

Megha: ([00:00](#))

This podcast is from the Abington Community library. We will be talking about library programs, book recommendations and explorations and fun facts.

Renee: ([00:20](#))

episode 13.

Megha: ([00:22](#))

hello and welcome to Lexivore, the podcast from the Abington Community Library. You might be familiar with lexicon, vocabulary or lexical. Lex has to do with words. And vore, like herbivore or carnivore means an eater of. So Lexivore means those who are voracious in reading, those who devour words.

Renee: ([00:39](#))

I'm Renee.

Megha: ([00:40](#))

and I'm Megha. We are library staff at Abington Community Library. You may recall us from previous episodes. We've covered a lot of topics from light reading to serious facts, readings from the realistic to the fantastical, ranging from the comfortably local to the far reaches of time, space and imagination. If any of that sounds interesting, perhaps you'd like to go check our other stuff out.

Renee: ([00:59](#))

and it is our third season.

Megha: ([01:03](#))

Definitely.

Renee: ([01:03](#))

You are hopefully still listening. We are still recording this and we just want to say thanks so much for joining us.

Megha: ([01:10](#))

Thanks for all your support. Thanks for your help. Suggestions, random guests,

Renee: ([01:13](#))

Random guests, yes. Not so random guests. People that we've invited on. All right, so we're going to start out with our favorite, well, my favorite part, um, what we are currently reading.

Megha: ([01:25](#))

All right, so how about, I'll start us off.

Renee: ([01:27](#))

Perfect.

Megha: ([01:28](#))

This, this time I've got a pair that are closely related.

Renee: ([01:31](#))

Excellent.

Megha: ([01:32](#))

So the first one is Down Cut Shin Creek by Kathi Appelt and Jeanne Schmitzer [1]. This is a nonfiction, actually, juvenile nonfiction book about the Appalachian Pack Horse Librarians [2]. This was previously mentioned via the Book Woman of Troublesome Creek [3] as one of the recommendations and that was kind of why I went looking. So as I mentioned before, like this is an interesting bit of history. It's a lot of fun to read about. The pack horse librarians weren't quite like the bookmobile or, well, weren't quite like the bookmobile or other similar topics because they had very little space and they had to physically haul this stuff around a lot of the time.

Megha: ([02:06](#))

So they weren't taking a selection of books for people to choose from. They were picking stuff out based on what they had, what they could find that their patrons might not even know about.

Renee: ([02:16](#))

So really good personalized recommendations it sounds like.

Renee: ([02:19](#))

Oh, definitely.

Renee: ([02:20](#))

That's so cool.

Renee: ([02:21](#))

And it was a very dangerous kind of task because if they miss, if they picked something that someone was offended by or objected to, that person will not only turn against them, but the entire library services and probably the government and like all kinds of nonsense.

Renee: ([02:36](#))

Oh, No.

Renee: ([02:36](#))

So it was a daunting task. Um, but it had great rewards too because they were reaching people they could not otherwise. And sometimes they will, you know, they pick the exactly right thing and, and really see somebody's mind open up.

Renee: [\(02:50\)](#)

That's wow. Remind me of the time period of this. Is this the 1800s?

Megha: [\(02:54\)](#)

Yeah.

Renee: [\(02:54\)](#)

Okay.

Renee: [\(02:56\)](#)

Um, and it's, it's like I said, it's really interesting. Um, I like the history of it. Like talked about like how they did it, some of their limitations, like the had severe funding limitations.

Renee: [\(03:08\)](#)

Sure. But they also had to probably care for like the animals that they have,

[\(03:13\)](#)

they have to supply their own animals. They spend a lot of their off time like repairing or repairing books or creating scrapbooks because they, instead of carrying a dozen magazines, you're going to carry one scrapbook. And people would often give in like recipes or other like tips and tricks.

Renee: [\(03:29\)](#)

It's like original crowdsourcing.

Megha: [\(03:30\)](#)

or payment

Renee: [\(03:31\)](#)

Oh, OH

Megha: [\(03:32\)](#)

it's like you bringing me this stuff and it's so important to me. Let me share back and it becomes like this community resource,

Renee: [\(03:38\)](#)

Oh I wish we did that

Megha: [\(03:39\)](#)

this is how you treat a child's cough. This is how you poultice up, you know, an injury that's going bad and there's a lot of other kinds of back and forth too. Like I'm sure there were payments of food or other favors going on.

Renee: [\(03:52\)](#)

It's like, what do you hear about the doctors in the 1900s like delivering a child and then they would give them like a chicken as payment or like eggs as payment versus the money because they couldn't afford it.

Renee: [\(04:02\)](#)

And like a lot of these Pack horse librarians, they were also like if someone couldn't read or was sick, they'd sit and read with them. They would have to talk with them to get their preferences. So it was a very like, intimate community service.

Renee: [\(04:14\)](#)

and full service.

Megha: [\(04:16\)](#)

So yeah, I'd liked, I liked it a lot. And of course that springs right into my fiction: the Book Woman of Troublesome Creek [3].

Renee: [\(04:23\)](#)

Yay.

Megha: [\(04:25\)](#)

And that was, that was really eyeopening because obviously the nonfiction, I did mention it was a juvenile book. So there's a lot that's left out.

Megha: [\(04:33\)](#)

This one deals with history straight on, uh, you know, and, and in a very deep way deals with a lot of the culture of that part of Kentucky. In that time period, like there was the depression, there was the Kentucky illness, which was starvation, and racism, women's rights, medical ethics, like labor rights. It was really everything. It's hitting, it's hitting on everything because the reason the pack horse librarians will need it and they were needed as they were, was because there was so much happening, so much happening. There was so much, so much injustice, so much poverty, so much trouble going on. They knew that. So in this book, the book woman that we're following was one of the blue folk of Kentucky [4] who suffers from methemoglobinemia [5] and that leaves their skin blue or purple instead of like the usual skin tones.

Renee: [\(05:24\)](#)

Yes.

Megha: [\(05:25\)](#)

Um, I always found that that particular, um, fact, I guess fascinating in terms of thinking about like prejudice and stuff there's now, blue. It's like, so you have all of this prejudice of all like the black, white, Brown, and then there's blue, right? That's, that's like so cool. And it's a kind of like

a out there, not exactly what you think, but if you think about it in real history, it was in fact tied into.

Renee: ([05:52](#))
absolutely.

Megha: ([05:52](#))
racial prejudice, cultural prejudice, religious prejudice of stuff about like what's unnatural, what's godly?

Renee: ([05:59](#))
Well, don't like things that are different. Yes. And so if you only see a certain skin tone and then suddenly

Megha: ([06:04](#))
there's the blue person popping up, it's not going to make you stop and think so much. It's making you go unnatural. Right. Um, and like I said, there's like, it touches on a lot of these darker topics [6]. It's not, it's not by itself like a terribly dark story. There are a lot of brighter moments to it, but it doesn't pretend that the history was other than what it was.

