

# Third Thursday Webinar:

## Anatomy of a Graphic Novel

Presented by Laura Perna (CTLS) and Jenn Hartley (APL)  
December 16, 2010, 10:00- 11:00 am

### How do I find good graphic novels?

#### Journals:

- Publisher's Weekly
- Kirkus Reviews
- New York Times Graphic Bestsellers
- School Library Journal
- Booklist

#### Online Resources for Reviews:

- SLJ Good Comics for kids-  
<http://blog.schoollibraryjournal.com/goodcomicsforkids>
- Comic Book Resources- [www.comicbookresources.com](http://www.comicbookresources.com)
- Graphic Novel Reporter- [www.graphicnovelreporter.com](http://www.graphicnovelreporter.com)
- Mangablog- [mangablog.net](http://mangablog.net)
- No Flying, No Tights- [www.noflyingnotights.com](http://www.noflyingnotights.com)
- APL Good Reads- [http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/library/graphic\\_novels.htm](http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/library/graphic_novels.htm)
- YALSA- [ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/booklistsawards/greatgraphicnovelsforteens/gn.cfm](http://ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/booklistsawards/greatgraphicnovelsforteens/gn.cfm)

Search CTLS's Professional Collection catalog for graphic novel guides

### More Useful Links

#### Lists of Review Sites and Resources:

- <http://kdla.ky.gov/libsupport/children/graphicnovels.htm>

#### Reviews of review sites

- [http://bunnlibrary.lawrenceville.org/reading\\_suggestions/graphic\\_resources.asp](http://bunnlibrary.lawrenceville.org/reading_suggestions/graphic_resources.asp)

#### General Graphic Novel and Comics Guides for Librarians

- <http://www.getgraphic.org/librarians.php>
- <http://library.buffalo.edu/libraries/asl/guides/graphicnovels/>

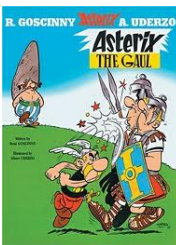
## Core Collection

### Children



Amulet by Kazu Kibuishi

Emily and Navin are two regular siblings who are drawn into a strange world of magic and mystery to save their mother from a horrible monster. There Emily becomes a Stonekeeper, master of an amulet of power.



Asterix by René Goscinny - illustrated by Alberto Uderzo

Asterix and his village of Gauls resist the Roman invasion through magic, wits, and sheer humor.



Babymouse by Jennifer L. Holm and Matthew Holm

A sassy girl mouse with a wild imagination, Babymouse tackles issues typical to today's tween, from first heartbreak to sports and drama rivalry. Done in pink and black dichromatic style (with two exceptions).



Bone by Jeff Smith

After being banished, three cousins from the land of Boneville find themselves in a strange valley full of monsters, lost princesses, and worlds of adventure.



Cardcaptor Sakura by CLAMP

Sakura is a ten-year-old girl who accidentally releases magic cards, which she must then collect to protect her friends, family, and neighborhood. One of the first card game based manga to come over to the US.



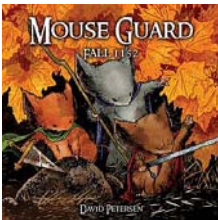
### Dragon Ball Z by Akira Toriyama

Loose retelling of the ancient Chinese myth Journey to the West. Follows the monkey boy, Son Goku, as he grows up, learning martial arts and collecting seven magical Dragon Balls. The first shonen (boy's) comic published in the US.



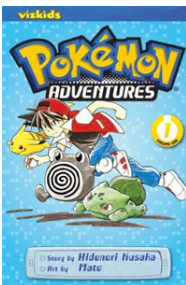
### Marvel Adventures by various artists/writers

Kid-appropriate adaptations of familiar Marvel superheroes, including Spider-Man, the Avengers, Thor, Fantastic Four, Hulk, and Iron Man. Not terribly durable, but a good version of superhero comics for the younger set.



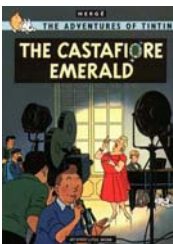
### Mouse Guard by David Petersen

Medieval adventure that follows a colony of intelligent mice and the musketeer-type guards who protect them. This Eisner-award winner features beautiful full-color illustrations.



