



YOUNG ADULT READERS LIST (17 and older)

SUPER-HERO

ASTRO CITY LIFE IN THE BIG CITY TP

STAR08671D \$ 19.95

Ever wondered what superheroes do in their off time? Do they even *have* off time? Go on dates? Go shopping? Hang out with their friends? Kurt Busiek has created a wonderful series considering these burning questions with **Astro City**, and with Alex Ross and Brent Anderson creating such vibrant visuals there's never a boring moment.

review by [Robin](#) www.noflyingnotights.com

DAREDEVIL VOL 1 GUARDIAN DEVIL TP

STAR10159D \$ 19.95

by Kevin Smith the creator of the *Clerks* and *Jay and Silent Bob* movies, *Quesada*, & *Palmiotti*

A scared young woman places a baby in the hands of Daredevil. A child she believes to be either our saviour or our ultimate nightmare! Collecting the issues #1-8 of the Marvel Knights series! SC, FC

review by Diamond Comics

LESS THAN HEROES GN

APR042942F \$ 14.95

Imagine if The Justice League became a syndicate. And franchises were set up all over the country. And the superheroes joined a union. This is the premise of *Less Than Heroes*, which takes place in Philadelphia. Somehow, the city of brotherly love has been passed over by the unionized superheroes and left to the defenses of Threshold, a quartet with serious interests in snack food and an apparent lack of powers. Before long, the supervillains figure out where the superheroes aren't. What will happen to Philadelphia?

review by Jennifer Lowe, Tinley Park Public Library

WATCHMEN TP

FEB058406D \$ 19.99

Watchmen is a seminal work. When it first appeared in 1986 it almost single-handedly ushered in a new era with a darker take on the superhero mythos. Positing a world in which groups of costumed vigilantes have had their day fighting crime, only to be outlawed by the government, the story follows a mystery involving the murder of a former hero. The world-shattering implications of the solution to the mystery evolve slowly. A masterpiece for older YAs and adults.

review by Nancy Bent, LaGrange Public Library

FANTASY/SCIENCE FICTION

BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER: THE DEATH OF BUFFY TP

STAR16719V \$ 15.95

This graphic novel is based on the television show *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*. It contains all of the same characters from the show and even loosely follows the story line. This graphic novel is based on the episodes when Buffy died trying to save Dawn from the mystical energy that opened the various dimensions. We see how the gang tried to manage their everyday lives without Buffy, but the writers also created another plot involving Willow and a magic scroll that brings some demons to life. The graphics are in color and much of the book is similar to the show. If you have an audience that really liked *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* then I would recommend this series of books, as well as the *Angel* series.

review by Lisa Morrison Korajczyk, Richton Park Public Library

CEREBUS VOL 1 TP

STAR00070E \$ 30.00

This black and white fantasy series by Dave Sim began in the late 1970s, and was one of the first self-published comics to gain a large audience. The title character is a walking, talking aardvark in a world of humans. It began as a parody of Conan the Barbarian, quickly growing to include parodies of other fantasy and comics characters and characters patterned after real-life comedians, but by the middle of the first book Cerebus becomes involved in complex political intrigue, and the parody becomes only part of a much larger story.

review by Steve Raiteri



FABLES VOL 1 LEGENDS IN EXILE TP

APR058372D

\$ 9.99

It's a familiar story: a Manhattan party girl has gone missing, and her apartment is stained with blood. A hard-boiled detective must sort out the clues. But in this case, the girl is Rose Red (Snow White's sister), the detective is the Big Bad Wolf, and the Manhattan they live in is known as Fabletown: a secret city that exists alongside the "mundane" one we know. Once upon a time, the fairy-tale characters we knew and loved lived in their own storybook worlds. Then the Adversary came, conquering their lands and destroying our most beloved fantasies. The survivors now live side by side with human beings, their magical natures hidden. Princesses and witches, wolves and pigs coexist (mostly) in peace. Fractured fairy-tale and fantasy fans will love Fables. Librarians should keep in mind, however, that it's published by Vertigo; there are a few panels of adult content. You just can't trust a Prince Charming...

review by [Jen](#) www.noflyingnotights.com

LEAGUE OF EXTRAORDINARY GENTLEMEN VOL ONE TP

STAR16504D

\$ 14.95

This is a story about superheroes before superheroes wore tights and capes. It's superheroes in corsets and frock coats who sit down to tea in the afternoon on Captain Nemo's fantastical submarine the Nautilus. Alan Moore draws from a wealth of 19th C literary sources to create the ultimate crossover story. As always, Moore delivers a story which is intelligent and well written. The plot recalls the style of the 19th century mystery novel but with a modern flourish. Kevin O'Neill's artwork is perfect for this story. The panels are filled with detail, and are as complicated and labyrinthine as Alan Moore's text.