Renee: ([06:24](#))
it doesn't gloss over it

Megha: ([06:24](#))
And there were literally a couple of, some characters that were really complex, like the, there's a sheriff who made a point of protecting the librarians because he really valued library services. And on the other hand he has this prejudice against the folk of color, which blue apparently counts as in this time. One of the reasons maybe that they used folk of *color*.

Renee: ([06:44](#))
Right

Megha: ([06:44](#))
And it's like one of the minor points at the end where the laws against intermarrying between folk of color changed during the book, slightly. So instead of like pointing out not between negroes and whites, it was like not between folks without color and folks with color or something like that. So a marriage that was lawful before became unlawful, and just as it turned from like a marriage, she really didn't want to a marriage she did.

Renee: ([07:11](#))
So I love that you are reading or I love that you read this and I know that a lot of our coworkers are reading this and it's because in January this is um, one of our books for our Books and Bites book club [7]. And so that will definitely get you excited about it. You can go on our website and

check out the date for that as well as um, look on our calendar in the library. But we're really excited about that. I believe it's January 27th due to a library closing. So yes, the Book Woman of Troublesome Creek we're reading that in January or for our next books and bites book clubs. So definitely sign up for that.

Megha: [\(07:47\)](#)

Yeah, it was a really, really good read and really thought provoking. I really liked it. And then I guess just one kind of tiny extra note, a couple podcasts ago I mentioned the Monopolists: obsession, fury, and scandal behind the world's favorite board game [8]. So as a small update, we now have a children's book that covers basically the same story. It's called Pass Go and Collect 200 [9]. And it does deal with the invention of the game and talks about Charles Darrow versus Lizzie Magie and all of that. So I thought that was pretty cool.

Renee: [\(08:17\)](#)

I really like, I often, when I'm starting to learn about a new topic, we'll read a children's book because they really, um, boil it down to all the facts that you need to know. And then once you have read that and then you can kind of dive into an adult book or like a YA book. So yeah,

Megha: [\(08:30\)](#)

they're also really good about specializing, like, what is the information on this topic, you're going to get children's books because the adult books have like, you get three and a half paragraphs in an enormous book that you don't even know is related because you don't know the details.

Renee: [\(08:45\)](#)

Yes, that's a great point. So yes,

Megha: [\(08:47\)](#)

we approve of children's literature. It is not just for children.

Renee: [\(08:49\)](#)

Dah dah! We love it.

Renee: [\(08:51\)](#)

So I have been reading a few books since we last spoke. I give, um, a trigger warning for the first book. It does deal with sexual assault. So one of the books that I read as since we last spoke was Know My Name by Chanel Miller [10], and it's a powerful memoir of the woman whose statement to Brock Turner gave voice to millions of survivors. Um, she was known originally to the world as Emily Doe when she stunned millions with a letter [11]. Um, Brock Turner had been sentenced to six months in a County jail after he was found sexually assaulting her on Stanford's campus. And then she wrote her victim impact statement, which was posted to BuzzFeed, which then it became viral. So now she has written a memoir about her experiences and this book

Renee: [\(09:34\)](#)

knocked me down. It was amazingly written about one of the most terrible things that can happen. Um, and she is just so frank and so honest about her whole experience from being sexually assaulted to, you know, trying to figure out what happened afterwards to going through the justice system to seeing how this all, um, worked out. And I, I highly recommend it. Um, I know it's a really hard read, but it is, it's so timely and, and just amazing. It's, it's amazing.

Megha: [\(10:09\)](#)

There we go.

Renee: [\(10:09\)](#)

That's all I can really say about it. I'm on a similar, um, notes. Uh, I read Consent by Donna Freitas [12] and this is also a memoir, talked about being stalked by her, um, professor as she was getting her master's degree at Georgetown. And this was also just a really riveting read in that she talks about being stalked and what that was like, but just how it has again affected her, her going forward and what it looked like for her career and what it looks like for her personally.

Renee: [\(10:41\)](#)

And I think that these books are just so vital to read, um, to give voices to these women and people who've experienced this, but also just to, to know more about it. Um, yeah. Yeah.

Megha: [\(10:56\)](#)

It's not always the obvious things that get us.

Renee: [\(10:57\)](#)

exactly. And just and talking about how her professor would just send her mail and mail and mail and mail and it would just pile up and just to come home to that and you know, to, to have that unwanted thing that seems very innocuous, a piece of mail. But when it's unwanted time after time after time. it was just a staggering read. So, um, those are two nonfiction reads that I'm doing. I also am reading, uh, or I have also read, Let the Great World Spin by Colum McCann [13]. It's one of my very favorite books. Um, it takes place in New York city and has these seven stories of people kind of interweaving throughout it. Um, but it also, the overarching kind of story that, um, touches on is Philippe Petit [14] as he walks across the twin towers on a tight rope, which is really one of my favorite moments in history. There's a great documentary called Man on Wire that, um, like follows his story, but it's just, it's such an evocative novel. It will tap into all of your emotions. I usually gift it to people or I just like put it in people's hands when they say, what should I read next? I really love it. So Let the Great World Spin by Colum McCann.

Megha: [\(12:01\)](#)

Sounds wonderful.

Renee: [\(12:02\)](#)

Yeah

Renee: ([12:08](#))

all right, and we're going to slide right into our main topic today as we start off 2020. We are chatting about graphic novels and I think there's a lot to cover here.

Megha: ([12:20](#))

Definitely.

Renee: ([12:21](#))

What are some of your initial thoughts?

Megha: ([12:23](#))

Um, initial thoughts of graphic novels. I like graphic novels.

Renee: ([12:27](#))

I do too. When do you remember your first one that you read?

Megha: ([12:30](#))

Honestly, I think the first one that I read was, um, as I, it was a college class. I mean like master's level class on graphic novels, but I picked it because I wanted to read more. Uh, I was like more familiar with the kind of Manga side of it because that's what my brother reads a lot. I, the long series are kind of like intimidating to me.

Renee: ([12:52](#))

Yes, me too

Megha: ([12:52](#))

cause I will totally like stay up for two weeks straight and read all of them if you give me a series with 168 novels or whatever.

Renee: (12:58)

Okay.

Megha: ([12:59](#))

That's just not helpful to anybody. Uh, so it's, you know, it's not that I don't want them to send, I think I like them too much, but this one had several standalone works and they were very different, um, in, in style and scope. Some of them were much harder to read than others in various ways.

Renee: ([13:16](#))

ok, right

Megha: [\(13:16\)](#)

Um, like we're talking on different topics, had different connotations. There were a couple that I kept the books like after and refuse to donate them to the.

Renee: [\(13:24\)](#)

booksale.

Megha: [\(13:24\)](#)

booksale or even to the library because we, we had some small sourcing problems and I was like, I'll just donate all of mine to the library so they don't have this next time. And then said, never mind, I really want those books. There we go. Uh, and yeah, I, I like comics, like the Sunday comics [15], the uh, these, these various kinds of like Peanuts and.