### Pokémon by various authors and illustrators

Japanese comics based on the popular anime, video game, and toy franchise. Surprisingly, still very popular over ten years after appearing in the US. There are several series, including Pokémon Adventures, Pokémon Diamond and Pearl, and the Best of Pokémon.



### Tintin by Hergé

The young reporter Tintin and his dog Snowy solve a series of mysteries around the world throughout the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Features slapstick comedy, satire, and political commentary.



### Tiny Titans by Art Baltazar and Franco Aureliani

Kid version of the Teen Titans featuring some of our all-time favorites, including Robin, Beast Boy, Raven, Cyborg, and Wonder Girl. Set in elementary school and chocked full of DC references, this comedic version of a superhero comic is sure to please.



Yotsuba&! by Kiyohiko Azuma

Comedic manga about a strange little girl and her single adoptive father. Episodic plot features Yotsuba and the many things she discovers in her daily life.

## Teens



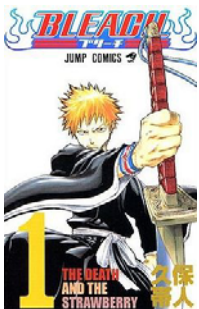
American Born Chinese by Gene Yang

The only graphic novel to win the Printz award, this book intertwines the stories of the Monkey King legend, a second-generation immigrant teen, and an American boy whose Chinese cousin is coming to visit.



Blankets by Craig Thompson

Autobiography detailing the author's childhood, adolescence, and young adulthood in a strict evangelical home.



Bleach by Tite Kubo

Ichigo is a kind-hearted and brave high school boy who accidentally obtains the powers of a Soul Reaper - a spirit person who collects the souls of people who cannot or will not pass on to the next life.



Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Season Eight by Joss Whedon, Brian K. Vaughn and others

Continuing where the TV series left off, Buffy and her Slayers and friends keep fighting the forces of evil while trying to discover their place in a world full of Slayers.



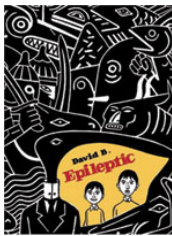
### Case Closed by Gosho Aoyama

After witnessing a crime, Jimmy Kudo, teen detective, is poisoned by the criminals. Instead of dying, he regresses to six years old. In order to protect his friends and family, he adopts the name Conan Edogawa and continues to solve mysteries, searching for the criminals who stole his life.



### The Dreaming by Queenie Chan

Original English language manga featuring twin sisters and a mysterious school where students appear to be disappearing.



### Epileptic by David B.

Memoir relating the author's experiences growing up with an epileptic older brother.



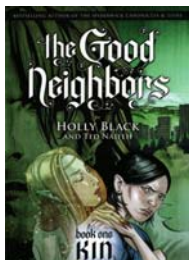
### Fruits Basket by Natsuki Takaya

Orphan Tohru Honda discovers that her classmate Yuki Sohma and his family have a strange secret: when weak or hugged by a person of the opposite sex, they transform into one of the animals of the Chinese Zodiac.



### Fullmetal Alchemist by Hiromu Arakawa

In an alternate WWII Europe, two brothers seek to use alchemy and intelligence to recover their bodies after a failed attempt to bring their mother back from the dead.



### The Good Neighbors by Holly Black and Ted Naifeh

When Rue's mother disappears and her father is arrested as a suspect in her murder, Rue must deal with her faerie kin; because

her mother is not dead, but she is in serious danger—and so is the whole world.



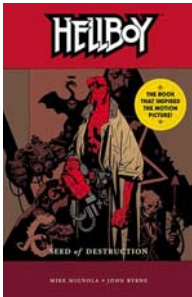
Goong: the Royal Palace by Park So-hee

Because of a promise made by her grandfather, Chae-Gyung Shin finds herself betrothed to the spoilt crown prince of Korea. Unfortunately, she just heard him propose to another girl!



Green Lantern by various authors/artists

Ongoing superhero comic about heroes who possess a power ring and lantern that gives the user power of the natural world. Related film due out in June 2011.



Hellboy by Mike Mignola

A demon child was brought over by Nazis and raised by an Allied scientist, creator of the Bureau for Paranormal Research and Defense.



