

# Graphic Novels for Youth

Merriam-Webster's dictionary definition of a graphic novel is "a fictional story that is presented in comic-strip format and presented as a book". But graphic novels are so much more- for they teach new vocabulary, visual literacy, and reading skills. Plus, the stories are EPIC!

## Fiction/Comics:

Doctorow, Cory . *In Real Life* GN DOC ( In Real Life is a sensitive, thoughtful look at adolescence, poverty, and culture-clash in the gaming world.)

Gaiman, Neil. *Marvel 1602*. GN GAI (the Marvel universe reimaged in the year 1602)

Kirkman, Robert. *The Walking Dead series*. GN KIR (An epidemic of apocalyptic proportions has swept the globe, causing the dead to rise and feed on the living. In a world ruled by the dead, the living are forced to finally begin living.)

Marvel. *Civil War*. GN MAR ( Marvel Universe is changing, and it's time to choose: Whose side are you on? A conflict has been brewing from more than a year, threatening to pit friend against friend, brother against brother - and all it will take is a single misstep to cost thousands their lives and ignite the fuse. )

Miller, Frank. *The Dark Knight Returns*. GN MIL (Batman comes back to Gotham)

Moore, Alan & Gibbons, Dave. *Watchmen* . GN MOO(Chronicles the fall from grace of a group of super-heroes plagued by all-too-human failings. )

Morrison, Grant. *All-Star Superman*. GN MOR (Comic takes the Superman story back to the original basics.)

Stevenson, Noelle. *Nimona*. GN STE (Nimona is an impulsive young shapeshifter with a knack for villainy. Lord Ballister Blackheart is a villain with a vendetta. As sidekick and supervillain, Nimona and Lord Blackheart are about to wreak some serious havoc. Their mission: prove to the kingdom that Sir Ambrosius Goldenloin and his buddies at the Institution of Law Enforcement and Heroics aren't the heroes everyone thinks they are.)

Willingham, Bill. *Fables*. GN WIL (The world of storybook and nursery rhyme characters who live side-by-side with humans is thrown into turmoil when Rose Red's house is found in shambles and covered with her blood and suspects range from Jack of beanstalk fame to Blue Beard.)



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## **Manga:**

**Arakawa, Hiromu. *Fullmetal Alchemist series*. GN ARA (The world has been ravaged by the abuse of alchemy. And in pursuit of the ultimate alchemical treasure, the Philosopher's Stone, two brothers fight enemies that are even more ruthless than they are... )**

**Kishimoto, Marashi. *Naruto series*. GN KIS (Naruto is a ninja-in-training with a need for attention, a knack for mischief and, sealed within him, a strange, formidable power.)**

**Kubo, Tite. *Bleach series*. GN KUB (15-year-old Ichigo Kurosaki, the hero of the popular fantasy-adventure Bleach, has the unsettling ability to see spirits who are unable to rest in peace.)**

**Hatori, Bisco. *Ouran High School Host Club series*. GN HAT (Haruhi, a scholarship student at exclusive Ouran HS, breaks an \$80K vase that belongs to the 'Host Club', a mysterious campus group consisting of six guys. To pay back the damages, she is forced to work for the club, and it's there that she discovers just how wealthy the boys are and how different they are from everybody else.)**

**Takaya, Natsuki. *Fruits Basket series*. GN TAB (A family with an ancient curse... and the girl who will change their lives forever... Tohru Honda was an orphan with no place to go until the mysterious Sohma family offered her a place to call home.)**

## **Non-Fiction:**

**Bertozzi, Nick. *Shackleton: Antarctic Odyssey*. GN BER (Ernest Shackleton was one of the last great Antarctic explorers, and he led one of the most ambitious Antarctic expeditions ever undertaken in 1914.)**

**Lewis, John. *March: Book One & Book Two*. GN LEW (Congressman John Lewis describes his role in the Civil Rights era during the 1960's, his early meeting with Dr. King, and his training as a nonviolent protester. Book Two continues the fight for equal rights for African Americans.)**

**McKay, Sharon. *War Brothers*. GN MCK (Based on real-life accounts of the horrors inflicted on child soldiers and their victims in Uganda. This is a story of unthinkable violence, but also one of hope, courage, friendship, and family. )**

**Satrapa, Marjane. *Persepolis*. GN SAT (Persepolis is a wise, funny, and heartbreaking memoir of growing up in Iran during the Islamic Revolution. )**

**Spiegelman, Art. *Maus. & Maus II*. GN SPI (Two set series about a Jewish survivor of Hitler's Europe and his son, a cartoonist who comes to terms with his father's story & history itself.)**

**Yang, Gene Luan. *Boxers & Saints*. GN YAN (Two set series about two Chinese peasants and their opposing views and situations during the Boxer Rebellion of 1898.)**