Renee: [\(13:47\)](#)

Calvin and Hobbes.

Megha: [\(13:48\)](#)

I adore Calvin and Hobbes.

Renee: [\(13:51\)](#)

as all good people do.

Megha: [\(13:53\)](#)

I, one of our assignments once was like to create a class plan and mine was the Calvin and Hobbes and the Calvinball sequence. And it was hilarious. And I drew like a little comment of myself like jumping up and down going, this is so cool. And a little kid, like the kid in the back of the classroom going, is she hopping? So, yes. I mean, I, I liked it from the beginning.

Renee: [\(14:15\)](#)

Um, I think it's interesting that we're talking about graphic novels and comics on a podcast because they're so visual. And so for us, you know, it's okay for us to explain about the arc of a novel, but to explain or try to describe visuals, especially with this very visual element I think will be really interesting. So I'm, I hope that our listeners will tell us if we did an adequate job or if.

Megha: [\(14:38\)](#)

yeah.

Renee: [\(14:38\)](#)

or If they were disappointed,

Megha: [\(14:40\)](#)

hopefully not. I mean, all we can do is the best we can do. I, like I said, you know, I have never thought that graphic novels were particularly childish for me. It was always about like, which one

do I pick to get started? And then once you get started, it's easier to go like, sure. that looks interesting. Let me grab it and see.

Renee: [\(14:55\)](#)

Yeah, they definitely do have this connotation of being not real reading. And I know that you're kind of touching on that a little bit later, but it's something that I think that we wanted to bring up right in the beginning that to read a graphic novel, to read a comic you are reading and that's great and you should be encouraged and feel good about doing that. It's not a guilty pleasure. It's not, you know, quote unquote cheating. It's - you are reading.

Megha: [\(15:18\)](#)

Yeah. And in some ways reading the graphic novel is harder than reading a regular novel because you've got to follow two completely different styles of communication. Then you've got to kind of put them together and juggle them this way and that and go, okay, which way are we going

Renee: [\(15:31\)](#)

right. And you're being forced to fill in those blanks. It's not just all written out for you or like displayed for you. So yeah, that's a really good point. So what is a graphic novel [16]?

Megha: [\(15:39\)](#)

A graphic novel is, I think the term originally applied to um, long complex stories written in comics, comic style format. Nowadays, there's, it's a little bit more of a, a true hybrid where you're getting, you know, panels and pictures that are intertwined with stories. There's like writing, there's speech bubbles of dialogue, there's symbols and different kinds of symbolism going on and it's all synthesized into a single work. Um, some of them are still kind of very serialized. Some of them are enormously thick and dense and.

Renee: [\(16:18\)](#)

I brought a few of those with us today.

Megha: [\(16:19\)](#)

Some of them are focused on like children or young adult ages. Some of them are quite firmly adult there and you shouldn't hand them to small children.

Renee: [\(16:29\)](#)

Yeah, I think it's been really cool to see the evolution of graphic novels and to see, to see how they change and to, I don't, I don't know. I, when I took this position I did or I do the ordering for our young adults. And it was really nice to see how many we already had. And then to be able to expand that even more because we have a really robust group of people at the library here at Abington that like to read graphic novels and to like, like to read comics and are always looking for that. And even um, manga they are, they're really into that. So it's been really great to see

them and respond to our collection and to give suggestions and to see that section really expand.

Megha: [\(17:06\)](#)

It's really fun to see someone coming in with like six or eight volumes of the same series.

Renee: [\(17:09\)](#)

yes

Megha: [\(17:09\)](#)

Series and just going like, I will totally read this in two weeks and have them all back.

Renee: [\(17:13\)](#)

Exactly.

Megha: [\(17:14\)](#)

Cause I totally did that.

Renee: [\(17:15\)](#)

And then they come and just get them get more. Yeah. And.

Megha: [\(17:19\)](#)

it's just cool.

Renee: [\(17:21\)](#)

So I think that you had pulled an article about reasons why, um, children should read graphic novels. You kind of want to talk through that.

Megha: [\(17:28\)](#)

Sure. Let's talk about that. So, um, the article [17] is Five Reasons Your Child Should Read Graphic Novels by Cammie Garcia and it was really thought provoking. Uh, it touched on a number of different like ideas and different ways of looking at it. So it's talking about for example, how graphic novels develop empathy because it's easier to see someone,

Megha: [\(17:50\)](#)

like you see someone feeling sad, you see someone feeling happy, it's easier to feel with them. Um, it's also in my opinion, like not necessarily the article says it's still so like you can see the similarities but you can also see the differences. So I know that there are some works where people are talking about how some of these like revelations of race or like different characteristics are like almost glossed over in the text because to be accessible to people it can't be poking it in your nose, but that also makes it easier for people to forget. And so it's like, yeah, this person is happy. I can see they are happy, but I can also see that their skin color is not like mine. Their facial structure is different. Different things like that.

Renee: ([18:27](#))

Exactly.

Megha: ([18:27](#))

So it kind of, it pokes both of them and makes you think, because the underlying like less than you might take away from that and then is just because their skin colors different doesn't mean they feel different.

Renee: ([18:39](#))

Exactly.

Megha: ([18:40](#))

And that's really powerful. I would prefer all people to know this. Um, next point is it allows kids to read over their independent reading level because in the places where their vocabulary is weak, the pictures help, um, in the places where their artistic visual interpretation is kind of weak. They've got some words to back it up, they can go back and forth.

Renee: ([19:02](#))

And it's really making you think critically. It's, it is, it's not just a picture and a word level. You have to, like I said, fill in the things between the panels that isn't spoken.

Megha: ([19:12](#))

It's harder to, to integrate those two, almost like parallel narratives, um, to fill in the one than the other. And that's actually number four. So we skipped one.

Renee: ([19:26](#))

Oh, I'm so Sorry.

Megha: ([19:26](#))

I mean, we, it's good to talk about it organically, but let's go back a little bit. Number three is it levels the academic playing field so students can grasp and, and discuss more complex works and themes because the easy to read alternatives often simplify everything. It's, it's not just simplified vocabulary, but it's also like simplified themes, simplified storylines, they don't get to flex their intellectual muscles as much when they might only have one problem and not all the problems to talk about. So, and it also like everybody can talk about them, right? So you can be part of the discussion instead of going, you have to sit in the corner of the easy reads.

Renee: ([20:02](#))

Exactly. Exactly. It makes it so accessible.

Megha: ([20:05](#))

Yes. And the last one is it gets folks excited about reading, not just like boys and not just poor readers. They're exciting, they're colorful, they're shiny. Like everybody likes these things.

Renee: ([20:17](#))

I find, I find when I'm reading a graphic novel, then I actually read slower than if I'm reading like a novel without pictures because you're right, I'm taking in everything.

Megha: ([20:28](#))

You gotta do the extra layer of analysis.

