

Mr. John's Favorite Graphic Novels

Meredith Public Library – Updated 11/20

Action/Adventure

- Amulet
- Bone
- Mighty Jack
- Rust
- Secret Coders
- Wings of Fire
- Zita the Spacegirl

Amulet (series)

by Kazu Kibuishi

Gr 3-7

After the tragic death of their father, Emily and Navin move with their mother to the home of her deceased great-grandfather, but the strange house proves to be dangerous. Before long, a sinister creature lures the kids' mom through a door in the basement. Em and Navin, desperate not to lose her, follow her into an underground world inhabited by demons, robots, and talking animals. Eventually, they enlist the help of a small mechanical rabbit named Miskit. Together with Miskit, they face the most terrifying monster of all, and Em finally has the chance to save someone she loves. There are 8 books in this series, with another expected in 2021.



“THE AMULET SERIES IS SO GOOD! IT'S GOT MAGIC, DARK MAGIC, AND THERE'S LOTS OF COOL MYSTERIES AND STUFF. I WAS SO EXCITED WHEN THE 6TH BOOK CAME OUT THIS FALL!”

Reviewed by Mark

Bone (series)*by Jeff Smith*

Gr 6+

Meet the Bone cousins, Fone Bone, Phoney Bone and Smiley Bone, three misfits who are run out of Boneville and find themselves lost in a vast uncharted desert. They make their way into a deep, forested valley filled with wonderful and terrifying creatures. With the help of the mysterious Thorn, her tough-as-nails Gran'ma Ben and the Great Red Dragon, the boys do their best to survive in the middle of brewing trouble between the valley's denizens. It will be the longest – but funniest – year of their lives!

There are 9 books in this series.

Mighty Jack (series)*by Ben Hatke*

Gr 3-9

It would have been a normal, boring summer...had Jack not sold his mother's car for a box of mysterious seeds. Ben Hatke's Mighty Jack takes Jack and the Beanstalk's folk-tale charm and adds a dash of modern fantasy. Follow Jack, his sister Maddy, and the spunky neighbor Lilly as they wrangle with the magical garden behind Jack's house and travel to the dangerous world beyond the vines and stalks.

There are 3 books in this series.

Rust (series)*by Royden Lepp*

Gr 5-12

Life on the Taylor family farm was difficult enough before Jet Jones crashes into the barn, chased by a giant decommissioned war robot! Oldest son Roman Taylor struggles to keep his family's small farm afloat as the area heals from a devastating world war. While the rest of his family may not trust the mysterious boy with the jetpack, Roman believes the secrets of Jet's past may be the key to their survival.

There are 5 books in this series.

Secret Coders (series)*by Gene Leun Yang*

Gr 3-7

Welcome to Stately Academy, a school which is just crawling with mysteries to be solved! The founder of the school left many clues and puzzles to challenge his enterprising students. Using their wits and their growing prowess with coding, Hopper and her friend Eni are going to solve the mystery of Stately Academy no matter what it takes!

There are 6 books in this series.

Wings of Fire (series)

by Tui Sutherland

Gr 3-8

Clay has grown up under the mountain, chosen along with four other dragonets to fulfill a mysterious prophecy and end the war between the dragon tribes of Pyrrhia. He's not so sure about the prophecy part, but Clay can't imagine not living with the other dragonets; they're his best friends. So when one of the dragonets is threatened, all five spring into action. Together, they will choose freedom over fate, leave the mountain, and fulfill their destiny -- on their own terms.

There are currently 4 books in this series, with more on the way. The series of novels that these graphic novels are based on contains fourteen books.



"I READ WINGS OF FIRE: THE DRAGONET PROPHECY BY TUI T. SUTHERLAND. IT'S ABOUT 5 DRAGONETS (YOUNG DRAGONS) WHO ARE DESTINED TO END A BIG WAR AGAINST ALL THE DRAGONS. THE MAIN CHARACTERS NAMES ARE: CLAY, SUNNY, GLORY, TSUNAMI, AND STARFLIGHT. I REALLY LIKED THE BOOK BECAUSE OF ALL THE ADVENTURE, HUMOR, AND FANTASY!"

Reviewed by Kyle

Zita the Spacegirl (series)

by Ben Hatke

Gr 3-9

When her best friend gets abducted by an evil alien cult, Zita's life takes a turn for the cosmic, and she finds herself on a strange planet inhabited by humanoid chickens and neurotic robots. Zita's determination to find her way back home to earth has her assuming the role of intergalactic hero in this delightful, action-packed science fiction graphic novel series, Zita and the Spacegirl, perfect for middle grade readers.

There are 4 books in this series.