review by [Petra](#) www.noflyingnotights.com

LONE WOLF & CUB VOL 1 THE ASSASSINS ROAD TP

STAR11783V

\$ 9.95

An epic samurai adventure of staggering proportions - over 7000 pages - *Lone Wolf and Cub* (Kozure Okami in Japan) is acknowledged worldwide for the brilliant writing of series creator Kazuo Koike and the groundbreaking cinematic visuals of the late Goseki Kojima, creating unforgettable imagery of stark beauty, kinetic fury, and visceral thematic power that influenced a generation of visual storytellers both in Japan and in the West.

review by Diamond Comics

NEIL GAIMAN & CHARLES VESS STARDUST TP

FEB058028D

\$ 19.99

A young man with a magically mixed parentage undertakes a lover's bidding that moves him to realms he never imagined.

review by Diamond Comics

A spellbinding novella by world renowned writer Neil Gaiman with beautiful paintings by master artist Charles Vess. This is a must read for every Fantasy fan. You'll find yourself going back to read it again and again.

review by Eric Helmick, BOSCO'S

PROMETHEA BOOK ONE TP

APR068028D

\$ 14.99

Promethea is an immortal woman warrior: (a la Wonder Woman), brought to life by a series of poets, artists, cartoonists and finally Sophie a college student. Sophie inherits the mantle of the woman warrior while researching a term paper on the Promethea myth. Can Sophie learn to use her new powers before the darkness track her down and kill her?

review by Lance Anderson, Hinsdale Public Library

RED STAR VOL 1 BATTLE OF KAR DATHRAS GATE TP

STAR17840E

\$ 24.95

This is one of the few graphic novels I've come across that made me sit back and just stare. The artwork, a combination of traditional illustration techniques and the 3D computer imaging used in the finest computer games, is absolutely stunning. Lucky for us, the story is equally brilliant. A reworking of world history, **The Battle of Kar Dathra's Gate** follows one Comrade Sorcerer through her brutal memories of the title battle in a conflict which mirrors Russia's 1979 invasion of Afghanistan. On that day, she lost both her faith in her country and, more personally, her beloved husband. Her story, however, is much more than it seems, and destiny has greater plans for both her and her husband.

review by [Robin](#) www.noflyingnotights.com

SANDMAN VOL 1 PRELUDES & NOCTURNES TP

DEC058090D

\$ 19.99

A group of spiritualists attempts to capture Death, but accidentally imprison Dream instead. When he escapes, he goes in search of items that were stolen from him before he returns to his realm. Book 1 of a series. Audience: Adults

review by Debbie Darwine, LaGrange Public Library



BOSCO'S Comics Card & Games 2606 Spenard Rd, Anchorage, Alaska 99505 907-274-4112

Also in the Dimond Center and www.boscoss.com

Y THE LAST MAN VOL 1 UNMANNED TP

OCT058020D

\$ 12.99

A deadly virus seemingly kills every male creature on earth, except for one young man and his pet monkey. Yorick and Ampersand travel across the U.S., dealing with government bureaucrats, foreign agents, militant Amazons, and scientists as Yorick tries to come to terms with being the last man alive. Book 1 of a series. Audience: Adults
review by Debbie Darwine, LaGrange Public Library

HUMOR**RANMA 1/2 VOL 1 2ND ED TP**

STAR18353E

\$ 9.95

Try this on for size -- You're a handsome, fit, martial-arts-trained young man. Every time you get hit with cold water, you turn into a pretty, fit, martial-arts-trained young *woman*. The only way to turn back is to find some hot water and dunk yourself. This is Ranma's plight, a curse unwittingly brought down on him by his own father -- you don't want to guess what his father turns into! This series is loved around the world for it laughs and heart -- Ranma is terribly perturbed by this constant switching, as is everyone around him, to great comic effect.
review by [robin](http://www.noflyingnotights.com) www.noflyingnotights.com

SUPERNATURAL LAW, TALES OF TP

JUN052953F

\$ 16.95

Humorous stories about the staff and clients of a legal firm, Wolff & Byrd, Counselors of the Macabre, who represent the most unusual members of Brooklyn society. Eccentric characters include Ally McGraugh, an anorexic lawyer who's an overly dramatic man hunter, Buford, a teenage human/vampire hybrid, and Mavis, the height adaptable secretary to Wolff and Byrd. For adults or young adults.
review by Brenda O'Brien, Woodridge Public Library