Renee: ([20:30](#))

The art is so beautiful that I really want to go ahead and, and look at all of that. Um, and they are just fun. And so I really want to soak it in. Whereas if I'm reading a novel, sometimes I'm like the, the writing is beautiful, but I can still see myself like scanning and skimming.

Megha: ([20:42](#))

Yes. Especially when like there are some things that really catch your attention, and there's some things that are really nice and really vital to the plot, but it's not what you're like, really, it's not the real reason you're reading that novel, so we just kind of skim it over. Yeah. With graphic novels, there's several where sometimes I'll just get caught up in the artistic.

Renee: ([21:02](#))

yes.

Megha: ([21:03](#))

Um, portrayal, like some bit of symbolism. It's like, that's so cool how they showed that and it just kind of went darker and darker until it's black on black. On black.

Renee: ([21:12](#))

It's like sometimes you almost have to read it twice. Like you have to read the words and then go back through and like, just look at all the art and then even a third time just to come back and take an altogether because you're right, you know, the art has as much as telling the story as the words do.

Megha: ([21:25](#))

and usually all these little complex details that it doesn't really matter if you don't get them first time around, but they're still there and they can just bloom in the second or third reading and says, Oh, didn't you notice that?

Renee: ([21:35](#))

Exactly. Oh, were you busy doing something else?

Megha: ([21:38](#))

Definitely. Um, and I guess the last thing I wanted to say about this article is they had a couple of different, um, graphic novels mentioned in the article and there's a, uh, connected recommendation list [18] and we have like all of them on that list.

Megha: ([21:55](#))

That was like hilarious as I was, as I was going through checking and it was like, wait, did we actually order from this list? I don't think I've heard of some of these, but we've got like every single one. Uh, so yeah, I mean, and they all, they all looked really interesting when I was, when I was looking them over. It's just like there's a lot of them. There's tons, tons of good stuff. So yes. Graphic novels. Excellent. Yeah.

Megha: ([22:16](#))

Let's talk about the second article [19] and this is: Annual Reminder that Graphic Novels are Real Reading by Molly Wetta.

Renee: ([22:24](#))

Hurrah.

Megha: ([22:25](#))

So this is written in the context of libraries promoting summer reading and a library and helping kids find books they'd like to read because then they're more likely to finish or get something out of it. And then among the works that we're picking out, they might pick out a graphic novel only to hear a parent either not allowing their child to read it or insisting that it doesn't count as a real book for reading quota reasons, both of which are unhappy realities. So the article includes some talking points to help convince parents that graphic novels are real reading or for library folk to help persuade an adult not to deny a child a graphic novel in a library setting. So these are things like graphic novels use higher level vocabulary than print only books because they have the, they have more context to kind of go, Oh, that's what that word means instead of going, I have no idea. Let me find, I don't actually like dictionaries never mind, let me read something else.

Megha: ([23:17](#))

They're great for visual learners and that is totally okay if somebody likes, if the pictures help, if somebody likes them, go for it.

Renee: ([23:25](#))

Uhuh

Megha: ([23:26](#))

it's, they're better at teaching inference, which is how to read between the lines of the text and you've got to jump back and forth to create a coherent story or that modern literacy, which is literally media literacy requires being fluent in several mediums. Usually at once. Like you get news articles with photos, you get videos where you get like ads popping up in the middle,

right? You have to kind of be able to read all of this and to absorb it and then [inaudible] and real and you know, pay, realize how to pick out what you need. One thing I was reading about media literacy was talking about ad literacy. It's definitely trying to sell you something and I mean that literally. So you kind of have to know what's going on. Otherwise you're going to be totally suckered in because.

Renee: ([24:10](#))

I'll buy this and this and this,

Megha: ([24:11](#))

and it's mostly, you know, it's more about the person who's designing the app than the actual product. And there are, there are at least like a half a dozen products where

Megha: ([24:21](#))

I have noticed, and I'm not naming names, but I have noticed that the ads say absolutely nothing about the product, which I need. I can finish the ad and not know what they're selling. Don Draper would be thrilled about that. I'm sure. It's just like, buy this and your life will be better. And it's like, what is it? What does he do? I don't know, but there are smiling, frolicking people.

Renee: ([24:44](#))

How is it adding to my general welfare?

Megha: ([24:46](#))

Oh, it's like, I mean, in very literal sense, like what is it? What's in the box? So, yeah, you should definitely learn how to read images, how to read words, how to put them together, how to go, what's going on, how to ask questions like please.

Renee: ([25:02](#))

yes.

Megha: ([25:03](#))

And the last one it's talking about is it is a resource for those who are interested in art and design. Absolutely. For those who might want to go on and design said ads, um, for those who are interested in communicating, well, in ways that involve the visual element and that can include everybody because people always need to talk to people.

Renee: ([25:24](#))

That's not going away.

Renee: ([25:25](#))

That's not going to go away. And sometimes that means sticking a cartoon to your wall. Sometimes that means doodling, like a little sketch so that you can, you can show the visual

elements of what you're talking about. Maybe that means like being able to draw a schematic. This is one way to learn that, to see how people are drawn to different elements, how it's used to communicate in ways that are a little subtler, or a little more,

Renee: ([25:48](#))
more in your face.

Megha: ([25:49](#))
Yeah, there we go.

Renee: ([25:54](#))
Okay. So today Megha and I both read *The Photographer: Into War Torn Afghanistan with Doctors Without Borders* [20]. It is written by, um, Didier Lefevre I hope that my French teacher doesn't hear me, um, pronouncing that and then it was paired with the art of Emmanuel Guibert and also, um, Frederic Lemerrier. Yeah. And it was also translated by Alexis Siegal because it was written in French originally.

Megha: ([26:25](#))
It makes perfect sense.

Renee: ([26:26](#))
Makes perfect sense. All of this will be in the show notes, so look for that. Look for that there. So you had read this previously.

Megha: ([26:35](#))
Actually it was one of the books from that class. I mentioned this and I really liked it. I liked that it was a serious work getting overly, um, I want to say graphic, but that's going to sound wrong 'sin this context without getting too much into bloody details, put it that way.

Renee: ([26:52](#))
Yes.

Megha: ([26:53](#))
Um, I liked that it was about the photographer, like, and that included all of these. Like it was as a photographer's story. It does include like he's got this place where he's got a dozen and a half shots and going like, I'm sure the perfect shots in there somewhere, but I can't find it. Or like take some tips and tricks because it's not just a, a narrative story. It's his story.

Renee: ([27:13](#))
is his story.

Megha: ([27:14](#))
That was his job and that was his concern. I like that.

Renee: [\(27:19\)](#)

It's very memoir-y.

Megha: [\(27:20\)](#)

Yes, it's, and it's, um, I liked that the way the art kind of shifted in different places. Um, I mentioned previously that section where the panels just go darker and darker until it's black on black. With like these little blue dots, you can just barely see the outlines because they were sneaking across the border in the middle of the night. And it's like, yes.

Renee: [\(27:43\)](#)

And it explains how you really can't see anything.