Animals and other Critters

- Dog Man
- Guinea Pig, Pet Shop Private Eye
- Korgi
- Laser Moose and Rabbit Boy
- Narwhal and Jelly
- Phoebe and Her Unicorn
- Simons Cat
- Tea Dragon

Dog Man (series)

From worldwide bestselling author and artist Dav Pilkey comes Dog Man, the canine cop who's part dog, part man, and ALL HERO! George and Harold have created a new breed of justice. With the head of a dog and the body of a human, this heroic hound digs into deception, claws after crooks, rolls over robbers, and scampers after squirrels. Will he be able to resist the call of the wild to answer the call of duty? There are 9 books in this series, with another coming in 2021!

by Dav Pilkey

Gr 2-6



EVER SINCE PETE EXPLODED DOG MAN'S OWNER HE'S BEEN FIGHTING CRIME UNLEASHING HIS AWESOMENESS. HE HAS DEFEATED PETE BEFORE BUT THE FIRST CHAPTER OF THE BOOK PETE WAS FIGHTING WITH HIS BUTLER OVER IF THEY COULD USE FIRE CRACKERS OR A GINORMOUS VACCUUM. IN ONE POINT OF THE BOOK THEIR SO-CALLED MAYOR SENT A TOWN CRIMINAL A SEAL SPRAY SO THEN A REPLACEMENT ROBOT COULD TAKE OVER SO DOG MAN DID AT ONE POINT DEFEAT THEM. THIS IS MY BOOK REVIEW ON DOG MAN.

Reviewed by Grayson

Guinea Pig, Pet Shop Private Eye (series)

by Colleen A.F. Venable

Gr 2-5

There's a sandwich thief in Mr. Venezia's pet shop, and everyone is a suspect, from the chinchillas to the goldfish. Never fear! The world's fluffiest detective on the case:

Sasspants, PIG). By day, Sasspants is your average book-loving, gizmo-inventing guinea pig. By night she solves pet shop mysteries with the help of her sidekick, Hamisher the hamster. Our furry little heroes will stop at nothing to find the sandwich thief!

There are 6 books in this series.

Korgi (series)

by Christian Slade

Gr 4-7

Korgi is a gorgeously illustrated woodland fantasy about a young girl, Ivy, her Korgi cub, Sprout, and their amazing adventures in Korgi Hollow. In this first volume in the series, Ivy and Sprout discover some interesting things about themselves as they stray from their village and face danger for the first time. Perfect for fans of J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Hobbit*, Jeff Smith's *Bone*, or Andy Runton's *Owly*, Korgi is a charming all-ages epic that is sure to capture your heart.

There are 4 books in this series.

Laser Moose and Rabbit Boy (series)

by Doug Savage

Gr 1-5

The forest is full of danger . . . but help is here. Meet Laser Moose and Rabbit Boy, improbable pals who use their powers—laser vision and an unrelenting sense of optimism—to fight the forces of evil. Join the dynamic duo as they battle aliens, a mutant fish-bear, a cyborg porcupine, and a mechanical squirrel, learning along the way that looking on the bright side might be just as powerful as shooting a laser.

There are 3 books in this series.

Narwhal and Jelly (series)

by Ben Clanton

Gr 1-4

Narwhal is a happy-go-lucky narwhal. Jelly is a no-nonsense jellyfish. The two might not have a lot in common, but they do they love waffles, parties and adventures. Join Narwhal and Jelly as they discover the whole wide ocean together.

There are 5 books in this series.

Phoebe and Her Unicorn (series)

by Dana Simpson

Gr 2-5

Do you believe in unicorns? Phoebe does. She has no choice ... one day she skipped a rock across a pond, and hit a unicorn in the face. Improbably, this resulted in a lasting

friendship between Phoebe and the unicorn, one Marigold Heavenly Nostrils. Come along for the unicorn ride with Phoebe, as she deals with the usual burdens of childhood (cruel classmates, gym class, piano lessons) and also some unusual ones (magic hair, candy-breathing dragons, and the legendary Shield of Boringness). There are 12 books in this series.

Simon's Cat (series)

by Simon Tofield

Gr 1-6

Simon's Cat depicts and exaggerates the hilarious relationship between a man and his cat. The daily escapades of this adorable pet, which always involve demanding more food, and his exasperated but doting owner come to life through Tofield's charming and hilarious illustrations.

There are 6 books in this series.

Tea Dragon (series)

by Kate O'Neill

Gr 2-6

After discovering a lost tea dragon in the marketplace, Greta learns about the dying art form of tea dragon care-taking from the kind tea shop owners, Hesekiel and Erik. As she befriends them and their shy ward, Minette, Greta sees how the craft enriches their lives—and eventually her own.

There are 3 books in this series.

As Seen on TV

- Adventure Time
- Bob's Burgers
- Fangbone
- LEGO Ninjago
- Pokemon
- She-Ra

Adventure Time (series) *by Ryan North, Braden Lamb* Gr 4-8

It's ADVENTURE TIME! Join Finn the Human, Jake the Dog, and Princess Bubblegum for all-new adventures through The Land of Ooo. The Lich, a super-lame, SUPER-SCARY skeleton dude, has returned to the the Land of Ooo, and he's bent on total destruction! Luckily, Finn and Jake are on the case...but can they succeed against their most destructive foe yet? Featuring fan-favorite characters Marceline the Vampire Queen, Princess Bubblegum, Lumpy Space Princess and the Ice King!