TOO MUCH COFFEE MAN GUIDE FOR PERPLEXED TP

STAR18525V

\$ 12.95

Too Much Coffee Man is not so much about coffee as it is about life and figuring things out; there's a lot of free-thinking, bad puns, slapstick humor, and nickel philosophy.
review by Diamond Comics

REALISTIC**BLANKETS GN**

STAR19060F

\$ 29.95

Autobiographical story of two young brothers growing up in a strictly religious family in Wisconsin, and Craig's first love, Raina, a Michigan teen from another dysfunctional family. Craig struggles with his religious beliefs and his sexuality. The story moves back and forth in time, to the often unhappy childhood he shared with his younger brother, and back to his wonder that lovely, popular Raina cares for him and admires his drawing. Moving, unsettling, hard to put down. Recommended for older young adults and adults.
review by Brenda O'Brien, Woodridge Public Library

MARS VOL 1 GN

STAR15408E

\$ 9.99

This teen soap opera in manga form tells the story of shy, sweet Kira and gorgeous "bad boy" Rei. Rei is drawn to Kira when he sees her drawing in the park, and Kira wants to use Rei as a model. They develop a strong bond despite the skepticism of their schoolmates and the attempts of others to break them up. Book 1 of a series.
Audience: Young Adults
review by Debbie Darwine, LaGrange Public Library



PEDRO AND ME TP

STAR18524H \$ 16.00

You all know the tag line of **The Real World**: Seven people are chosen to live in a house to find out what's "real." In 1993, in San Francisco, the world was given an unexpected, and perhaps unasked for, gift -- through watching this hyped reality soap opera, we all got to live with someone who had AIDS. That young man, Pedro Zamora, touched the entire country -- but for author Judd Winick, fellow cast member, he was simply one of his best friends. Here he relates the story around and after the television show and the life-changing effect Pedro had on him. If you must read only one graphic novel, this is the one.

review by [robin](#) www.noflyingnotights.com

PERSEPOLIS THE STORY OF A CHILDHOOD HC

STAR18457H \$ 17.95

Autobiographical memoir of a childhood in Iran. Marjane's great grandfather once ruled Iran, and we see her as a young girl in a wealthy, loving Tehran family, then greatly affected by changes in the country during the Islamic Revolution, conflict with Iraq, and the new fundamentalism. A favorite relative is killed, and a very modern girl copes with a public and private persona and dress, but remains too outspoken to comfortably live in her beloved country. Recommended for adults and young adults.

review by Brenda O'Brien, Woodridge Public Library

SAFE AREA GORAZDE SC

STAR14887F \$ 19.95

During the Bosnian War, the United Nations made "safe areas" out of Muslim territories surrounded by threatening Bosnian Serb forces. These were often the most dangerous places in Bosnia. Gorazde was such a place and this is the story of its people.

review by Highland Park Public Library

STRANGERS IN PARADISE VOL 1 PKT TP

MAY042161E \$ 17.95

No superheroes, no magic, no fantasy, no elves, no science fiction, no ultraviolence -- just very believable characters, a compelling, captivating storyline and incredible artwork from Terry Moore! Contains undertones of sexual relationships among the main characters.

review by Comic Shop News

TALE OF ONE BAD RAT TP

STAR01324V \$ 14.95

Taking off from the sweetness of Beatrix Potter's world, this compelling graphic novel follows Helen Potter, a homeless girl trying to find her way on the streets of London. Helen manages to find company and shelter of a kind, but her own nightmarish past keeps destroying her peace and her ability to reach out. After one frightening incident, Helen abandons the city to seek the comfort of her youth, the tales of Beatrix Potter, by finding the next best thing -- Potter's house in the English countryside. No matter how bright and green her new life is, however, Helen discovers she must confront her past before she can begin her future.

review by [robin](#) www.noflyingnotights.com

V FOR VENDETTA TP

STAR00232D \$ 19.99

An excellent title, this book is also the hardest to define or explain -- like much of Alan Moore's groundbreaking work. An alternate history has unfolded -- after America has bombed Africa and Europe and governments have collapsed into chaos, a fascist regime has risen in what is left of England and is now strict and powerful in their rule. This police state, however, has a lot of dirty secrets to hide, and one man, the enigmatic and poetic V, has taken it upon himself to carefully, but irrevocably, tear down the government. Not for the faint of heart, **V for Vendetta** is a brutal but intriguing look at the true meaning of anarchy and individual freedom.