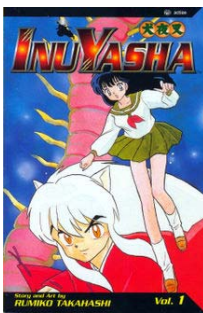
Hellsing by Kouta Hirano

Van Hellsing from Dracula returned to England and set up the Holy Order of Protestant Knights, an organization dedicated to protecting Britain from paranormal threats. Their greatest weapon? Pet vampire, Alucard.



Hulk by various authors

Ongoing Marvel comic originally written by Stan Lee details the adventures of Bruce Banner, a scientist who after an accident transforms into a giant monster when angered.



InuYasha by Rumiko Takahashi

Modern junior high girl Kagome is dragged through a well by a centipede demon and emerges in feudal Japan, where she frees a

dog demon, InuYasha, whom she helps to collect Jewel shards of great power.



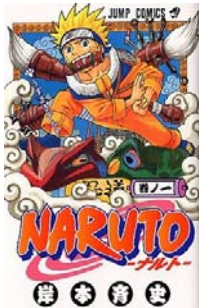
Kingdom Come by Alex Ross

Set twenty years in the DC future, there is little distinction between heroes and villains, with the Justice League and Batman caught in the conflict.



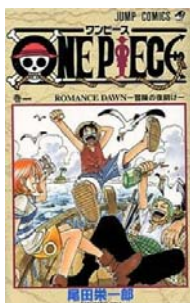
The Melancholy of Haruhi Suzumiya by Nagaru Tanigawa and Noizi Ito

Haruhi Suzumiya can change reality, but she doesn't know that. So she drags her classmates into a club to search for aliens, time travelers and psychics—not realizing that they already surround her.



Naruto by Masashi Kishimoto

Naruto Uzumaki is a prankster who hopes to become the greatest ninja ever! Unfortunately, he happens to have the spirit of a demon nine-tailed fox sealed within his body, making him an outcast in his village.



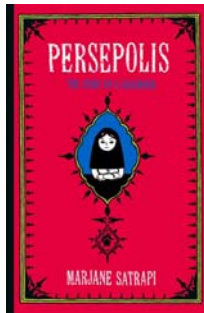
One Piece by Eiichiro Oda

Monkey D. Luffy decides to be the greatest pirate on the seas and recover the fabled treasure, One Piece. Now he just has to get a crew....and a ship.



Ouran High School Host Club by Bisco Hatori

Spoof manga about a poor girl in a private school who breaks a vase and must become a member of the school Host Club to pay off her debt. She dresses and acts like a boy to woo the customers, but several of the club members might just be in love with her.



Persepolis by Marjane Satrapi

Recounts the authors real experience growing up during the Islamic Revolution in Iran.



Plain Janes by Cecil Castellucci

Inaugural comic for the DC Minx imprint tells the story of four girls named Jane who decide to change their community through art terrorism.



Runaways by Brian K. Vaughn and various authors/illustrators

Six kids whose families have met once a year their whole lives discover that their parents are actually super villains. So they runaway and try to become everything their parents are not.



Scott Pilgrim by Brian Lee O'Malley

Canadian Scott Pilgrim is a part time musician and video game player who falls in love with a delivery girl name Ramona. To be with her, he must first defeat her seven evil exes!



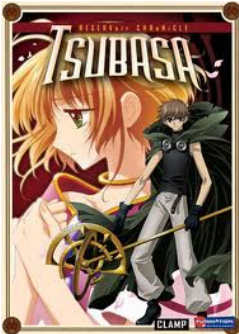
Amazing Spider-Man and Ultimate Spider-Man by various author/artists

The classic hero in new and older stories. You can't go wrong with Spidey!



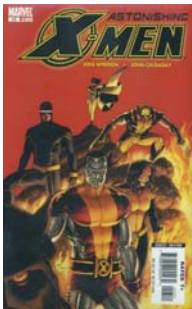
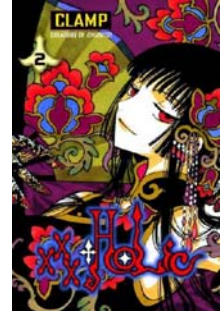
Superman/Batman by Jeph and Sam Loeb & others

This comic features a dual-narrator technique where each title character gives his perspective on the action and the other character.



