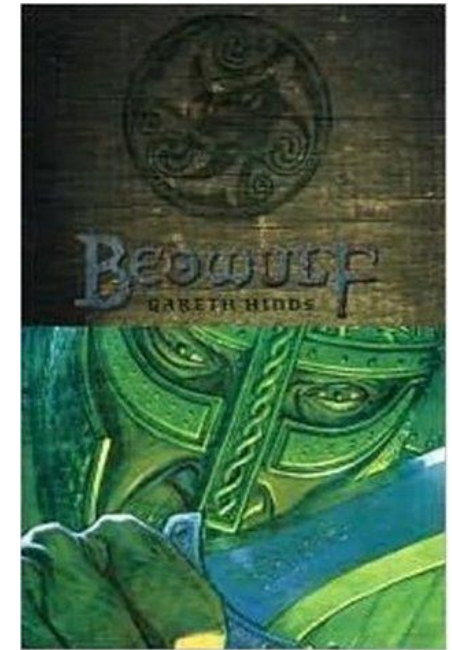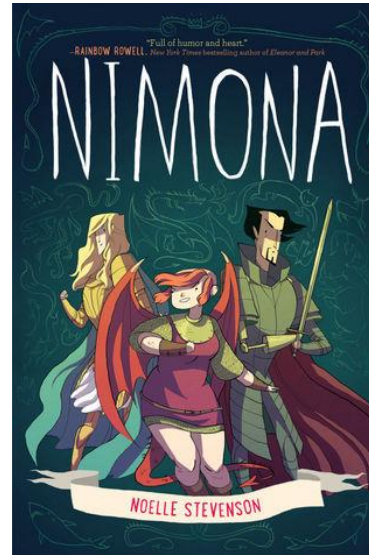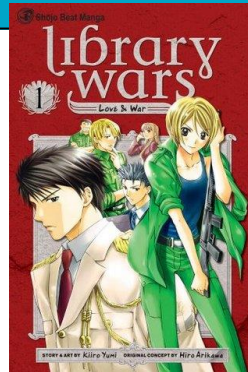# Graphic Novels For Teens –
Much More Than Comics

Angela Critics – Teen Librarian
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grow. learn. connect.

Love 'em or
Hate 'em

Graphic Novelist Named
National Ambassador For
Young People's Literature

You can't avoid them

VLA Graphic Novel Diversity Awards

Embracing Diversity

What is a Graphic Novel?

It's a format –
Not a genre

A graphic novel is a book written and illustrated in the style of a comic book with sequential art.

Types of graphic novels:
➢ Comic book
➢Adaptation of a classic
➢Adaptation of a popular book
➢Original work – either stand alone or series
➢Manga

"But they're not real books"

Actually, they are!

- Even if they weren't – so what?
- Gateway for reluctant readers
- Moving into the classroom as teaching tools

Benefits for reluctant & emergent readers:

➢ Aids visualization of story

➢Immersive experience heightens enjoyment

➢Images help decode complex concepts and vocabulary

In the classroom:

- ➤ As complex as any novel
- ➤ Used to teach visual rhetoric
- ➤ Can make complex literary concepts more accessible
- ➤ Studies show increased retention with graphic novel format for textbooks
- ➤ Builds verbal-visual literacy

Graphic novels strengthen skills in:

➤ Attention & attention to detail

➤ Memory

➤ Sequencing

➤ Language and language usage

Manga vs. Anime
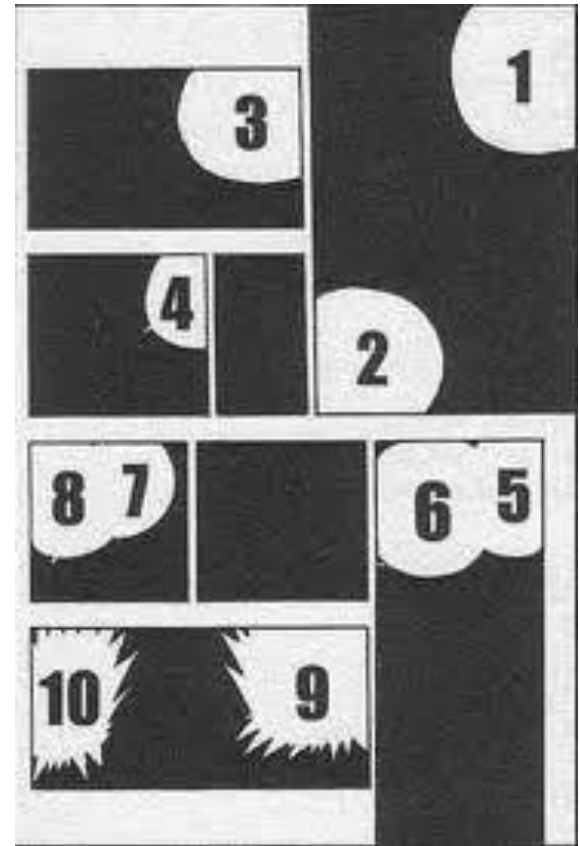## What's the difference?

Manga = Print

Anime = Video

Things to know about manga:

➢ It's a format, not a genre

➢ Stylistic conventions

➢ Exaggerated depictions

➢ Reads right to left

➢ Popular but not sturdy

➢ Replacements hard to find

➢ Series can be *very* long!

Other Manga Terms:

Target audience categories:

- ➤ Shonen (Boys 10-18)
- ➤ Shojo (Girls 10-18)
- ➤ Josei (College-age women)
- ➤ Seinen (College-age men)

General terms:

- ➤ Fan service
- ➤ Omake (extras)
- ➤ Manhua
- ➤ Manhwa

Thank You!

Presented by:
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