Megha: [\(27:45\)](#)

It's not just telling you that you can't see anything. It's going like what? Oh yeah. Oh cool.

Renee: [\(27:51\)](#)

So like Megha said, it is interspersed with panels that are, um, only text only. So text only panels, his actual photographs that have been reproduced and are still on the old school film and like the negatives. And then the drawn, um, panels as well where it's just, you know, the images that have been illustrated. So it's a really, I've never read a graphic novel that incorporated all three like this. Usually I just see the illustration with the word bubbles on top of it. So this was really a delight to read. It was visually exquisite. Um, almost all of the pictures are in black and white. I believe there's one that's in color.

Megha: [\(28:32\)](#)

and there's a red marker that shows up in a couple of.

Renee: [\(28:34\)](#)

yes. And then.

Megha: [\(28:35\)](#)

I like that too, I don't know why its there but I like it

Renee: [\(28:35\)](#)

there's, yeah, there's this red crayon red marker that's on some of the images. Some are exed out and red, some are outlined in red. Um, and, and so it, it gives this very, it feels like a scrapbook to me.

Megha: [\(28:48\)](#)

yes, it does

Renee: [\(28:48\)](#)

or it feels like, you know, um, yeah, I guess just the scrapbook, he came back, he was pasting in his pictures and his words that go with it. And it's, it's long, it's long and it's big. And I think that's also really cool because it feels so full and you feel like you really are there with him kind of as a little shadow.

Megha: [\(29:13\)](#)

Yeah, it's really cool. And like I said, it talks about his work as a photographer, it talks about local customs and local people. It talks about politics, it talks about problems traveling.

Renee: [\(29:24\)](#)

yes.

Megha: [\(29:24\)](#)

as someone who has traveled. It's, you know, it's really interesting to see because we know that things can go terribly wrong. They have never gone quite as wrong for us as they did for him.

Renee: [\(29:33\)](#)

Yes. But absolutely.

Megha: [\(29:35\)](#)

It's all excellent. So,

Renee: [\(29:37\)](#)

so when you're traveling things just can go awry. And he really shows that beautifully. Um, sometimes to the detriment of his health and his safety.

Megha: [\(29:49\)](#)

Um, there were like a couple of, of really interesting places where he left the group because he was, he didn't want to take the extra time. And I think there were like two places where they crossed him because he had all of these extra problems going on his own and they went as a group and it was much safer and was like, we actually saw this and we didn't know. We feel like we know where you were or what happened.

Renee: [\(30:09\)](#)

I was so annoyed with him,

Megha: [\(30:11\)](#)

he was annoyed with himself to be fair.

Renee: [\(30:13\)](#)

and I'm glad. Why would you not stay with these people?

Megha: [\(30:18\)](#)

Because when you're traveling for real, everybody has different plans and opportunities and.

Renee: [\(30:23\)](#)

I know, Megha, I know that, let's see,

Megha: [\(30:29\)](#)

um, I guess the other minor thing we wanted to mention is that in our, in, in the system it is, is like labeled as young adult. Possibly, I, I'm kind of guessing that it's because we got it from Albright. Maybe that's, you know, they're putting in the young adult section because that's where most of their graphic novels are and it's just easier to find. But it is, it's like adult level. It deals with war, it deals with medical issues. It's,

Renee: [\(30:56\)](#)

or a few graphic photos, um, trigger warning again for very intense things. Um, there is a part where there's, uh, a person's, his face is half blown off. Um, and there's a photo of that and granted it is in black and white, but it is very striking.

Megha: [\(31:14\)](#)

It's genuine.

Renee: [\(31:14\)](#)

He's very genuine in what he's showing that he experienced and these doctors are experiencing. But he doesn't sugar coat it for you. Like you are going to see someone getting their leg amputated or someone, you know, dealing with their, their face.

Megha: [\(31:27\)](#)

The one that really hit me was, um, this young woman who will not walk again because a piece of shrapnel got through their spine. It's like, I mean, there's no photo of that because it was just a tiny little wound that had an enormous impact. And it's like even that he's saying afterwards he went, cried because for heaven's sake, people suck sometimes. Yes. Uh, so definitely it is adult level. Um, young adults may read it and enjoy it, but it's not really targeted to them.

Renee: [\(31:56\)](#)

Yeah. Maybe some upper level, you know, older high school into their 20s. Um, but yeah, I think it's interesting. So we have a lot of graphic novels in our young adults section. Like I said, but we also have graphic novels that are in our adult section because, you know, across the board, graphic novels are not just for teenagers. They're not just for children. Sure, we have graphic novels, you know, and comics in our children's area as well. And so I think it goes back to what we always say for parents that just because something is in a certain section doesn't mean that carte blanche, you should let your kid read it. You know, I want you to have those good discussions about what's appropriate for them and where they are and something that might be okay for one 14 year old, not be okay for a different 17 year old. You know, things like that.

Megha: [\(32:41\)](#)

It's always harder that way. But I think, I can't think of a single incidents where the harder ways not somehow better was we wouldn't do it. Exactly. Um, yeah. And kind of interesting fun fact. Um, our, we have, uh, a graphic novel section in our young adult, in our children's, we don't have one in our adult section,

Renee: [\(33:02\)](#)

like a dedicated section.

Megha: [\(33:03\)](#)

We have stickers on the cover on the, on the spines, and those stickers happened as far as I know, because of our podcast, because I was asking questions about how to find the adult graphic novels and then came the answer that now we have stickers so it may in fact be my fault.

Renee: [\(33:17\)](#)

Oh Oh for adults, for the adults.

Megha: [\(33:20\)](#)

Oh yes. I would have to ask Linde, but um, that might be, yeah.

Megha: [\(33:25\)](#)

Yes, for adults. Like I said, it was almost directly after I asked. So there you go. You have helped us.

Renee: [\(33:31\)](#)

I would recommend this to any adult to read. I think it was really eyeopening for me. In so many ways. I think artistically it's really gorgeous. So if you're interested in, in art, that would be great. If you were interested in history, politics,

Speaker 6: [\(33:40\)](#)

Mmm.

Megha: [\(33:42\)](#)

photography,

Renee: [\(33:51\)](#)

photography, right.

Megha: [\(33:53\)](#)

Travel.

Renee: [\(33:53\)](#)

You know, this is, there's a lot of people that that can cover.

Megha: [\(33:56\)](#)
medical.

Renee: [\(33:57\)](#)
and medical. Absolutely.

Renee: [\(33:59\)](#)
People who might want to, or are interested in medical field or who might want to become doctors or any of that.

Renee: [\(34:03\)](#)
Yeah. It's, it was really, this was a great recommendation and.

Megha: [\(34:06\)](#)
a really good read.

Renee: [\(34:09\)](#)
A really good read. Yeah. I would.

Megha: [\(34:11\)](#)
And, for all that we touched on some places that are very hard to cover overall. It's not that much like it's not going to break your heart, everyone gets through it and you come to the end and it's all right. It's all right.