Tsubasa and xxxHolic by CLAMP

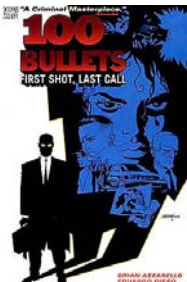
Intertwining series that involve magic, time travel, dimensions, and wishes. Tsubasa details the journey of a small group of travelers who jump dimensions to find the memories of one of their members; in xxxHolic the dimension witch can grant any wish—for a price.



X-Men by various authors/artists

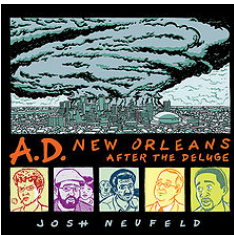
Ultimate, Astonishing, or Uncanny—any of these versions will likely please your X-Men fans.

## Adults



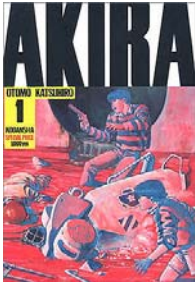
100 Bullets by Brian Azzarello

Modern noir series collected into 13 trades that addresses themes of crime, revenge, and moral ambiguity. Has won multiple Harvey and Eisner Awards



A. D.: New Orleans After the Deluge by Josh Neufeld

Using a variety of sources including interviews and blog accounts, Neufeld reconstructs the aftermath of the Hurricane Katrina flooding of New Orleans.



Akira by Katsuhiro Otomo

Classic manga about juvenile delinquents who run into supernatural children and a shady government agency.



Alice in Sunderland, Brian Talbot

Not quite a retelling of the children's classic, Talbot explores the links between Lewis Carroll and the Sunderland area, with wider themes of history, myth and storytelling.



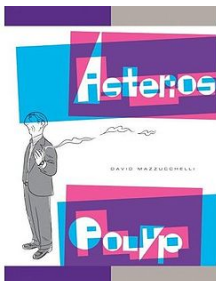
American Splendor by Harvey Pekar

In this autobiographical series that has its roots in the underground commix of the 60s, Pekar tells stories about his life and observations in Cleveland. Each issue is drawn by a different artist. American Splendor was adapted as a film in 2003.



Animal Man by Grant Morrison & others

A series about an environmentally themed super-hero received recognition and fame for its incorporation of postmodernism, metafiction, commentary on comic book form, and metaphysic.



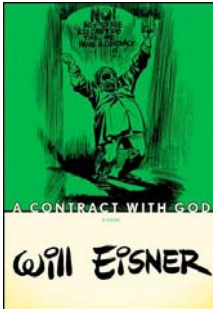
Asterios Polyp by David Mazzucchelli

After a series of disasters, a middle-aged architect moves to a small town and discovers his humanity.



### Black Hole by Charles Burns

In mid-1970s Seattle, a strange plague has begun to effect teen's, spread through sexual contact. Winner of the Eisner, Harvey, and Ignatz awards.



### Contract with God by Will Eisner

Four short stories set in the Bronx neighborhood where Eisner grew up. He wanted to create a story for his generation, dealing with man's relationship with God.



### Dark Knight Returns by Frank Miller

An aging Batman struggles to accept a new Robin and deal with a new crop of ultra-violent criminals in this reimagining of the classic superhero.



### Death Note by Tsugumi Ohba and Takeshi Obata

When a death god drops his notebook to Earth, the son of the police chief begins to use it to get rid of criminals who are escaping justice. But should one person decide who lives or dies?



### Ex Machina by Brian K. Vaughn and Tony Harris

Michell Hundred, the world's first and only super hero, is elected mayor of New York City following 9/11.



### Fables by Bill Willingham

In modern New York City, a small community of characters from folklore and fable has escaped from an evil warlord in their own homeland.



### Footnotes in Gaza by Joe Sacco

Comic journalist Sacco explores what happened in two villages in Gaza in 1956 following the Sinai campaign.