There are 15 books in this series.

Bob's Burgers (series) *by Loren Bouchard et al* Gr 6-10

While Bob and Linda Belcher have their hands full running the family business, their kids Tina, Gene, and Louise have adventures that you won't believe! The producers, writers, and animators of the hit animated show Bob's Burgers proudly present all-original comic book stories. Whether it's Tina's daydreams of cloning back-up dancers, Louise's explorations of time-stopping Wonder Wharf rides, Gene's lyrics that reimagine boring Aunt Gayle visits as epic journeys to fantasy worlds, the Belcher family hijinks are guaranteed to make you laugh!

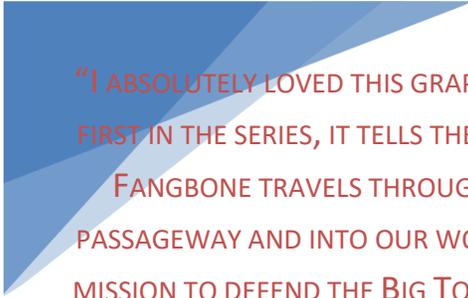
There are 4 books in this series.

Fangbone (series) *by Michael Rex* Gr 2-4

Eastwood Elementary has a new student, and he's nothing like the other kids in 3G. Fangbone is a barbarian warrior from another world! And he's been charged with the task of keeping a deadly weapon from Skullbania's vilest villain, Venomous Drool. Can

Fangbone's new classmates team up to help him triumph over hound-snakes, lava-ferrets, and his first pop quiz?

There are 3 books in this series.



"I ABSOLUTELY LOVED THIS GRAPHIC NOVEL. THE FIRST IN THE SERIES, IT TELLS THE STORY OF HOW FANGBONE TRAVELS THROUGH A MAGICAL PASSAGEWAY AND INTO OUR WORLD. HE'S ON A MISSION TO DEFEND THE BIG TOE OF DROOL THE SORCERER IN ORDER TO PREVENT THE SORCERER FROM COMING BACK TO LIFE. FULL OF LOTS OF FUNNY LINES AND COOL ACTION, I DEFINITELY RECOMMEND THIS SERIES TO ANYONE WHO LIKES ACTION, STORIES ABOUT FITTING IN, AND PEOPLE WHO LIKE THEIR HUMOR A LITTLE BIT GROSS."

Reviewed by Mr. John

LEGO Ninjago (series)

by Greg Farshtey

Gr 4-6

Under the tutelage of their master Sensei Wu, the "chosen four" ninjas Kai, Jay, Cole, and Zane must learn to use their elemental powers of fire, ice, lightning and earth. Their mission: defeat Sensei Wu's evil brother Garmadon and his army of skeleton warriors before they can take over the world!

There are 9 books in this series.

Pokemon Adventures (series) by Hidenori Kusaka

Gr 3-4

Adventures based on the best-selling video games! All your favourite Pokémon game characters jump out of the screen into the pages of this action-packed manga! Red doesn't just want to train Pokémon, he wants to be their friend too. Bulbasaur and Poliwhirl seem game. But independent Pikachu won't be so easy to win over! And watch out for Team Rocket, Red... They only want to be your enemy!

There are over 50 books in this series.

She-Ra: Legend of the Fire Princess

by Noelle Stevenson

Gr 3-6

The world outside the Horde's walls is still a strange one to Adora. Each day she's learning more about her growing powers as She-Ra, including something new: the

ability to heal corrupted runestones. Runestones are the magical source from which princesses draw their power, but Glimmer knows of another runestone -- one with a dark past. Long ago a fire princess ruled the lands to the west, until her thirst for power corrupted her, and led to the ruin of her kingdom. Glimmer thinks the lost fire runestone could give the Rebellion an edge in the fight against the Horde, but claiming this ancient power won't be easy... especially not when the Horde has their eyes set on the same prize.

Comic Strips

- Archie
- Big Nate
- Calvin and Hobbes
- Get Fuzzy
- Pearls Before Swine

Archie

Archie Andrews is everyone's favorite teenager from Riverdale. He's a great kid, but has a clumsy streak and a weakness for pretty girls! For most of his life, he has been caught in the middle of one of America's most famous love triangles between Betty and Veronica. His adventures in trying to choose one of the two always get him into trouble!

There are... a lot of books in this series, which debuted all the way back in 1946.

