

Graphic Novels Booklist

Deogratias

By J.P. Stassen, translated by Alexis Siegel

Deogratias and Benina are just two ordinary teenagers. But their lives in Rwanda take a horrible turn when the brutal genocide begins. Deogratias is Hutu and Benina is Tutsi and all of a sudden, this matters more than anything. This is a powerful and sad story of teenagers living through a dark, violent time.

Demo.

Written by Brian Wood. Illustrated by Becky Cloonan. Lettered by Ryan Yount.

A collection of twelve stories featuring teenagers and young adults as they move towards adulthood. The characters must make life changing decisions, face secrets from the past and have the courage to find their own identities.

Crimson Hero

By Mitsuba Takanashi

A fun shojo sports manga starring Nobara, an awesome volleyball player. Nobara doesn't care about anything except playing but her mother has different ideas for her. She wants the tomboy Nobara to become the perfect young hostess for their fancy family restaurant. Her mom is even willing to pay off the school and be sneaky to get her way. Nobara is going to show her mom that two can play that game.

Death Note

Story by Tsugumi Ohba, art by Takeshi Obata

High school student, Light Yagami, is very smart and very bored. One day, he finds a mysterious notebook, which has instructions claiming that the name of any person written in the book will die. Light tests out the notebook and two criminals die. Now that he knows it works, Light decides to rid the world of evil but will he go too far?

Nana

By Ai Yazawa

Nana is moving to Tokyo to become a rock star. Nana is moving to Tokyo to start art school and to follow her boyfriend. The two Nanas meet while looking at apartments and decide to live together. They may have the same name, but they couldn't be more different, one is tough and the other is sweet. This doesn't stop them from helping each other through break ups and heartache and trying to start their new lives in the big city.

American Born Chinese

By Gene Luen Yang

This year's winner of the Printz award for best teen book, *American Born Chinese* is the story of Jin, a Chinese American kid growing up in the mid-west. He's one of the only Asian kids in his school and he wishes he could just be like everyone else. Yang weaves three separate narratives, including one about the monkey king, into one amazing story.

Castle Waiting
By Linda Medley

An award winning modern fairy tale in graphic novel form, *Castle Waiting* tells about the everyday lives of magical and fantastical people and creatures. Once *Sleeping Beauty* leaves the castle behind to go off with the prince, lots of other characters move in and this book tells each of their stories blending classic fairy tales with modern fantasy.

Vogelein: Clockwork Faerie
By Jane Irwin with Jeff Berndt

Vogelein finds her way into a young man's apartment one night, begging him to wind her or she will die. She looks like a fairy but is in fact a clockwork machine built hundreds of years ago in Germany. She is trying to survive after the death of her last master and needs a safe place to stay. Beautiful illustrations add to the magic of the text.

Identity Crisis
By Brad Meltzer, writer; Rags Morales, penciller; Michael Bair, inker

The Elongated Man is one of the members of the Justice League of America. He's one of only a few members who lives openly as a superhero. One night, he comes home to find his wife murdered and it could only have been done by one of the JLA's enemies. The old gang of superheroes reunite to find out who is responsible.

Trailers
By Mark Kneece and Julie Collins-Rousseau

When Josh's mom kills her boyfriend, she forces Josh to get rid of the body. Josh is trying to keep it together, taking care of his little brothers and sisters and trying to just get through school but parts of the body keep showing up all around the trailer park. The book is an intense look at a troubled teen's life with his alcoholic and unstable mother.

Buddha
By Osamu Tezuka

The master of manga tells the story of Buddha in a remarkable eight volume series.

Love and Rockets
By Los Bros Hernandez (Gilbert, Jaime)

The Hernandez brothers classic comic contains several different storylines in each volume. One storyline features tough punk rock girl Maggie Chascarillo, her best friend and sometimes girlfriend, Hopey and the people she knows in her southern California home town. The Palomar stories use magic realism to tell the stories of the lives of people in this small Central American village. Love and Rockets is one of the classic alternative comics and the stories feature strong, smart women.

Godchild

By Kaori Yuki

A gothic shojo manga with mysterious heroes, twisted villains, creepy doll girls and ancient family secrets and curses.

Tough Love: High School Confidential

By Abby Denson

Brian is nervous about another bad year at high school, but then he meets Chris and the year starts to look a bit better. Now that Brian has met the boy of his dreams, he decides to come out to his family and friends.

Life

By Keiko Suenobu

Ayumu is excited that she studied hard and got into a great school. But the pressure is getting to her. After a huge fight with her best friend, Ayumu discovers that a little cut makes her feel better. But she doesn't stop at just one little cut. A powerful manga about cutting and self harm.

Pride of Baghdad

Story by Brian K. Vaughan, art by Niko Henrichon

During the initial invasion and bombings of Iraq, a pride of lions escaped from the Baghdad zoo and for a time were wandering around the city until they were finally shot by American soldiers. This is their story and an allegory for the people of Iraq, showing the conflict between being caged but somewhat safe under a tyrant and trying to find freedom and hope within the chaos and destruction of bombs and bullets.

Night Fisher

By R. Kikuo Johnson

Loren is almost done high school and he's doing okay. His best friend Shane is hanging out with a different crowd and getting into trouble. Loren finds himself going along for the ride in an attempt to hang out with Shane again.

Naruto

By Masashi Kishimoto

A popular action packed shonen manga featuring Naruto, ninja in training.