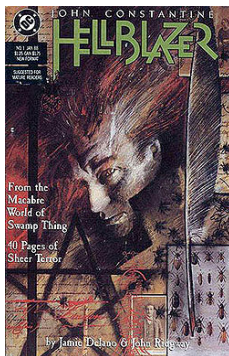
### Fun Home by Alison Bechdel

Graphic memoir detailing the father-daughter relationship between Bechdel and her complex, obsessive and distant father, as well as her own coming out of the closet.



### Ghost World by Dan Clowes

Two girls, Enid and Becky, face the prospect of growing up and apart in this acclaimed, Ignatz award-winning novel



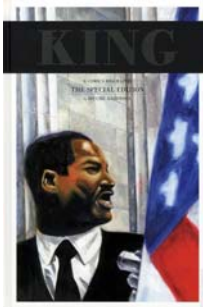
### Hellblazer by Peter Milligan

John Constantine is a morally questionable individual who uses magic and grifting to help create the greater good.



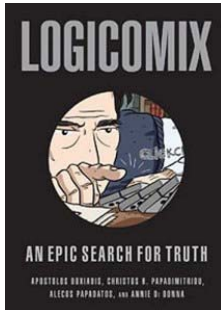
### Jimmy Corrigan: The Smartest Kid on Earth by Chris Ware

Lonely and emotionally disable Jimmy has the chance at 36 to meet his father for the first time. Filled with color illustrations and diagrams, this ground-breaking work creates a new form of graphic storytelling.



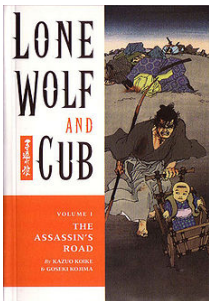
### King: A Comic Biography by Ho Che Anderson

Celebrated biography of Martin Luther King that details his life from his college years to his assassination, without sugar-coating.



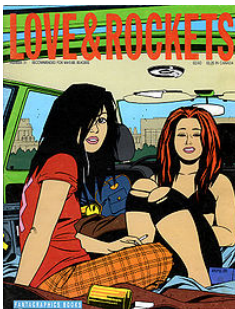
### Logicomix by Christos H. Papadimitriou

This biography explores the life and ideas of brilliant philosopher and mathematician Bertrand Russell.



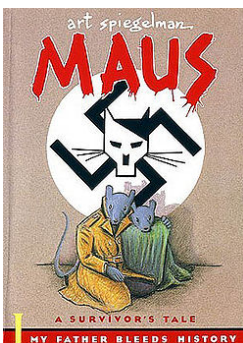
### Lone Wolf and Cub by Kazuo Koike

A masterful samurai travels the countryside with his newborn son, searching for the culprits who have murdered their family and household.



### Love & Rockets by Gilbert and Jaime Hernandez

A series of ongoing narratives, including Palomar and Hopper 13, as well as one-shots and shorts. Palomar relates the stories of a fictional Latin American village, while Hopper 13 follows a group of chicano friends through the teen and young adult years.



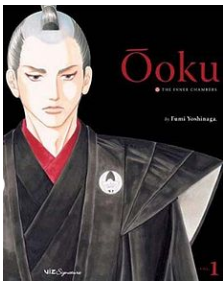
### Maus by Art Spiegelman

A biography of Spiegelman's father during WWII with Jews depicted as mice and Nazis as cats. This GN won a Pulitzer Prize Special Award in 1992



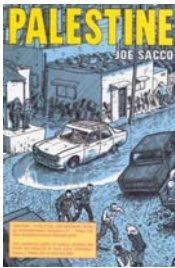
### Monster by Naoki Urasawa

Dr. Kenzo Tenma once saved a boy named Johan. Now Johan is an adult—and a psychopath serial killer. Dr. Tenma seeks to discover what made this “monster” and how he can be stopped.



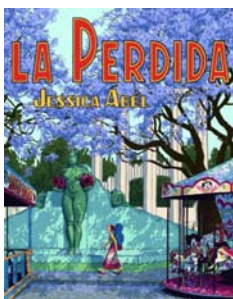
### Ooku: the Inner Chambers by Fumi Yoshinaga

Alternative retelling of feudal Japan where most of the male population has died of a mysterious disease and 80 years later women have taken over the important government and social roles in society.