Big Nate

How'd you like to be eleven years old, four-and-a-half feet tall, and the all-time record holder for detentions in school history? That distinction belongs to Nate Wright, the self-described genius, sixth grade Renaissance Man and star of his own comic strip, Big

by Bob Montana

Gr 3-7



“THE ARCHIE COMICS BY BOB MONTANA AND JOHN L. GOLDWATER IS A FUNNY COMIC SERIES ABOUT A CLUMSY TEENAGE BOY, HIS FRIEND AND HIS LIFE. I LIKE IT BECAUSE IT HAS FUNNY JOKES THAT I GET AND CAN SOMETIMES RELATE WITH. IT ALSO HAS SOME REALISTIC SCENES AND SOME TOTALLY UNREAL SCENES THAT ARE HILARIOUS. THAT IS WHY I ENJOY ARCHIE COMICS SO MUCH!”

Reviewed by Kate

by Lincoln Peirce

Gr 3-6



“THIS BOOK IS ABOUT A KID NAMED NATE WHO IS TRYING TO SAY GOODBYE TO DORK CITY. IT'S HARD TO DO IT WHEN MARCUS IS AGAINST HIS REAL FRIENDS, SO TECHNICALLY HE'S TRYING TO BE COOLER SO IT'S PRETTY HARD TO DO THAT. ALSO, NATE IS STILL LOOKING FOR A GIRLFRIEND :(SO LOOK FOR OTHER BIG NATE BOOKS!”

Reviewed by Grayson

Nate. Equipped with only a #2 pencil and the unshakable belief that he is #1, Nate fights a daily battle against overzealous teachers, undercooked cafeteria food and all-around conventionality.

There are 17 books in this series.

Calvin and Hobbes

by Bill Watterson

Gr ALL!

Calvin is a rambunctious six-year-old whose manic antics threaten world peace. Hobbes is his stuffed tiger who comes alive when adults aren't around. The saga of their daily exploits won cartoonist Bill Watterson the coveted Reuben Award for "Outstanding Cartoonist of the Year."

There are 11 books in this series.

Get Fuzzy

by Darby Conley

Gr 4 +

Get Fuzzy makes the fur fly. This freshly amusing strip is a darling among readers who enjoy pets with an attitude. This wry cartoon features Rob Wilco, a mild-mannered ad guy who's guardian to two rambunctious pets: Bucky, a temperamental cat who carries a boom box and goes on spending sprees, and Satchel, a gentle canine who tries to remain neutral even when he bears the brunt of Bucky's mischief. Together, this unlikely trio hangs out together, watching TV, cooking for friends, and attempting the occasional adventure outside.

There are 15 books in this series.

Pearls Before Swine

by Stephan Pastis

Gr 3-8

Pearls Before Swine is the hilarious new comic strip tale of two friends: an arrogant, egotistical Rat who thinks he knows it all and a slow-witted Pig who doesn't know any better. Together with Zebra, the activist, and Goat, the reluctant brain, Pearls Before Swine offers caustic commentary on humanity's quest for the unattainable. Smart, witty, and sometimes painfully honest, Pearls Before Swine mocks the flaws and shortcomings of human nature with cynical humor.

There are 20 books in this series.

Graphic Nonfiction

- Dinosaurs and Historic Predators
- Disaster Stories
- Extraordinary Explorers
- Flying Machines: How the Wright Brothers Soared
- The Histronauts
- The Industrial Revolution
- Maker Comics
- The Roswell UFO Incident

Dinosaurs and Historic Predators

by Discovery Channel Gr 4 +

Nothing captures the imagination of kids like the prehistoric world of Dinosaurs, and this book features all their favorites! Velicoraptors, Triceratops, and T-Rex all come to life in this exciting and groundbreaking new graphic novel!

Disaster Stories (series) *by various* Gr 3-8

Experience some of history's biggest disasters in these engaging graphic novels. Reluctant readers will watch characters navigate tragedies like the sinking of the Titanic and the attack on Pearl Harbor. Active storylines and graphics are sure to speed up your heart rate!

There are 6 books in this series.

Extraordinary Explorers (series)

by various Gr 3-8

Pack your bags for these adventures! This series will have you flying across the Atlantic, reaching the top of Everest, and stepping foot on the moon. Travel alongside some of the world's most extraordinary explorers in these books for reluctant readers.

There are 6 books in this series.

Flying Machines: How the Wright Brothers Soared

By Alison Wilgus

Gr 4-6

Follow the famous aviators from their bicycle shop in Dayton, Ohio, to the fields of North Carolina where they were to make their famous flights. In an era of dirigibles and hot air balloons, the Wright Brothers were among the first innovators of heavier than air flight. But in the hotly competitive international race toward flight, Orville and Wilbur were up against a lot more than bad weather. Mechanical failures, lack of information, and even other aviators complicated the Wright Brothers' journey. Though they weren't as wealthy as their European counterparts, their impressive achievements demanded attention on the international stage.

