

KIMBERLY BOLAN & ASSOCIATES

Kimberly (Kim) Bolan
Librarian | Consultant | Trainer | Writer

10094 Yosemite Lane, Indianapolis, IN 46234

Phone: 585-739-7003

Email: bolan_kimberly@yahoo.com

Blog: indielibrarian.blogspot.com

Web: www.libraryconsultants.org

GRAPHIC NOVELS, MANGA & ANIME



A graphic novel is "an original, self-contained story, told in the comic book format." Note that the Japanese term manga is often used interchangeably with the American term graphic novel ("manga" is the Japanese word for comics). Related to graphic novels is anime which is Japanese animation (often derived from manga), also called "Japanimation." Anime comes in both VHS and DVD format.

Why?

- Assist poor &/or unmotivated readers
- Connect with visual learners
- Develop Language Arts Skills
- Convey Educational Messages
- Stimulate Readers to Explore Other Literature
- Engage Adult Readers (average age of comic book readers is 25)

Tips:

- Whenever possible, preview graphic novels and anime titles prior to purchase.
- Interlibrary loan, local comic stores, and/or bookstores are good purchasing points and places to browse for more information.
- Free samples can also be found online. Visit <http://www.e-sheep.com/main.shtml> or <http://www.scottmccloud.com/comics/chess/chess.html> for more details.



Kevin King's List of 20 Graphic Novels to Read for the "Newbie"

If you are interested in a workshop on the topic of graphic novels, please contact **Kevin King** at KevinK@kpl.gov

(Kevin is the Lead Librarian at the Oshtemo Branch of the Kalamazoo PL, MI)

- Blankets / Craig Thompson (2003)
- Persepolis 1 & 2 / Marjane Satrapi (2003)
- Pedro & Me: Freindship, Loss & What I Learned / Judd Winick (2000)
- Maus / Art Spiegelman (1986)
- Bone: 1 Volume Edition / Jeff Smith (2004)
- Astro City: Life in the Big City / Kurt Busiek (2000)
- The Sandman: The Doll's House / Neil Gaiman (1990)
- Batman: The Dark Knight Returns / Frank Miller (1988)
- Watchman / Alan Moore (1987)
- The League of Extraordinary Gentleman / Alan Moore (2000)
- The Tale of One Bad Rat / Bryan Talbot (1995)
- Jimmy Corrigan: The Smartest Kid on Earth / Chris Ware (2000)
- Understanding Comics / Scott McCloud (1999)
- Fray / Joss Whedon (2004)
- Fallout / Jim Ottaviani (2000)
- Demo: The Collection / Brian Wood & Becky Cloonan (2006)
- Pride of Baghdad / Brian K. Vaughan & Niko Henrichon (2006)
- American Born Chinese / Gene Luen Yang & Lark Pien (2006)
- Death Note / Tsugumi Ohba & Takeshi Obata (2005)
- Nextwave: Agents of H.A.T.E. / Warren Ellis & Stuart Immonen (2006)



Helpful Resources: Web Sites, Books, Articles & More

Animerica: Anime and Manga Monthly - <http://www.animerica.com/>

Enter the exciting world of Japanese pop culture through this anime and manga monthly magazine. Includes news, interviews, newsletter, blog, and sneak previews of American and Japanese releases. Good source for purchasing too.

The Anime Café - <http://www.abcb.com/>

A good, basic resource pages for anime reviews, trivia, and general information. Includes "Beginner's Guides" as well as a "Parent's Guide to Anime" that includes reviews, a rating system, and age ranges.

Anime Nation - <http://www.animation.com>

Considered one of the best anime/manga sites on the Web!

Book Wholesalers, Inc. (BWI) - <http://www.bwibooks.com/> or phone: (800) 888-4478

Good vendor for graphic novel purchases. They will send you monthly catalogs and an annual list of what you have on order, what is coming out, and what is ceasing publication. Consider setting up a standing order. They also have a special binding that has a lifetime guarantee. This will last much longer than traditional graphic novel bindings.

Brodart's Graphic Novel Webpage - <http://www.graphicnovels.brodart.com/>

A good collection development tool. Because they know the key to the selection process is identifying appropriate materials for various age groups, they monitor this new and changing environment to help meet the needs of a diversity of libraries and their communities.

Comic Book Resources - <http://www.comicbookresources.com/>

Comic Books for Young Adults by Michael Lavin - <http://ublib.buffalo.edu/lml/comics/pages/>

Discusses why comics belong in libraries; providing an explanation of formats and collection development issues. Recommendations as well as guides to publishers and genres and an extensive bibliography can be found here.

The Comics Get Serious: Graphic Novel Reviews

<http://www.rationalmagic.com/Comics/Comics.html>

Aviva Rothschild has a collection of over 125 titles reviewed here, along with subject headings and age-level recommendations.

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

Diamond Comic Distributors - <http://bookshelf.diamondcomics.com> 1-800-45COMIC (1-800-452-6642)

One of the world's largest distributors of English-language comics and related merchandise. They include a wide selection of super hero, manga, and TV tie-in comics. 20% discount for library orders.

Duke University's Anime Club - <http://www.duke.edu/web/DukAnime/>

Information about the club, meeting times and places, general information about anime, and more!

GNLIB-L - Graphic Novels in Libraries Listserv (GNLIB-L) Go to <http://lists.topica.com/lists/GNLIB-L> to subscribe. For Archives go to <http://www.topica.com/lists/gnlib-l>

A listserv for both teen and adult librarians interested in beginning or expanding their graphic novel and/or comic book collections. Deals with all kinds of questions and issues related to graphic novels. Members are encouraged to share reviews and resources for collection development.

Goldsmith, Francisca. [Graphic Novels Now: Building, Managing, and Marketing a Dynamic Collection](#). Chicago: ALA Editions, 2005.

Francisca Goldsmith shares smart advice, from how to develop a well-rounded collection by finding reviews and reliable publishers and distributors to shelving, cataloging, and preserving these unique books. This guide also features tips on marketing and promoting the graphic novel collection, as well as how to create dynamic programs such as artist visits and how-to cartooning workshops.

The Librarian's Guide to Anime and Manga

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

Discusses both manga and anime and includes information regarding violence, nudity, and sexual content & emerging trends. Recommends resources and offers many buying recommendations.

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

No Flying, No Tights

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

A graphic novel review site for teens and adults.

We-Love-Anime.com

<http://we-love-anime.com>

Considered "a great source for lovers of anime and those joining this new world of excitement."

Wizard Universe

<http://www.wizarduniverse.com>

An good source for libraries that have a number of graphic novels in their collection. Includes price guides, action figures, information on upcoming publications, and more. Sign up for online weekly updates. Subscribe to one of their monthly publications including *Wizard Magazine* or *Anime Insider*.

YALSA's Great Graphic Novels for Teens -

<http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/booklistsawards/greatgraphicnovelsforteens/gn.htm>