

GRAPHIC NOVELS READING LIST

GRADES 6-8



ala.org/alsc

alsc

ASSOCIATION FOR LIBRARY
SERVICE TO CHILDREN

GRAPHIC NOVEL

GRADES 6–8



All My Friends Are Ghosts

by S. M. Vidaurri, illustrated by Hannah Krieger

KABOOM!, 2020
ISBN: 9781684154982

Adrift loner Effie discovers a ghostly school in the woods where she finds new friends, but just as she starts to settle in, Effie's friends need her to put her new skills to use and show the spirits what she can do.

Almost American Girl: An Illustrated Memoir

by Robin Ha

BALZER + BRAY, 2020
ISBN: 9780062685100

Moving to Alabama from Korea, artistic teenager Robin struggles to fit in at school and navigate her changing relationship with her mother.

Astronauts: Women on the Final Frontier

by Jim Ottaviani, illustrated by Maris Wicks

FIRST SECOND, 2020
ISBN: 9781626728776

Astronaut Mary Cleave guides readers through the history of women's contributions to space exploration with technical but accessible descriptions of the science and captivating anecdotes.

Beetle & the Hollowbones

by Aliza Layne

ATHENEUM, 2020
ISBN: 9781534441538

Twelve-year-old goblin-witch Beetle has a problem:

the mall haunted by her best friend, Blob Ghost (an actual ghost), is in trouble, and they are counting on Beetle to save them.

Best Friends (Friends #2)

by Shannon Hale, illustrated by LeUyen Pham

FIRST SECOND, 2019
ISBN: 9781250317452

Shannon is ready for sixth grade, but keeping up with the cool crowd can be hard, even when you think you've got an "in." *(Part of a series.)*

Be Wary of the Silent Woods (The Weirrn Books #1)

by Svetlana Chmakova

JY, 2020
ISBN: 9781975311216

Ailis and her cousins Na'ya and D'esh are weirrn. After they are pursued through the Silent Woods by a Night Thing that later abducts a classmate, the witch cousins investigate and uncover secrets along the way. *(Part of a series.)*

Catherine's War

by Julia Billet, illustrated by Claire Fauvel, translated by Ivanka Hahnenberger

HARPERALLEY, 2020
ISBN: 9780062915603

Rachel uses a camera to document her experience as a Jewish girl in France at the height of World War II in a story inspired by the author's mother's experience.

Class Act (New Kid #2)

by Jerry Craft

QUILL TREE, 2020
ISBN: 9780062885517

Drew struggles with his identity and place at an elite prep school while navigating microaggressions and tensions between friends during their eighth-grade year. *(Part of a series.)*

Cub

by Cynthia L. Copeland

ALGONQUIN, 2020
ISBN: 9781616209933

A memoir shares the author's experience as a cub reporter and how that investigative work colored all aspects of seventh grade (not to mention shaping her future as a writer) during the 1972–73 school year.

The Dark Matter of Mona Starr

by Laura Lee Gullledge

AMULET, 2020
ISBN: 9781419734236

Filled with self-doubt and anxiety, Mona finds the strength to ask for help to handle her "Matter," her word for her depression, and she is reminded that the Matter might be part of her, but it isn't all of her.

The Deep & Dark Blue

by Niki Smith

LITTLE, BROWN, 2020
ISBN: 9780316485982

When their cousin stages a coup, twins Hawke and Grayson seek refuge by disguising themselves as girls in the all-female Communion of Blue, the

S READING LIST



order of women who weave the threads that bind the world.

Displacement

by Kiku Hughes

FIRST SECOND, 2020
ISBN: 9781250193544

While visiting San Francisco, teenage Kiku is magically transported back to 1942, where she is forced to relocate to an internment camp along with the grandmother she never met, now just a child.

Dragon Hoops

by Gene Luen Yang

FIRST SECOND, 2020
ISBN: 9781626720794

Comic-book-lover Yang shares everything about his experience working at a high school where everyone is obsessed with the Dragons, the school's varsity basketball team. Funny and poignant, this autobiographical graphic novel will inspire artists and athletes alike.

Go with the Flow

by Karen Schneeman and Lily Williams

FIRST SECOND, 2020
ISBN: 9781250305725

Four sophomores band together to raise awareness about women's health issues in this exploration of menstrual equality, female friendship, and finding one's true self.

Lightfall: The Girl & the Galdurian

by Tim Probert

HARPERALLEY, 2020
ISBN: 9780062990471

When Bea's adoptive grandfather, the Pig Wizard, goes missing, Bea and her new friend Cad go on a quest to find him, encountering endless dangers and an ancient threat trying to plummet the world into darkness.

