Finding Graphic Novels

Start with a genre search

While we have a broad genre of “Comics (Graphic works),” we also have specific graphic novel genres to find exactly the right type of book for readers.

For example, try a genre search for “Manga,” “Fantasy comics,” “Mystery comics,” or “Superhero comics.”

TRY IT
Click Advanced Search
In the first box enter historical comics and select GN Genre from the drop-down
Select Teens from the Audience limiter and click Search

Search by review

Try using the written descriptions in the reviews area to your advantage. The RV field code is your secret weapon here:

EXAMPLES
Teen looking for manga with interesting/notable artwork? Search GN Manga AND RV Art and limit to Teens at the Result List.

Manga described as “gothic”? Search GN Manga AND RV “goth*” and limit to Teens at the Result List.

Add appeal terms

Like a certain style of imagery? Search illustration appeal terms for detailed or minimally colored art.

Like a particular tone? Search for graphic novels that are funny or gritty.

Here are a few other appeal terms popular in graphic novels: Black-and-white, Suspenseful, Gruesome, Violent, Action-packed.

Just the right level

You can always use the audience limiter, but you can also try adding or omitting illustration appeal terms to find the imagery that is just right for the reader’s level and comfort zone.

Have a young teen graphic novel reader who likes action but isn’t comfortable with more graphic violence?

TRY IT
In the search box enter GN Comics NOT AP (Dark OR Scary)
Click Search
Limit to Teens at the Result List

When to use:

Librarians: Looking for funny graphic novels for your school-aged readers?

Readers: Having trouble finding the latest in superhero graphic novels?

Parents: Want to find graphic novels that aren’t too graphic?