Renee: [\(34:25\)](#)
and I want to say that I read at the end that he kind of, he likes, so he ends up coming home, he goes back to France, you know he's chatting with his mom. He was like, yeah, everything was fine, mom, blah blah blah. And then, you know, in the epilogue it's talking about, it's looking like nine years to I think finally get to a point where he was like writing the story that people heard his story in bits and pieces and they were like, you should really put this all together. And so I think that his mom was reading it and then found out his whole saga of his health issues and his safety issues,

Megha: [\(34:51\)](#)
wandering off and falling in with bad company because he really didn't think he had other options and getting rescued and.

Renee: [\(34:58\)](#)
being extorted for a lot of money. So we won't give too much else away cause I feel like anything else we say might ruin it.

Megha: [\(35:05\)](#)

But yeah, but I mean it is a journey. It's fun. We recommend it. It's good.

Renee: [\(35:10\)](#)

It is good. Yay. Graphic novels!

Renee: [\(35:18\)](#)

Do you have other graphic novels that you want to recommend or mention?

Megha: [\(35:22\)](#)

Okay, so let's see. Since we started with nonfiction, let's go with um, a couple others in that category. So one of the ones that has been on my to read list for a very long time is Maus by Art Spiegelman [21]. It, um, it became pretty well known, like when graphic novels were just becoming beginning to make a name for themselves. In fact, this was one of the forerunners. It is a mostly nonfiction graphic novel written about the Holocaust and dealing with the aftermath, the author being a son of a survivor. The mostly is there because the characters were, um, cartooned, ah, Jewish characters portrayed with mouse heads and the Nazis running by with cat heads. Which history books do not claim as true, so. There you go. Uh, like the subject matter is pretty heavy. So it's one of the reasons it's still on my to read list, but every time I read about it I'm like, I really want to read this. And then I go, oh yeah, Holocaust literature just breaks my heart.

Renee: [\(36:16\)](#)

This was the first graphic novel I ever read.

Megha: [\(36:19\)](#)

Excellent.

Renee: [\(36:20\)](#)

and I, it was, it was perfect. It was a perfect introduction into it. Um, I highly recommend it. It, it is obviously very heavy, but I think it's so well done that it's worth it.

Megha: [\(36:37\)](#)

Yeah. I've read, I've read other like Holocaust literature that's like that. Like it is good to read it but it breaks your heart and you can't read too much of it. Once you start you, you start looking all shifty eyed at folk and go like, well you can't expect this of me, I was just reading that book. Uh, and I guess the other one that's kinda nonfiction is, um, Why My Cat is More Impressive Than Your Baby by Matthew Inman [22]. That is our own adult graphic novel from our collection. I mostly picked it up because of the name. So, um, as for it being nonfiction, it's probably because it's like about the author personally and their cats and their thoughts on a variety of subjects. It is like cartoony and.

Renee: [\(37:21\)](#)

it's very cynical.

Megha: [\(37:22\)](#)

and fantastical in that way. Like it, it does indulge on these like train of thought fantasies, but yeah, whatever. There's also a lot of toilet humor, so it's not to everyone's taste and I mean that quite literally. So.

Renee: [\(37:38\)](#)

are the cats drinking out of toilets?

Megha: [\(37:40\)](#)

well there, there is quite a discussion about litter boxes and like, uh, diapers and various kind of.

Renee: [\(37:47\)](#)

Oh, that's there, yeah

Renee: [\(37:49\)](#)

Yeah. Um, so things that I really like about graphic novels is they often can talk about these heavy topics in a lighter way, quote unquote, because you know, there can be really beautiful art that kind of balances it out. So one of the ones that I wanted to mention is March [23], um, by John Lewis, Andrew Ayden and Nate Powell. And it talks about, um, Congressman John Lewis. He's an American icon and it talks about his, um, his civil rights, uh, work and it's actually a trilogy. So the one that I'm talking about today is book one, but, um, he, it kind of goes from where he grew up on an Alabama sharecropper's farm. Then he went to Congress know, talking about segregated school rooms to the 1963 March on Washington [24]. Um, and it just, it, it details all of these things about the civil rights movement. Everything is in black and white.

Renee: [\(38:46\)](#)

It's very stark. Um, you know, the art is very sketchy. It's, it's loose in some places and very tight in others. And it's just a really great way to learn about the, um, 1963 March and kind of, you know, that time in history. So I really like that one. It's a trilogy. So if you like the first one then you can keep going through it. Um, one of my very, very, very, very favorite graphic novels ever is Blankets [25]. It's by Craig Thompson and it's huge. It is, do do do, over 500 pages. It's like 580 pages, um, again, all in black and white. And the art is just, um, yeah, some of the best art I've ever seen. And it follows this young man and kind of his, um, faith journey and, and grappling with, you know, the big questions that we all grapple with with about religion and faith and, and kind of coming into his own and, and making a name for himself and not just following what he's been told by his parents.

Renee: [\(39:53\)](#)

It's, I, it's a love story. It's a coming of age story. I love it. So much. So that is Blankets by Craig Thompson and then one that I read, um, in 2019 that I wanted to share is Laura Dean keeps Breaking Up With Me [26], by Rosemary, Valero- O'Connell and um, Mariko Tamaki and it's so

fun. It is about, um, two young women in high school and their relationship and the art, again, I just keep talking about the art, like it's amazing and it's in black and white and gray scale and there are these just beautiful touches of pink throughout that give these really nice pieces of color that, um, really highlight things throughout that, that the author and the illustrator wanted you to see. And it's just, it's talking about things that, that young women deal with, with um, relationships and friendships and what it means to be a good friend. What it means to have that first love and to get your heart broken. So those are some of my favorites that I come back to time and again.

Megha: [\(41:03\)](#)

Okay. And then I've got a couple that I'll talk about. So one of them is Neil Gaiman's Sandman series [27], which is quite famous. It was on my to read list for quite some time. I finally got a bit of time to read the first couple of books and it's really neat. I like how it takes existing folklore and fantasy and threads that through the original fantasy that the series is creating. It does have some darker elements which are a little bit less my thing, but I can be kind of picky about that. The series is, it's complex, it's deeply written. I like the concept of the endless, um, as, as a concept, as written, as characters. So I really liked the way it forms this mythology. Um, it's really cool.

Renee: [\(41:43\)](#)

and he's the best. Like, yeah, anything he does is just the best.

Megha: [\(41:47\)](#)

Yes, there are there like a lot of ties to um, more comic-y works.

Megha: [\(41:52\)](#)

He works. He, I think he worked on comics as well, uh, before I, before doing this. So that's not something that bothers me. Like I like, I like all kinds of things. Um, I recall reading something that someone's was saying like, no, you don't write comic books, you write graphic novels and he's going, huh? Yeah. It's not a distinction that he particularly cares about.

Renee: [\(42:15\)](#)

Sure. It's just this is the work I do.

