

The Superheroes: Guardians of the Galaxy Vol: 1 Cosmic Avengers *By Brian Michael Bendis*

A team of intergalactic warriors that include Star-Lord, Gamora, Drax, and Rocket Raccoon protect Earth from extra-terrestrial threats, including an invasion by the Badoon that threatens London.

Batman: Noel *By Lee Bermejo*

Tells a tale of Batman having a Dickensian "Christmas Carol" experience with his enemies and allies, as he struggles with the hero he has become.

Superman: The Last Son of Krypton *By Geoff Johns*

A rocket lands in Metropolis containing a boy Superman thinks is from Krypton. Along with figuring out what that means to him, Superman must protect young Christopher Kent, who has become the most valuable child on the planet thanks to his immense power.

The Superior Spider-Man *By Dan Slott*

As Peter Parker suddenly awakens to find himself trapped in the failing body of his greatest foe, Otto Octavius rejoices in the power and youth of his new spidery form.

Astonishing X-men Vol.1: Gifted *By Joss Whedon*

The newly re-formed X-Men team, under the leadership Cyclops and Emma Frost, is ready to astonish the world, but breaking news about a cure for the mutant gene takes the wind out of their sails. Plus, they go to battle with the enigmatic Ord and receive some unexpected help.

Ms. Marvel: No Normal *By Willow G. Wilson*

Kamala Khan, a Pakistani American girl from Jersey City who lives a conservative Muslim lifestyle with her family, suddenly acquires superhuman powers and, despite the pressures of school and home, tries to use her abilities to help her community.

Graphic Novel vs. Comic Books:

"A standard comic book usually includes the beginning, middle or end of a story, so a person typically cannot read or buy just one to learn the whole plot or discover the characters. By contrast, a graphic novel tends to cover one story in its entirety. If writers and artists decide to create a sequel, they design it as a new, complete story with a beginning, middle and end.

Publishers sometimes also issue comic strips as a collection in book form, which leads to a little confusion when trying to make a distinction. They often do this with very popular titles, such as *Garfield*, *Peanuts*, or *Calvin and Hobbes*.

Comic books are periodicals, typically printed on magazine-style paper and simply bound with staples. Graphic novels, on the other hand, can sometimes be found in hardback, although this is less common than paperback versions."

-wiseGEEK.com

Comic Strips

Garfield Takes His Licks

By Jim Davis

Displays the many moods of the popular comic strip cat, chronicling his battles with Odie, his raids on the refrigerator, and his adversarial relationship with Jon.

The Essential Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Watterson

The strip follows the richly imaginative adventures of Calvin and his trusty tiger, Hobbes. Whether a poignant look at serious family issues or a round of time-travel (with the aid of a well-labeled cardboard box).

what is a GRAPHIC NOVEL?



WHAT IS A GRAPHIC NOVEL?

Graphic Novel:

“Graphic novels are sometimes called *long comic books*. They usually cover fictional material in comic book form — through the use of sequential illustrations. Unlike the traditional comic book, however, these books are longer and tend to cover a story from start to finish, instead of ending with the traditional cliffhanger endings of comic books. In some cases, though, a graphic novel is a compilation of several series of comics that begin and end a particular story arc.”

-wiseGEEK.org

Graphic Classics:

Laika

By Nick Abadizis

Laika was the abandoned puppy destined to become Earth's first space traveler in the Soviets Sputnik program. Abadizis masterfully blends fiction and fact in the intertwined stories of three compelling lives, giving life to a pivotal moment in modern history.

Hatter M. Volume 1: Far From Wonder

By Frank Beddor

After he loses Princess Alyss in the Pool of Tears, royal bodyguard Hatter Madigan searches all over the world to find out where Baroness Dvonna might be held captive. ***Based on a novel**

Darth Vader and Son

By Jeffrey Brown

What if Darth Vader took an active role in raising his son? What if "Luke, I am your father" was just a stern admonishment from an annoyed dad? In this hilarious and sweet comic reimagining, Darth Vader is a dad like any other - except with all the baggage of being the Dark Lord of the Sith.

The Gigantic Beard That Was Evil

By Stephen Collins

The life of clean-shaven Dave--bald but for one hair--is upended one day when he begins to grow an unstoppable, impressive beard.

The Graveyard Book Vol. 1 & 2

By Neil Gaiman

Nobody Owens is a normal boy, except that he has been raised by ghosts and other denizens of the graveyard. ***Based on a novel**

Beautiful Creatures

By Kami Garcia and Margaret Stohl

Sixteen-year-old Ethan is powerfully drawn to Lena, a new classmate with whom he shares a psychic connection and whose family hides a dark secret that may be revealed on her sixteenth birthday. ***Based on a novel**

Rapunzel's Revenge

By Shannon Hale

Once upon a time, in a land you only think you know, lived a little girl and her mother . . . or the woman she *thought* was her mother. Every day, when the little girl played in her pretty garden, she grew more curious about what lay on the other side of the garden wall . . . a rather enormous garden wall. And every year, as she grew older, things seemed weirder and weirder, until the day she finally climbed to the top of the wall and looked over into the mines and desert beyond.

Scott Pilgrim

By Bryan Lee O'Malley

The series is about 24-year-old Canadian Scott Pilgrim, a slacker, hero, wannabe-rockstar, who is living in Toronto and playing bass in the band "Sex Bob-Omb." He falls in love with American delivery girl Ramona V. Flowers, but must defeat her seven "evil ex-boyfriends" in order to date her.

Lightning Thief

By Rick Riordan

After learning that he is the son of a mortal woman and Poseidon, god of the sea, twelve-year-old Percy is sent to a summer camp for demigods like himself, and joins his new friends on a quest to prevent a war between the gods.

***Based on a novel**

Pumpkinheads

By Rainbow Rowell

Working at a pumpkin patch every autumn, Deja and Josiah plan the ultimate Halloween night to celebrate their last year working together.

Maus: A Survivor's Tale

By Art Spiegelman

A story of a Jewish survivor of Hitler's Europe and his son, a cartoonist who tries to come to terms with his father's story and history itself.

Ghostopolis

By Doug TenNapel

When he is accidentally transported to the spirit world by a washed-out ghost wrangler, Garth Hale discovers that the world's evil ruler wants his unique powers, so he teams up with some unlikely allies to find a way home.

American Born Chinese

By Gene Yang

Alternates three interrelated stories about the problems of young Chinese Americans trying to participate in the popular culture.