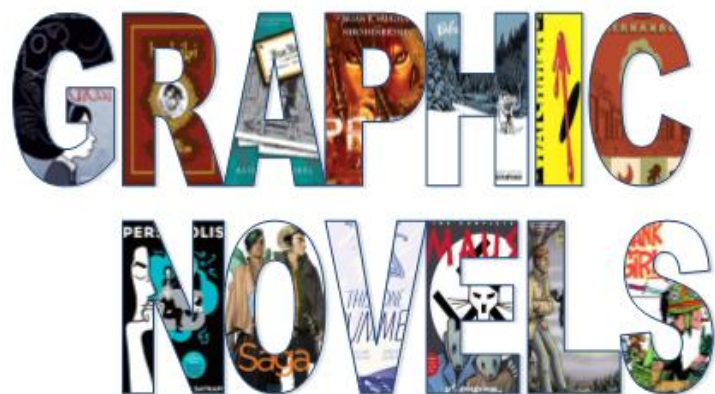


# Graphic Novels at the Portland Library 2022



**Abe, Frank**

**Graphic 940.5317 ABE**

***We hereby refuse: Japanese American Acts of Resistance during***

***WWII*** Three voices. Three acts of defiance. One mass injustice.

The story of camp as you've never seen it before. Japanese Americans complied when evicted from their homes in World War II -- but many refused to submit to imprisonment in American concentration camps without a fight.

**Backderf, Derf**

**GRAPHIC 378.771 DER**

***Kent State: Four Dead in Ohio***

On May 4, 1970, the Ohio National Guard gunned down unarmed college students protesting the Vietnam War at Kent State University. In a deadly barrage of 67 shots, 4 students were killed and 9 shot and wounded. It was the day America turned guns on its own children—a shocking event burned into our national memory. A few days prior, 10-year-old Derf Backderf saw those same Guardsmen patrolling his nearby hometown, sent in by the governor to crush a trucker strike. He explores the lives of these four young people and the events of those four days in May, when the country seemed on the brink of tearing apart.

**Bechdel, Alison**

**GRAPHIC BIOG Bechdel**

***The Secret to Superhuman Strength***

The more Bechdel tries to improve herself through constant exercise, the more her self appears to be the thing in her way. She turns for enlightenment to Eastern philosophers and literary figures, including Beat writer Jack Kerouac, whose search for self-transcendence in the great outdoors appears in moving conversation with the author's own. This gifted artist and not-getting-any-younger exerciser comes to a soulful conclusion. The secret to superhuman strength lies not in six-pack abs, but in something much less clearly defined: facing her own non-transcendent but all-important interdependence with others.

**Caplan, Bryan**

**GRAPHIC 304.82 CAP**

***Open Borders: the Science and Ethics of Immigration***

Economist Bryan Caplan adds a new, compelling perspective to the immigration debate: He argues that opening all borders could eliminate absolute poverty worldwide and usher in a booming worldwide economy—greatly benefiting humanity. With a clear and conversational tone, exhaustive research, and vibrant illustrations by Zach Weinersmith, *Open Borders* makes the case for unrestricted immigration easy to follow and hard to deny.

**Espe**

**GRAPHIC FIC ESP**

***The Parakeet***

*The Parakeet* is the story of a boy whose only refuge from life's harsh realities lies in his imagination. In his eyes, we see the confusion and heartache he feels as he watches his mother's illness worsen and the treatments fail. Through his eyes, we see how mental illness can both tear families apart and reaffirm the bonds of love. Poignant yet playful, *The Parakeet* follows Bastien's struggle to accept the mother he has while wishing for the mother he needs.

**Fies, Brian**

**GRAPHIC 363.379 FIE**

***A Fire Story***

Early morning on Monday, October 9, 2017, wildfires burned through Northern California, resulting in 44 fatalities. In addition, 6,200 homes and 8,900 structures and were destroyed. Author Brian Fies's firsthand account of this tragic event is an honest, unflinching depiction of his personal experiences, including losing his house and every possession he and his wife had that didn't fit into the back of their car.