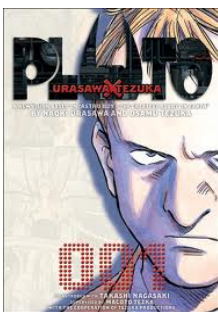
### Palestine by Joe Sacco

Sacco uses the graphic novel form to more fully describe the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.



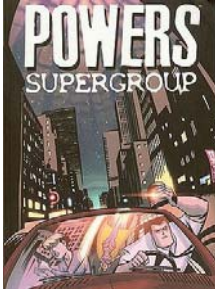
### La Perdida by Jessica Abel

Carla travels to Mexico City to “find herself” and instead gets a little bit lost.



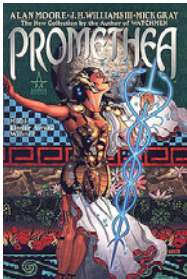
### Pluto by Naoki Urasawa

Modern reimagining of Osamu Tezuka’s Astro Boy series. Someone is murdering robots and humans alike and Europol detective Gesicht must solve the case.



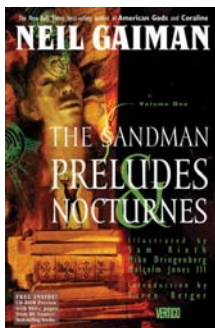
Powers by Brian Michael Bendis and Michael Oeming

Ongoing series follows detectives Christian Walker and Deena Pilgrim as they solve crimes and mysteries that involve their city's superheroes.



Promethea by Alan Moore

College student Sophie Bangs assumes the persona of Promethea, an Egyptian girl, with magical weapons she uses to fight evil and change her world.



Sandman by Neil Gaiman

Gaiman's story of Morpheus, the Dream Lord, and his siblings, the Endless. This series intertwines myth and legend from a wide variety of cultures and religions to create something unique and amazing.



Sin City by Frank Miller

7 volumes collect Miller's neo-noir tale of murder, justice, sex, and crime. Movie version released in 2005.



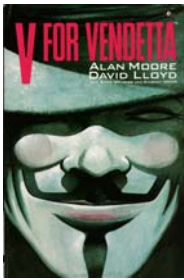
Strangers in Paradise by Terry Moore

Houston native Moore's comic details the lives and loves of three friends caught in a strange love triangle.



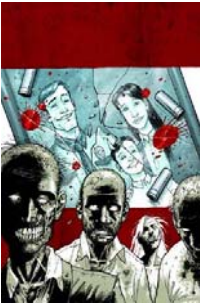
### Transmetropolitan by Warren Ellis

This cyberpunk series recounts the exploits and discoveries of renegade journalist Spider Jerusalem in a 23<sup>rd</sup> century US megacity.



### V for Vendetta by Alan Moore

In an alternate future, Germany won WWII and Britain is fascist. The mysterious "V" shows up to bring the government down.



### The Walking Dead by Robert Kirkman and Tony Moore

Police officer Rick Grimes wakes from a coma to find that the Zombie Apocalypse has occurred and his family is missing. Currently an ongoing series on AMC.



### Watchmen by Alan Moore and Dave Gibbons

Ground-breaking graphic novel that asks who is watching our super heroes while they are watching the criminals. Turned the superhero franchise on its head.



### Y: The Last Man by Brian K. Vaughn and Pia Guerra

What if you were the last man on Earth? Amateur escape artist Yorick Brown is—and all he wants is to find his girlfriend in Australia.

## Up and coming

### **Kids:**

Chi's Sweet Home by Konami Kanata

The Last Unicorn adapted by Peter Gillis

On the Case with Holmes and Watson adapted by Murray Shaw

Panda Man to the Rescue by Sho Makura and Haruhi Kato

Smurfs by Yvon Delporte

Zita the Spacegirl by Ben Hatke

### **Teens:**

Afterschool Charisma by Kumiko Suekane

Soul Eater by Atsushi Ohkubo

Twin Spica by Kou Yaginuma

Wandering Son by Takako Shimura

Zatanna: The Mistress of Magic by Paul Dini

### **Adults:**

The Broadcast by Eric Hobbs & Noel Tuazon

Powers vol. 14 by Brian Michael Bendis & Brian Oeming

Stigmata by Claudio Piersanti & Lorenzo Mattotti

The Walking Dead vol. 14 by Robert Kirkman

X'ed Out by Charles Burns