The Histronauts (series)

by Frances Durkin

Gr 2-6

With an exciting mix of graphic novel, facts, and activity, The Histronauts series is a perfect way to bring history to life. In each book, the Histronauts (Luna, Nani, Newton, and their cat Hero), travel back in time where you can join them in uncovering secrets, learning new facts, and explore the past.

There are 3 books in this series.

The Industrial Revolution

by Lewis Helfand

Gr 7-10

The Industrial Revolution was a turning point in human history that effected all aspects of everyday life. Technological innovations marked a transision in manufacturing processes, leading to greater production and unprecedented standards of living.

Maker Comics (series)

by various

Gr 4-8

The ultimate DIY guides, each Maker Comics graphic novel includes inspiring illustrated step-by-step instructions from such writer/artists as Chris Schweizer, Falynn Koch, and Sarah Myer to help you accomplish such feats as Fix a Car, Bake Like a Pro, and Create a Costume, building your skill set and your confidence.

There are 5 books in this series.

The Roswell UFO Incident*by Blake Hoena*

Gr 3-8

Strange happenings splash across newspaper headlines with no earthly explanation and leave us wondering: is it just a coincidence, or is it really something not of this world? These graphic narratives delve into paranormal stories that have captured the attention of nations and left believers and skeptics at odds. With historical quotes, timelines, and theories on possible causes, this high-interest series lets reluctant readers explore the mysteries and reach their own conclusions of what really happened.

International Flair

- The Adventures of Tintin
- American Born Chinese
- Hildafolk
- Illegal
- Pablo & Jane and the Hot Air Contraption
- Pashmina
- The Shadow Hero

The Adventures of Tintin *by Herge* Gr 3+

The series is set during a largely realistic 20th century. Its hero is Tintin, a courageous young Belgian reporter and adventurer. He is aided by his faithful dog Snowy. Other protagonists include the brash and cynical Captain Haddock and the intelligent but hearing-impaired Professor Calculus, as well as the incompetent detectives Thomson and Thompson and the opera diva Bianca Castafiore. The plots straddle a variety of genres: swashbuckling adventure with elements of fantasy, action, mystery, political thriller and science fiction. The stories feature slapstick humour, offset by dashes of sophisticated satire and political or cultural commentary.

There are 24 books in this series.

American Born Chinese *by Gene Leun Yang* Gr 7-9

American Born Chinese tells the story of three apparently unrelated characters: Jin Wang, who moves to a new neighborhood with his family only to discover that he's the only Chinese-American student at his new school; the powerful Monkey King, subject of one of the oldest and greatest Chinese fables; and Chin-Kee, a personification of the ultimate negative Chinese stereotype, who is ruining his cousin Danny's life with his yearly visits. Their lives and stories come together with an unexpected twist in this action-packed modern fable. American Born Chinese is an amazing ride, all the way up to the astonishing climax.

Hildafolk *by Luke Pearson* Gr 3-7

Hilda is the little girl. And this is her folk tale. And pretty much everything you need to know about how good this is, is there on that absolutely gorgeously delightful cover above. By the end of it, you'll have exactly the same smile as Hilda has.

There are 6 books in this series.

Illegal

by Eoin Colfer

Gr 3-7

Ebo is alone. His brother, Kwame, has disappeared, and Ebo knows it can only be to attempt the hazardous journey to Europe, and a better life—the same journey their sister set out on months ago. But Ebo refuses to be left behind in Ghana. He sets out after Kwame and joins him on the quest to reach Europe. Ebo's epic journey takes him across the Sahara Desert to the dangerous streets of Tripoli, and finally out to the merciless sea. But with every step he holds on to his hope for a new life, and a reunion with his family.

Pablo & Jane and the Hot Air Contraption

By Jose Domingo

Gr K-3

A strange green glow is coming from the old house up on the hill, and when Pablo and Jane decide to inquire they make an unexpected discovery! Zapped into the Monster Dimension by the evil cat, Dr. Felinibus, they must now find a way home in the broken Hot Air Time Machine, with a little help from their friend Dr. Jules (a nineteenth century scientist trapped inside the body of a rat).

Pashmina

by Nidhi Chanani

Gr 3-7

Priyanka Das has so many unanswered questions: Why did her mother abandon her home in India years ago? What was it like there? And most importantly, who is her father, and why did her mom leave him behind? But Pri's mom avoids these questions, so for Pri, her mother's homeland can only exist in her imagination. That is, until she find a mysterious pashmina tucked away in a forgotten suitcase. When she wraps herself in it, she is transported to a place more vivid and colorful than any guidebook or Bollywood film. But is this the real India? And what is that shadow lurking in the background? To learn the truth, Pri must travel farther than she's ever dared and find the family she never knew.

The Shadow Hero

by Gene Leun Yang

Gr 7-12

In the comics boom of the 1940s, a legend was born: the Green Turtle. He solved crimes and fought injustice just like the other comics characters. But this mysterious masked crusader was hiding something more than your run-of-the-mill secret identity... The Green Turtle was the first Asian American super hero.