Megha: [\(42:17\)](#)

Right. And the other one is Lucy and Andy Neanderthal by Jeffrey Brown [28].

Renee: [\(42:24\)](#)

I desperately want to read this.

Megha: [\(42:26\)](#)

Go for it.

Renee: [\(42:27\)](#)

I must read this.

Megha: [\(42:29\)](#)

So this is dramatized, um, and interspersed with pages of facts about neanderthals and other elements of pre- history. So there's the information, there's sources, there's common misconceptions. There's like a couple little sections in the back which talk about how some of the information was found and the list of fact versus fiction in the book itself.

Megha: [\(42:49\)](#)

And then there's the bits where they're wandering about the stone age, doing stupid things, losing their baby brother, um, arguing about who's doing more work, uh, trying to go on a mammoth hunt and being like, being totally traumatized that this involves killing mammoths. So.

Renee: [\(43:05\)](#)

like I said, I must read this.

Megha: [\(43:07\)](#)

as a comic. It's really funny, as a source, for fact, it's right up there because it really does take the time to go through and go, this is what was actually going on in history. Like do not expect random house cats to be wandering around. They were really vicious and probably not domesticated. Let's talk about like the size of the various groups and human folk come in at the end and it's kind of suspicious.

Renee: [\(43:26\)](#)

Yeah.

Megha: [\(43:26\)](#)

right at the end. And I mean it just leaves it as suspicious. It's like maybe they're plotting something, maybe they're not. Maybe they're coming in and they're like, we're friendly and.

Renee: [\(43:39\)](#)

Are you?

Megha: [\(43:39\)](#)

I'm not so sure about that. It does not get resolved because history does a fine job of that all on its own.

Renee: [\(43:45\)](#)

I love it.

Megha: [\(43:46\)](#)

Okay. So I like it a lot. I like the name, I like the, like the way it just goes through and pokes fun at itself. I like the way it talks about itself. So there's this one like section in the middle where they're like, there's this little section about making clothes and the style of the clothing abruptly changes. And there's a note because it says we actually kind of always assumed that they were wearing all these, like, rough, shapeless garments, but they were actually had to be really well fitted because they didn't have heated houses and needed that to survive the winter. And because he knew he changed the style and because it's a story he did it in universe basically.

Renee: ([44:25](#))
Its self reference

Megha: ([44:25](#))
by having, by having the character go like I'm going to try these new and interesting things and let's see how they work. And people are like, ah, that's different. Okay, we'll try it. It's comfortable,

Renee: ([44:35](#))
it's comfortable and I'm warm and I'm,

Megha: ([44:37](#))
that's all we need to know.

Renee: ([44:39](#))
Awesome.

Renee: ([44:43](#))
So we hope that this um, episode has made you at least be piqued in your interest to pick up a graphic novel. There are so many different ones that you can go for if you like art, if you like using your mind in different ways.

Megha: ([44:59](#))
If you like ones that are silly or that are serious or that really touch on difficult topics or that are basically thwacking you across the nose with things or that are really subtle, we can help you. We can find something.

Renee: ([45:09](#))
Yes. So we hope that you will check out some of these. If you still need more recommendations, you can come into the library and someone here will help you.

Megha: ([45:16](#))
We will do our best

Renee: ([45:23](#))

As always, we want to make sure that we include other voices in our podcast as we're going into our third season and we have loved having all of our previous guests on. And so we look forward to having more come on, um, this season. And we want people to recommend us books, and we want to hear with your questions, comments or even suggestions for topics for us to cover. So if you want to be a guest or have any of those ideas, you can let us know. You can stop by the library and leave us a note at the circulation desk. You can send us an email. Um, you can see us on Twitter or on Facebook. You can direct message us, see us on Instagram, whatever. Just come and see us. Our Twitter handle is @Abingtoncomlib. Um, you can, you can just come and say Hello to us

Megha: ([46:09](#))

Write a letter.

Renee: ([46:10](#))

The letter.

Megha: ([46:10](#))

Write a note. Um, play telephone. Hey, tell the person who's on, tell the library to tell the person who's on the podcast, that.

Renee: ([46:17](#))

There you go. So yeah, we just, we want to hear from you and we love getting your feedback. We've had a lot of free feedback in season two and so we're ready for season three to be even better.

Megha: ([46:26](#))

They always adore hearing what people like, what people want, more of, what people find most interesting. If someone says, I really like it when you're making fun of yourself, go for it. I have definitely received a request more snarky in our next episode,

Renee: ([46:41](#))

What!

Megha: ([46:41](#))

possibly related to the actual topic involved. There we go.

Renee: ([46:49](#))

We're really excited about our next episode. We are talking about, dah dah dah!

Megha: ([46:55](#))

other media available through the library, including movies and music.

Renee: [\(46:59\)](#)

Yes. I hope that you know this but maybe you don't, but we have DVDs as well as CDs that are available for you to check out. And so if you don't want to buy the newest Katy Perry CD [29], you can check it out from here. If you don't want to buy the newest, uh, Marvel movie [30], you can check it out from here. So we're talking about ones that we like from our collection and then also kind of doing some comparing and contrasting and just generally playing around with the media.

Megha: [\(47:25\)](#)

Definitely. Um, we are also talking about books for those who, who find that their strongest draw and we're trying not to do the most obvious connections, like talking about the same book and the same movie because that's just asking for trouble and all of the people going back and forth.

Renee: [\(47:42\)](#)

Exactly.

Megha: [\(47:43\)](#)

So we'll be doing things like, I read a lot of Mercedes Lackey [31] and she often touches on and uses music in her works. So a lot of, we have, for example, quite a bit of a Celtic Music [32] and she touches on that, uses that, her characters use it. There's this part where one of the characters is, um, using it as a distraction because the people involved, they are a fantasy race does not know these songs and is therefore going like, is he trying to send some message? Is it alchemy? What's going on? Is this nonsense? And, um, there's stuff like that. We can talk about, uh, history and for example, the Hamilton musical [33]. We have that. I definitely got it from our library. Um,

Renee: [\(48:30\)](#)

so we're doing some comparisons.

Megha: [\(48:31\)](#)

and we can, yeah, we can pair that with a history book. Um,

Renee: [\(48:34\)](#)

yeah, if you like this type of music, you might like this book. If you like this movie, you should check out, you know, this musical genre. So some really creative pairings I think

Megha: [\(48:43\)](#)

and there are those two ""science of" books. There's the Science of Marvel [34] and the Science of Harry Potter [35] for those who maybe really like science and want to know what's going on, are those who really liked the books and want to go, hey, what's, what's behind it that could be real. Or for people who are just like, Hey, what's this, shiny. Go for it

Renee: [\(49:00\)](#)

Exactly. So you have that to look forward to as we move into our third season.

Renee: ([49:10](#))

We hope you've enjoyed our podcast. We certainly had a lot of fun making it. We plan to have episodes every other month released on the first Sunday of the month, except for in March when we'll have our episode released on March 8th and we hope that you'll join us for it.