review by [robin](#) www.noflyingnotights.com

WILL EISNER'S CONTRACT WITH GOD TRILOGY HC

JUL053284H \$ 29.95

Will Eisner is the granddaddy of graphic novels as well as being responsible for the success of comics in a variety of genres, from journalism to nonfiction. This title, often called the first graphic novel, is a personal one -- a sequence of tales drawn from Eisner's memories of growing up Jewish in a Tenement in Brooklyn in pre-war America. He deftly explores the fragility and community to be found in a world of people living in poverty practically on top of each other. The tale also works as a portrait of a place and time as can only be told by one who lived through it, with affection and honesty.

review by [robin](#) www.noflyingnotights.com



WILL EISNER'S FAGIN THE JEW GN

STAR19712F

\$ 15.95

With *Fagin the Jew*, Will Eisner proves himself once again to be not only a master of comic storytelling but also an incisive literary and social critic. Throughout his comics career, which has spanned seven decades, Eisner grew increasingly frustrated with the stubbornly pervasive Jewish stereotypes found in classic literature. Upon examining the original editions of *Oliver Twist* and the accompanying illustrations, he decided to set the record straight – using information gleaned from his research to tell the story of Fagin that Charles Dickens neglected.

review by Doubleday

WILL EISNER'S LAST DAY IN VIETNAM GN

STAR11500V

\$ 10.95

Last Day in Vietnam is Eisner's memoir of stories about soldiers who are engaged not only in the daily hostilities of war but also in larger, more personal combat. During Eisner's years in the military, and particularly during the many field trips he made for *P.S. Magazine*, he observed camp life at close range. Some of the stories in this novel are comical, some heartrending, some frightening, yet all display the incredible insight into humanity characteristic of Eisner's entire oeuvre.

review by Diamond Comics

YOSSEL APRIL 19 1943 SC

AUG052967H

\$ 13.95

On the 60th anniversary of the uprising in the Warsaw Ghetto, Joe Kubert released this gritty tale of a 15 year-old boy who might have been a great artist. Instead, he is labeled with a yellow star and imprisoned in the Jewish ghetto in Warsaw. In unembellished pencil drawings, Yossel tells the story of his involvement with the uprising, and follows it to the inevitable conclusion when the Nazis crush the movement. One of the most moving works of graphic art ever released, this one is for older young adults and adults.

review by Nancy Bent, LaGrange Public Library

CRIME**POWERS VOL 1 WHO KILLED RETRO GIRL TP**

MAY068186D

\$ 21.99

What, Brian Michael Bendis again? I'll admit, I'm a wee bit biased, but he's also one of the few authors who consistently works in this genre. This time around, with Oeming's artwork a wonderful vision of traditionally bright animation cast into sharply shadowed relief, the tale starts in a world very much like our own. There are those who have Powers. No one's quite sure how it starts -- if it's in their genes or it's something acquired -- but those with Powers are responsible for using them as they see fit. They become either heroes or villains -- regular folks will be arrested if they so much as go near a costume without the correct pedigree. In this city, a regular cop has his hands full with Powers and civilians alike -- until someone commits the ultimate, unimaginable crime of murdering the best and brightest of them all, Retro Girl. Then Detective Christian Walker, with rookie partner Deena Pilgrim in tow, must investigate the ultimate of cases, forcing him to face his own secretive past.

review by [robin](http://www.noflyingnotights.com) www.noflyingnotights.com

TOP TEN BOOK ONE TP

OCT048007D

\$ 14.95

It's early morning in my favorite alternate reality, and Officer Robyn "Toy Box" Slinger has just boarded a train for her first day on the job as a member of the Neopolis City Police Force (aka Top 10). Neopolis was built by a group of crazed German architects at the end of World War Two, and by 1999 has become a labyrinthine, overstimulating habitat for humans, machines, aliens, and mythical beings with superpowers. The city's denizens manage to live together about as harmoniously as you'd expect for a few million superheroes ... which is to say, not harmoniously at all. In response to each new disaster, Top 10 gallops, rolls, flies, and explodes through Neopolis' back alleys and main thoroughfares, mixing a lot of wittiness with their superhuman abilities. When Robyn joins the force, the Ghostly Goose is still at large, a blind, Zen Buddhist cabby has wrecked havoc with the city's traffic patterns, tenements are being taken over by vermin capable of altering the space-time continuum, and the Libra Killer has struck again. It's up to the new recruit to take on the strangest group of criminals you'd ever hope to meet, and at the same time to find a place for herself in the loving, gossiping, dysfunctional family that is Top 10.

review by [Alison](http://www.noflyingnotights.com) www.noflyingnotights.com