Realistic Fiction

- All Summer Long
- All's Faire in Middle School
- Bake Sale
- Berrybrook Middle School
- Cardboard Kingdom
- El Deafo
- Robot Dreams
- Roller Girl
- Smile
- Stargazing
- Sunny

All Summer Long

by Hope Larson

Gr 5-7

Thirteen-year-old Bina has a long summer ahead of her. She and her best friend, Austin, usually do everything together, but he's off to soccer camp for a month, and he's been acting kind of weird lately anyway. So it's up to Bina to see how much fun she can have on her own. At first it's a lot of guitar playing, boredom, and bad TV, but things look up when she finds an unlikely companion in Austin's older sister, who enjoys music just as much as Bina. But then Austin comes home from camp, and he's acting even weirder than when he left. How Bina and Austin rise above their growing pains and reestablish their friendship and respect for their differences makes for a touching and funny coming-of-age story.

There is also a sequel, "All Together Now."

All's Faire in Middle School

by Victoria Jamieson

Gr 4-7

Eleven-year-old Imogene has grown up with two parents working at the Renaissance Faire, and she's eager to begin her own training as a squire. First, though, she'll need to prove her bravery. Luckily she has just the quest in mind—she'll go to public school after a life of being homeschooled! But it's not easy to act like a noble knight-in-training in middle school. Soon she falls in with a group of girls who seem really nice

(until they don't) and starts to be embarrassed of her thrift shop apparel, her family's unusual lifestyle, and their small, messy apartment. Imogen has always thought of herself as a heroic knight, but when she does something really mean in order to fit in, she begins to wonder whether she might be more of a dragon after all.

Bake Sale

by Sara Varon

Gr 3-7

Cupcake's life is pretty good. He's got his bakery, and his band, and his best friend, Eggplant. His days are full of cooking, socializing, and playing music. But lately, Cupcake has been struggling in the kitchen. He's sure the solution to all his problems is out there somewhere. But maybe that solution is hiding closer to home.

Berrybrook Middle School (series)

by Svetlana Chmakova

Gr 5+

When Peppi Torres trips into a quiet boy in the hall, Jaime Thompson, the mean kids start calling her the "nerder girlfriend." How does she handle this crisis? By shoving poor Jaime and running away! Surrounding herself with new friends in the art club, Peppi still can't help feeling ashamed about the way she treated Jaime. Things are already awkward enough between the two, but to make matters worse, he's a member of her own club's archrivals--the science club! And when the two clubs go to war, Peppi realizes that sometimes you have to break the rules to survive middle school!

There are 3 books in this series (so far).

Cardboard Kingdom

by Chad Sell

Gr 4-7

Welcome to a neighborhood of kids who transform ordinary boxes into colorful costumes, and their ordinary block into cardboard kingdom. This is the summer when sixteen kids encounter knights and rogues, robots and monsters--and their own inner demons--on one last quest before school starts again. In the Cardboard Kingdom, you can be anything you want to be--imagine that!

El Deafo

by Cece Bell

Gr 3-7

At her old school, everyone in Cece's class was deaf. Here, she's different. She's sure the kids are staring at the Phonic Ear, the powerful aid that will help her hear her

teacher. Then Cece makes a startling discovery. With the Phonic Ear she can hear her teacher not just in the classroom but anywhere her teacher is in the school! This is a superpower! Cece is on her way to becoming El Deafo, Listener for All. But the funny thing about being a superhero is that it's just another way of feeling different . . . and lonely. Can Cece channel her powers into finding the thing she wants most, a true friend?

Robot Dreams

by Sara Varon

Gr 3-7

After a Labor Day jaunt to the beach leaves the robot rusted, immobilized in the sand, the dog must return alone to the life they shared. But the memory of their friendship lingers, and as the seasons pass, the dog tries to fill the emotional void left by the loss of his closest friend, making and losing a series of friends, from a melting snowman to epicurean anteaters. But for the robot, lying rusting on the beach, the only relief from loneliness is in dreams.

Roller Girl

by Victoria Jamieson

Gr 4-7

When 12-year-old Astrid falls in love with roller derby and signs up for derby camp, her best friend Nicole decides to go to dance camp instead. And so begins the most difficult summer of Astrid's life as she struggles to keep up with the older girls at camp, hang on to the friend she feels slipping away, and cautiously embark on a new friendship. As the end of summer nears and her first roller derby bout (and junior high!) draws closer, Astrid realizes that maybe she is strong enough to handle the bout, a lost friendship, and middle school... in short, strong enough to be a roller girl.