(Part of a series.)

Maker Comics: Fix a Car!

by Chris Schweizer

FIRST SECOND, 2019
ISBN: 9781250150035

Learn how cars work and the steps to simple car-care tasks such as jump-starts, oil changes, wiper replacements, and the proper way to keep a car clean, a how-to book in a fun comic package.

(Part of a series.)

Manuelito

by Elisa Amado, illustrated by Abraham Urias

ANNICK PRESS, 2019
ISBN: 9781773212661

The powerful story of Manuelito, a boy from a tiny village in Guatemala, who flees the dangers in his country for Mexico and then the United States, looking for asylum.

Meg, Jo, Beth, and Amy: A Modern Graphic Retelling of Little Women (Classic Graphic Remix #1)

by Rey Terciero, illustrated by Bre Indigo

LITTLE, BROWN, 2019
ISBN: 9780316522861

A retelling of the Louisa May Alcott classic in which the March sisters and their parents are a blended, interracial family, with a plot updated to reflect contemporary issues including remarriage, homophobia, and racism.

(Part of a series.)

One Year at Ellsmere

by Faith Erin Hicks

FIRST SECOND, 2020
ISBN: 9781250219091

Boarding school is not what Juniper thought it would be: she's struggling to fit in, the most popular girl is out to get her, and, worst of all, there might be a spooky beast roaming the woods outside of the school.

The Phantom Twin

by Lisa Brown

FIRST SECOND, 2020
ISBN: 9781626729254

Sideshow star Jane dies in an effort to separate from her twin, leaving Isabel with a prosthetic arm and leg along with her sister's ghost in this exploration of family, identity, loss, and personal growth.

Primer: A Superhero Graphic Novel

by Jennifer Muro and Thomas Krajewski, illustrated by Gretel Lusky
DC COMICS, 2020
ISBN: 9781401296575

Finally living with a loving foster family, Ashley Rayburn happens upon body paints that cause her to have superpowers.

Queen of the Sea

by Dylan Meconis
WALKER, 2019
ISBN: 9781536204988

Queen Eleanor of Albion is banished to a remote island convent where she befriends Margaret, a mysterious orphan raised by the nuns, and, as the two form a relationship, the truth about the island is slowly revealed.

Shadow of the Batgirl

by Sarah Kuhn, illustrated by Nicole Goux
DC COMICS, 2020
ISBN: 9781401289782

Raised as a teenage assassin, Cassandra Cain tries to break free from her father to become more like her hero, Batgirl.

Space Boy

by Stephen McCranie
DARK HORSE, 2018
ISBN: 9781506706481

This interplanetary drama begins when Amy's family is forced to move back to Earth, where she experiences a strange new world and its even stranger inhabitants. *(Part of a series.)*

Superman Smashes the Klan

by Gene Luen Yang, illustrated by Gurihiru
DC COMICS, 2020
ISBN: 9781779504210

Inspired by the Adventures of Superman radio serial of the 1940s, two Metropolis teens encounter racism, xenophobia, and the Ku Klux Klan.

Teen Titans: Raven

by Kami Garcia, illustrated by Gabriel Picolo
DC COMICS, 2019
ISBN: 9781401286231

After losing her memory and a loved one in a horrible accident, Raven pieces together her past while increasingly strange occurrences make her question her present. *(Part of a series.)*

This Was Our Pact

by Ryan Andrews
FIRST SECOND, 2019
ISBN: 9781250196958

On the autumn equinox, Ben and his friends promise themselves they will ride out of town to investigate a local legend without turning back, and the boys' journey turns fantastically strange when they encounter a talking bear.

When Stars Are Scattered

by Victoria Jamieson and Omar Mohamed, illustrated by Victoria Jamieson
DIAL, 2020
ISBN: 9780525553915

Two young Somali orphans, brothers Omar and Hassan, navigate life in a Kenyan refugee camp with hope.

Witchlight

by Jessi Zabarsky
RANDOM HOUSE GRAPHIC, 2020
ISBN: 9780593120002

Sanja convinces cheating witch Lelek to make an honest living, and their friendship grows until Lelek's life is put in jeopardy, and Sanja will do anything to save her.

The Graphic Novels Reading List was created by the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), a division of the American Library Association. Titles on this list were selected and annotated by members of ALSC's Quicklists Consulting Committee.



ASSOCIATION FOR LIBRARY
SERVICE TO CHILDREN

For more booklists, please visit ala.org/alsc/booklists.