Suggested Graphic Novels and Nonfiction for Teens

Akiwenzi-Damm, Kateri
This Place: 150 Years Retold
Indigenous writers honor Indigenous resistance in Canada with stunning stories from nonfiction to sci-fi: past, present, and future heroism in the real-life post-apocalyptic world of settler colonialism. Check out the Teacher Guide for This Place: 150 Years Retold as an eBook in Hoopla!

Azuma, Kiyohiko
Yotsuba&!
A spirited little girl’s life in the city, making new friends of all ages.

Barnes, Rodney
Quincredible
Quinton is short and weak—then he gains a superpower he uses along with his inventions.

Delliquanti, Blue
Across a Field of Starlight
Two nonbinary teens from very different space societies resisting an empire are secret long-distance friends; then Fassen flees to Lu’s planet with stolen tech, bringing the war to Lu’s home.

Franklin, Tee
Bingo Love
Hazel and Mari fall in love at church bingo in 1963. Forced apart by their families and society, they meet as grandmothers decades later at a church bingo hall and confront life-changing decisions.

Frasier, Crystal
Cheer Up!: Love and Pompoms
After Annie reluctantly joins Bebe’s cheerleading squad, they rekindle their lost friendship, deal with queer youth problems, grow with each other, and explore new feelings.

Gillman, Melanie
Stage Dreams
Teen runaway Grace and stagecoach robber Flor become partners in a daring heist. Will they foil a Confederate plot in the New Mexico Territory?

Hinekure, Wataru
My Love Mix-Up!
A romantic message gets picked up by the wrong person. Romantic confusion begins!

Kamatani, Yuhki
Our Dreams at Dusk
A shy gay teen finds a group of friends through a building renovation project.

Kuhn, Sarah
Shadow of the Batgirl (Batgirl)
Teenage assassin Cassandra Cain must find herself and forge a new path in a Gotham missing its greatest hero, Batgirl.

Kui, Ryoko
Delicious in Dungeon
Medieval D&D-type adventurers cook what they find in dungeons.

Lindell, Lawrence
Blackward
Four Black, queer friends and the joys and challenges of their lives as they work to bring together an inclusive community of “Black + awkward” folks for their Blackward Zine Fest.

Oowara, Sumito
Keep Your Hands Off Eizouken!
Passionate artist teens and a pragmatic friend embark on a madcap quest to find glory and make anime.

Russell, Mark
Wonder Twins Vol. 1: Activate! and Vol. 2: The Fall and Rise of the Wonder Twins
Jayna and Zan are heroes, but they live in the real world. When bad guys get beaten and jailed, does it end the problem?

Shammas, Nadia
Squire
Aiza’s only chance at citizenship lies in concealing her heritage as one of the despised, subjugated Ornu people and undergoing brutal training to become a Knight—then she faces a choice about what the greater good really means, in this alternate-history fantasy of the Middle East and North Africa.

Spillett-Sumner, Tasha
Surviving the City and Surviving the City Vol. 2 From the Roots Up
Miikwan and Dez navigate friendship and community in coping with family loss and grief, then Dez discovers herself as a Two-Spirit person. Check out the Surviving the City Teacher Guide as an eBook in Hoopla!

Stanley, Stan
The Hazards of Love
Amparo makes a deal with a talking cat to become a better person. The cat steals their body; Amparo’s spirit must escape from Bright World, where humans and memories are food.

Stevenson, ND
Nimona
Young shapeshifter Nimona becomes a supervillain’s sidekick in a kingdom where nothing is as it seems—and no one’s life will be the same after Nimona. Now adapted into a Netflix movie!
Trung, Le Nguyen
The Magic Fish
Tiếng tries to find the words to tell his mother he is gay through fairytales they share, while his mother navigates new grief and tells her own story; through storytelling they meet in truth.

Walls, Jasmine
Brooms
In the 1930s, queer witches of color turn to illegal broom racing, their only hope of making enough money to better their lives or escape government violence as they come of age as BIPOC magic users.

Walton, Jessica
Stars in Their Eyes
Maisie’s off to her first convention to meet her favorite action star, who had a leg amputation like she did. She meets Ollie, a nonbinary volunteer. Queer joy and disability pride are in the air!

Zdarsky, Chip
Jughead: Volume One, Jughead: Volume Two, and Jughead: Volume Three (Jughead)
Archie’s pal—confirmed asexual Jughead Jones—dives into hijinks and hamburgers, and surprises Sabrina the Teenage Witch.

GRAPHIC NONFICTION
TEEN 155.937 FED
Dancing at the Pity Party
With honesty and humor, Tyler Feder paints an unforgettable portrait of love and living with grief after her mother’s cancer diagnosis and death during Tyler’s second year of college.

TEEN 305.3 OUT
The Out Side: Trans & Nonbinary Comics
29 artists including Dana Simpson (bestselling creator of Phoebe and Her Unicorn) tell vividly affirming, often joyful stories of their gender journeys, from coming out to later life.

TEEN 306.766 ALEXANDER
Other Boys
Bullied for being gender nonconforming and being raised by grandparents instead of parents due to a tragedy, Damian wants to make a change—and now he has a crush on a boy.

TEEN 305.906 OUR
Our Stories Carried Us Here
First-person accounts of immigrant and refugee journeys to the U.S. and what they’ve faced, each matched with an illustrator from a similar cultural and linguistic background.

TEEN 305.9 GAO
Messy Roots
Laura moves from Wuhan to Texas, where no one’s heard of Wuhan until COVID-19; they want to make the basketball team, escape Chinese school, and understand their attraction to girls.

TEEN 306.766 BHA
Almost American Girl
When Robin’s mother announces their vacation in Alabama is a permanent move from Seoul, Robin can’t fit into her new life—then a comics drawing class shows her a new future.

TEEN 306.766 HANCOX
Welcome to St. Hell: My Trans Teen Misadventure
Having achieved real acceptance and comfort on his gender journey, Lewis takes the time to be kind to his past self, when he was a child and teen stuck in hell.

TEEN B KHOR
The American Dream?: A Journey on Route 66 Discovering Dinosaur Statues, Muffler Men, and the Perfect Breakfast Burrito
Shing Yin Khor travels historic Route 66 with their dog, in search of the two Americas they imagined as a child in Malaysia: Hollywood versus The Grapes of Wrath.

TEEN B MYER
Monstrous: A Transracial Adoption Story
Adopted from South Korea by white parents, Sarah is an outsider in their rural Maryland town, constantly targeted for their race and queerness. Fandom and art help them find a way through.

TEEN B SMITH
Victory. Stand!: Raising My Fist for Justice
Gold medalist Tommie Smith traces the events in his life and the civil rights movement that led to his Black Power salute at the 1968 Olympics, and the repercussions for him and protests for racial justice by athletes today.

TEEN B SUGGS
¡Ay, Mija!: My Bilingual Summer in Mexico
Christine visits their loving extended family, struggles with the language gap, and learns about belonging with all their differences as a fat Latinx person who likes boys and girls.