vols.) - Alan Moore and Kevin O'Neill
8. *Ghost World* (Fantagraphics) Daniel Clowes
9. *The Complete Concrete* (Dark Horse Comics) - Paul Chadwick
10. *Astro City* (Homage Comics, 4 Vols.) - Kurt Busiek and Alex Ross

## **12 Recommended Recent Graphic Novels for Young Adults and Adults**

1. *Blankets* (Top Shelf) - Craig Thompson
2. *Persepolis* (Pantheon Books, 2 Vols.) - Marjane Satrapi
3. *The Fixer* (Drawn and Quarterly) - Joe Sacco
4. *Age of Bronze* (Image Comics, 2 Vols. Published as of 8/05) - Eric Shanower
5. *Queen and Country* (Oni Press, 7 Vols. published as of 8/05) - Greg Rucka
6. *Best of American Splendor* (Ballantine Books) - Harvey Pekar
7. *Best of Spider-Man* (Marvel Comics, 4 Vols. published as of 8/05) - J. Michael Straczynski
8. *Ultimate Spider-Man* (Marvel Comics, 4 Vols. published as of 8/05) - Brian Michael Bendis
9. *Y: The Last Man* (DC/Vertigo Comics, 5 Vols. published as of 8/05) - Brian K. Vaughan
10. *Fables* (DC/Vertigo Comics, 5 Vols. published as of 8/05) - Bill Willingham

## **12 Recommended Recent Graphic Novels for Young Adults and Adults - Continued**

11. *Ex Machina* (Wildstorm Comics, 1 Vol. published as of 8/05) - Brian K. Vaughan
12. *Superman/Batman* (DC Comics, 3 Vols. published as of 8/05) - Jeph Loeb

## **10 Recommended "Classic" and Recent Graphic Novels for Younger People (Also Great for Young Adults and Adults)**

1. *Bone* (Cartoon Books, 9 Vols.) - Jeff Smith
2. *The Life and Times of Scrooge McDuck* (*Gemstone*) - Don Rosa
3. *Classic "Star Wars"* (Dark Horse Comics, 3 Vols.) - Archie Goodwin and Al Williamson
4. *Kingdom Come* (DC Comics) - Mark Waid
5. *Marvels* (Marvel Comics) - Kurt Busiek and Alex Ross
6. *Crisis on Infinite Earths* (DC Comics) - Marv Wolfman and George Perez
7. *Superman: The Man of Steel* (DC Comics, 2 Vols.) - John Byrne
8. *Owly* (Top Shelf, 2 Vols. published as of 8/05) - Andy Runton
9. *Plastic Man* (DC Comics, 1 Vol. published as of 8/05) - Kyle Baker
10. *Complete Peanuts* (Fantagraphics, 3 Vols. Published as of 8/05) - Charles M. Schulz

## **10 Manga Series for Young Adults and Adults**

1. *Rurouni Kenshin* (Viz, 28 Vols.)
2. *Inu Yasha* (Viz, 32 Vols.)
3. *Ranma ½* (Viz 38 Vols.)
4. *Negima* (Del-Rey, ? Vols.)
5. *Hellsing* (Dark Horse Comics, 7+ Vols.)
6. *Gravitation* (Tokyopop, 12 Vols.)
7. *Full Metal Alchemist* (Viz, 10+ Vols.)

## **10 Manga Series for Young Adults and Adults - Continued**

8. Nausicaa of the Valley of Winds (Viz, 7 Vols.)
9. Megatokyo (Dark Horse Comics, ? Vols.)
10. Maison Ikkoku (Viz, 15 Vols.)

## **10 Manga Series for Younger People (Also for Young Adult and Adults)**

1. Fruits Basket (Tokyopop, 16 Vols.)
2. Tsubasa (Del Rey, 10+ Vols.)
3. Yu-Gi-Oh: Duelist (Viz, ? Vols.)
4. D.N. Angel (Tokyopop, 10+ Vols.)
5. Naruto (Viz, 28+ Vols.)
6. Bleach (Viz, 19+ Vols.)
7. Dragon Ball Z (Viz, 26 Vols.)
8. My Neighbor Totoro (Viz, 4 Vols.)
9. Sergeant Frog (Tokyopop, 10+ Vols.)
10. Princess Ai (Tokyopop, 2+ Vols.)