Megha: ([49:23](#))

You can find us on our website, lclshome.org or on SoundCloud, iTunes, and Google play. If you search for Lexivore podcast. We also will have a transcript on our website for those who prefer to read rather than listen, with some notes and links to the resources and research we use when making this podcast. And the music for this podcast is from podcastthemes.com, we used free theme number five, many thanks to Mr Blasko for allowing it's use. Thanks for listening!

Renee: ([49:48](#))

Thanks for listening!

[1] Down Cut Shin Creek by Kathi Appelt and Jeanne Schmitzer
<https://lackawanna.sparkpa.org/eg/opac/record/915910?locg=331>

[2] Appalacian Pack Horse Librarians
<http://www.appalachianhistory.net/2018/01/pack-horse-librarians.html> or else
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pack_Horse_Library_Project

[3] The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek by Kim Michele Richardson
<https://lackawanna.sparkpa.org/eg/opac/record/9053350?locg=331>

[4] Blue folk of Kentucky, or Blue People of Appalachia, or Blur Fugates
<http://appalachianmagazine.com/2017/12/07/the-blue-people-of-the-appalachian-mountains/> or else https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blue_Fugates

[5] Methemoglobinemia, a medical condition that gives folk blue skin

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Methemoglobinemia>. Related to [cyanosis](#).

[6] Dark topics in Book Woman of troublesome Creek: including nonconsensual/forced/arranged marriage, rape I mean, violent sex within a marriage which wasn't considered rape at the time, married women being unable to hold librarian or other public jobs (since it was at least partially need based and of course men were responsible for the family), reporting a sexual assault causing women to lose their jobs for "low morals", nonconsensual human experimentation (blackmail, etc) from the doctor trying to figure out the blueness, heck, a lot of dark topics.

[7] Books and Bites Book Club: January 20th

<https://lclshome.org/2019/12/join-us-for-books-bites/>

[8] Pass Go and Collect 200 by Tanya Lee Stone and Steven Salermo

<https://lackawanna.sparkpa.org/eg/opac/record/8360686?locg=331>

[9] The Monopolists: obsession, fury, and the scandal behind the world's favorite board game

<https://lackawanna.sparkpa.org/eg/opac/record/2308915?locg=331>

[10] Know My Name by Chanel Miller

<https://lackawanna.sparkpa.org/eg/opac/record/11179952?locg=331>

[11] Emily Doe's Victim Impact Statement

<https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/katiejmbaker/heres-the-powerful-letter-the-stanford-victim-read-to-her-ra#.caxXXyWGK>

[12] Consent by Donna Freitas

<https://lackawanna.sparkpa.org/eg/opac/record/11177704?locg=331>

[13] Let the Great World Spin by Colum McCann

<https://lackawanna.sparkpa.org/eg/opac/record/5404578?locg=331>

[14] Phillippe Petit, walked a high wire between the twin towers in new york

<https://www.biography.com/athlete/philippe-petit>

[15] Sunday Comics are the kind of little serial cartoons that get included in papers, they have included such comics as: Peanuts, Calvin and Hobbes, Garfield, Dilbert, Born Loser, Prince Valiant, For Better or Worse, Andy Capp, and a whole bunch more.

[16] What is a Graphic Novel? https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Graphic_Novel or

<https://www.goodreads.com/genres/graphic-novels> or else

<https://libwww.freelibrary.org/explore/topic/graphic-novels>

[17] 5 reasons your child should read graphic novels by Kami Garcia

- <https://www.today.com/parents/5-reasons-your-child-should-read-graphic-novels-t165336>
- [18] linked rec list: Graphic Novel Picks for Every Young Reader
<https://www.today.com/parents/best-graphic-novels-kids-t165347?icid=related>
- [19] Annual Reminder that Graphic Novels are Real Reading by Molly Wetta
<https://bookriot.com/2017/06/12/annual-reminder-that-graphic-novels-are-real-reading/>
Also, 6 associated rec lists, of which we have most, though not all, of the books rec'd there.
- [20] The Photographer: into war torn Afghanistan with Doctors Without Borders by Didier Lefevre, Emmanuel Guibert, and Frederic Lemercier, translated by Alexis Siegal
<https://lackawanna.sparkpa.org/eg/opac/record/7586124?locg=331>
- [21] Maus by Art Spiegelman
<https://lackawanna.sparkpa.org/eg/opac/record/3016679?locg=331>
- [22] Why My Cat Is More Impressive Than Your Baby by Matthew Inman
<https://lackawanna.sparkpa.org/eg/opac/record/10986269?locg=331>
- [23] March by John Lewis, Andrew Ayden, and Nate Powell
<https://lackawanna.sparkpa.org/eg/opac/record/3333106?locg=331>
- [24] 1963 March on Washington.
<https://www.history.com/topics/black-history/march-on-washington> or
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/March_on_Washington_for_Jobs_and_Freedom
Or <https://www.britannica.com/event/March-on-Washington>
- [25] Blankets by Craig Thompson
<https://lackawanna.sparkpa.org/eg/opac/record/6706558?locg=331>
- [26] Laura Dean Keeps Breaking Up With Me by Mariko Tamaki, Valero-O'Connell Rosemary
<https://lackawanna.sparkpa.org/eg/opac/record/10598521?locg=331>
- [27] Sandman by Neal Gaiman. Volume 1, Preludes and Nocturnes, Volume 2, Doll's House
<https://lackawanna.sparkpa.org/eg/opac/record/635318?locg=331>
<https://lackawanna.sparkpa.org/eg/opac/record/635338?locg=331>
- [28] Lucy and Andy Neanderthal by Jeffrey Brown
<https://lackawanna.sparkpa.org/eg/opac/record/5800483?locg=331>
- [29] Katy Perry CD
https://lackawanna.sparkpa.org/eg/opac/results?qtype=author:fi%3Asearch_format=cdmusic:locg=331:detail_record_view=0:_adv=1:query=Perry%20%20Katy%20
- [30] Marvel Movies

https://lackawanna.sparkpa.org/eg/opac/results?query=marvel+movies&qtype=keyword&fi%3Asearch_format=dvd&locg=331&detail_record_view=0&_adv=1&page=0&sort=

[31] Mercedes Lackey

https://lackawanna.sparkpa.org/eg/opac/results?qtype=author:locg=331:detail_record_view=0:_adv=1:query=Lackey%20%20Mercedes%20

[32] Celtic Music

https://lackawanna.sparkpa.org/eg/opac/results?query=Celtic+music&qtype=subject&fi%3Asearch_format=&locg=331&detail_record_view=0&_adv=1&page=0&sort=

[33] Hamilton Musical

<https://lackawanna.sparkpa.org/eg/opac/record/5208943?locg=331>

[34] Science of Marvel

<https://lackawanna.sparkpa.org/eg/opac/record/9909147?locg=331>

[35] Science of Harry Potter

<https://lackawanna.sparkpa.org/eg/opac/record/4021773?locg=331>