Smile

By Raina Telgemeier

Gr 3-7

Raina just wants to be a normal sixth grader. But one night after Girl Scouts she trips and falls, severely injuring her two front teeth. What follows is a long and frustrating journey with on-again, off-again braces, surgery, embarrassing headgear, and even



"THIS BOOK REVIEW IS ABOUT A BOOK CALLED SMILE! IT IS BY RAINA TELGEMEIER. IT IS ALSO A GRAPHIC NOVEL. THERE ARE LOTS OF CHARACTERS IN THIS BOOK! IT'S ABOUT A GIRL NAMED RAINA AND IT'S KIND OF A TRUE STORY. I REALLY LOVE THIS BOOK AND SO WILL YOU!"

Reviewed by Lauren

a retainer with fake teeth attached. And on top of all that, there's still more to deal with: a major earthquake, boy confusion, and friends who turn out to be not so friendly.

There are two sequels, "Sisters" and "Guts."

Stargazing

by Jen Wang

Gr 3-4

Moon is everything Christine isn't. She's confident, impulsive, artistic, and unlike anyone Christine has ever known. But these unlikely friends are soon best friends, sharing their favorite music videos and painting their toenails when Christine's strict parents aren't around. Moon even tells Christine her deepest secret: that she has visions, sometimes, of celestial beings who speak to her from the stars. Who reassure her that earth isn't where she really belongs. Moon's visions have an all-too-earthly root, however, and soon Christine's best friend is in the hospital, fighting for her life. Can Christine be the friend Moon needs, now, when the sky is falling?

Sunny Side Up

by Jennifer L. Holm

Gr 4-6

Sunny Lewin has been packed off to Florida to live with her grandfather for the summer. At first she thought Florida might be fun, but the place where Gramps lives is no amusement park. It's full of . . . old people. Luckily, Sunny isn't the only kid around. She meets Buzz, a boy who is completely obsessed with comic books, and soon they're having adventures of their own: facing off against golfball-eating alligators, runaway cats, and mysteriously disappearing neighbors. But the question remains -- why is Sunny down in Florida in the first place? The answer lies in a family secret that won't be secret to Sunny much longer.

There are 2 sequels, "Swing It, Sunny" and "Sunny Rolls the Dice."

Spooky and Supernatural

- Cardboard
- Cast No Shadow
- Ghostopolis
- Ghosts
- Lumberjanes
- Sheets

Cardboard

by Doug TenNapel

Gr 4-7

Cam's down-and-out father gives him a cardboard box for his birthday and he knows it's the worst present ever. So to make the best of a bad situation, they bend the cardboard into a man-and to their astonishment, it comes magically to life. But the neighborhood bully, Marcus, warps the powerful cardboard into his own evil creations that threaten to destroy them all!

Cast No Shadow

by Nick Tapalansky

Gr 7-9

Greg has lived in Lancaster his whole life. The town's always had its quirks, and being born without a shadow means he's counted among them. When Greg discovers an old mansion in the woods just outside of town, he didn't expect to meet a smart, beautiful, funny, and... very dead teenaged girl named Eleanor. Yeah. He's in love with a ghost. And before he knows what's happening, Greg finds himself at the wrong end of a history lesson when the town's past, and his own, threaten to pull the two of them apart permanently!

Ghostopolis

by Doug TenNapel

Gr 5-7

Imagine Garth Hale's surprise when he's accidentally zapped to the spirit world by Frank Gallows, a washed-out ghost wrangler. Suddenly Garth finds he has powers the ghosts don't have,



"I REALLY ENJOYED THIS GRAPHIC NOVEL, AND I WOULD HIGHLY RECOMMEND IT FOR READERS 10-16. READERS WHO ENJOY SLIGHTLY SPOOKY SUPERNATURAL BOOKS WILL ENJOY THIS WEIRD VERSION OF THE AFTERLIFE."

and he's stuck in a world run by the evil ruler of Ghostopolis, who would use Garth's newfound abilities to rule the ghostly kingdom. When Garth meets Cecil, his grandfather's ghost, the two search for a way to get Garth back home, and nearly lose hope until Frank Gallows shows up to fix his mistake.

Ghosts

by Raina Telgemeier

Gr 3-7

Catrina and her family are moving to the coast of Northern California because her little sister, Maya, is sick. Cat isn't happy about leaving her friends, but Maya has cystic fibrosis and will benefit from the cool, salty air that blows in from the sea. As the girls explore their new home, a neighbor lets them in on a secret: There are ghosts in Bahía de la Luna. Maya is determined to meet one, but Cat wants nothing to do with them. As the time of year when ghosts reunite with their loved ones approaches, Cat must figure out how to put aside her fears for her sister's sake - and her own.



"THIS BOOK IS ABOUT MAYA AND HER BIG SISTER CAT. CAT'S SISTER HAS A DISEASE CALLED CYSTIC FIBROSIS, IT AFFECT BREATHING AND DIGESTION. MAYA WAS BORN WITH IT AND HER SISTER IS SCARED ABOUT MAYA DYING. THERE IS NO CURE, SADLY. CAT AND HER FAMILY ARE MOVING TO SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA IN BAHIA DE LA LUNA. CAT AND MAYA MISS THEIR FRIENDS VERY BADLY. THE SUN ONLY SHINES 62 DAYS A YEAR. CAT MEETS A NEW KID AND HE TELLS HER THAT THERE'S GHOSTS AND SHE IS SUPER SCARED."

Reviewed by Riona

Lumberjanes (series)

by Noelle Stevenson

Gr 5-10

At Miss Qiunzilla Thiskwin Penniquiquil Thistle Crumpet's camp for hard-core lady-types, things are not what they seem. Luckily, Jo, April, Mal, Molly, and Ripley are five rad, butt-kicking best pals determined to have an awesome summer together... And they're not gonna let a magical quest or an array of supernatural critters get in their way! After they witness a mysterious old woman turn into a bear, they see a pack of three-eyed supernatural foxes. As more three-eyed creatures start to appear, the girls task themselves with solving the mysteries surrounding the camp.

There are 16 books in this series.

Sheets*by Brenna Thummler*

Gr 4-6

Marjorie Glatt feels like a ghost. A practical 13-year-old in charge of the family laundry business, her daily routine features unforgiving customers, unbearable P.E. classes, and the fastidious Mr. Saubertuck who is committed to destroying everything she's worked for. Wendell is a ghost. A boy who lost his life much too young, his daily routine features ineffective death therapy, a sheet-dependent identity, and a dangerous need to seek purpose in the forbidden human world. While Wendell attempts to create a new afterlife for himself, he unknowingly sabotages the life that Marjorie is struggling to maintain.

There is a sequel to this book called "Delicates."

Superheroes

- DC Superhero Girls
- Mister Invincible: Local Hero
- Monster Mayhem
- Moon Girl and Devil Dinosaur
- Secret Hero Society

DC Superhero Girls

by Shea Fontana

Gr 3-7

Class is in session! Welcome to DC Super Hero High! Icons including Wonder Woman, Supergirl, Batgirl, Harley Quinn, Bumble Bee, Poison Ivy, Katana and many more make their unprecedented teenaged introduction, as each character has her own storyline that explores what teen life is like as a Super Hero.

There are 12 books in this series.

Mister Invincible: Local Hero *by Pascal Joussein*

Gr 4-6

Tremble, crooks, here's Mr. Invincible! He helps widows and orphans as any self-respecting hero would, but also dogs, cats, grandmothers, the mayor's son, and, well, the rest of the city. Masked and caped, like any good superhero, he thwarts the mad scientists and bad guys without much worry. Not only is he unbeatable, but his super-power makes him the only true comic book hero -- he can reach outside the panels and affect both space and time! A wholly unique and creative twist on conventional comic-book reading experience, this wacky Middle Grade title will put your imagination to the test!

Monster Mayhem

by Christopher Eliopoulos Gr 3-7

Zoe's favorite thing to do--besides invent and build robots--is watch classic monster movies. And then one day, Zoe finds a mysterious ring on her way home from school. She puts it on, gives it a twist, and--FRZAACK! The next morning, a familiar monster appears at Zoe's window. But it turns out that Zoe's ring has brought more than just this friendly monster to life. More monsters have arrived, and they are hungry! Good thing she's a robotics genius!

Moon Girl and Devil Dinosaur (series)

by various

Gr 3-8

Lunella Lafayette is an Inhuman preteen genius who wants to change the world! That job would be a lot easier if she wasn't living in mortal fear of her latent Inhuman gene. There's no telling what she'll turn into - but Luna's got a plan. All she needs is an Omni-Wave Projector. Easy, right? That is, until a red-scaled beast is teleported from the prehistoric past to a far-flung future we call...today! Together they're the most Marvelous Team-Up of all - the Inhuman Moon Girl and time-tossed Devil Dinosaur!

Secret Hero Society

by Derek Fridolfs

Gr 3-7

Being the new kid at school is tough, especially when your school is called Ducard Academy and your name is Bruce Wayne. There's a gang of jokers roaming the halls, a muscle-headed kid named Bane wants to beat you up, and your guidance counselor Hugo Strange seems really, well, strange. This inventive novel follows young Bruce Wayne and his friends Clark (Superman) and Diana (Wonder Woman) as they start a Junior Detective Agency to investigate their teachers and find out what's going on behind closed doors at Ducard Academy, all before recess. There are 5 books in this series.



"MY BOOK REVIEW IS ABOUT A GRAPHIC NOVEL CALLED SUPER HERO SOCIETY: FORT SOLITUDE. IT IS ABOUT BATMAN, SUPERMAN, AND SUPER GIRL AS KIDS. AND THEY WENT TO A CAMP CALLED EVERGREEN ADVENTURE CAMP. BUT THERE WAS A PROBLEM THAT NEEDED TO BE SOLVED. AND IF YOU LIKE SUPERHEROES I REALLY, REALLY RECOMMEND THIS BOOK!"

Reviewed by Lauren