**Hall, Rebecca**

**GRAPHIC FIC HAL**

***Wake: the Hidden History of Women-led Slave Revolts***

Women warriors planned and led revolts on slave ships during the Middle Passage. They fought their enslavers throughout the Americas. And then they

were erased from history. *Wake* tells the “riveting” (Angela Y. Davis) story of Dr. Rebecca Hall, a historian, granddaughter of slaves, and a woman haunted by the legacy of slavery. The accepted history of slave revolts has always told her that enslaved women took a back seat. But Rebecca decides to look deeper, and her journey takes her through old court records, slave ship captain’s logs, crumbling correspondence, and even the forensic evidence from the bones of enslaved women from the “negro burying ground” uncovered in Manhattan. She finds women warriors everywhere.

**Jennings, John & Okorafor, Nnedi**                      **GRAPHIC FIC JEN**  
*After the Rain*

A graphic novel adaptation of Nnedi Okorafor’s short story “*On the Road.*” The drama takes place in a small Nigerian town during a violent and unexpected storm. A Nigerian-American woman named Chioma answers a knock at her door and is horrified to see a boy with a severe head wound standing at her doorstep. He reaches for her, and his touch burns like fire. Something is very wrong. Haunted and hunted, Chioma must embrace her heritage in order to survive.

**Kimball, Margaret**                                      **GRAPHIC BIOG Kimball**  
*And Now I Spill the Family Secrets*

In 1988, when Kimball is only four years old, her mother attempts suicide on Mother’s Day—and this becomes one of many things Kimball’s family never speaks about. As she searches for answers nearly thirty years later, Kimball embarks on a thrilling visual journey into the secrets her family has kept for decades. Using old diary entries, hospital records, home videos, and other archives, Margaret pieces together a narrative map of her childhood—her mother’s bipolar disorder, her grandmother’s institutionalization, and her brother’s increasing struggles—in an attempt to understand what no one likes to talk about: the fractures in her family.

**Lewis, John**    **GRAPHIC 328.73 LEW**  
*Run, Book One*

The sequel to the #1 *New York Times* bestselling graphic novel series *March*—the continuation of the life story of John Lewis and the struggles seen across the United States after the Selma voting rights campaign.

**McPhail, Will**    **GRAPHIC FIC MCP**  
*IN*

Nick, a young illustrator, can’t shake the feeling that there is some hidden realm of human interaction beyond his reach. He haunts lookalike fussy, silly, coffee shops, listens to old Joni Mitchell albums too loudly, and stares at his navel in the hope that he will find it in there. But it isn’t until he learns to speak from the heart that he begins to find authentic human connections and is let *in*—to the worlds of the people he meets. Nick’s journey occurs alongside the beginning

of a relationship with Wren, a wry, spirited oncologist at a nearby hospital, whose work and life becomes painfully tangled with Nick’s.

**Narcisse, Evan**    **GRAPHIC FIC BLA**  
*Rise of the Black Panther*

Young T’Challa knows he is destined to become king, but when his father is brutally murdered by outsiders, he’ll find himself taking up a mantle he may not be ready for. Journalist Evan Narcisse makes his comics debut alongside acclaimed writer Ta-Nehisi Coates as they chronicle T’Challa’s rise to the throne and to the Panther legacy that made him an Avenger.

**Spector, Shira**    **GRAPHIC BIOG Spector**  
*Red Rock Baby Candy*

Shira Spector literally paints a vivid portrait of the most eventful 10 years of her life, encompassing her tenacious struggle to get pregnant, the emotional turmoil of her father’s cancer diagnosis and eventual death, and her recollections of past relationships with her parents and her partner. It unfolds as one of the most formally inventive comics in the history of the medium. It begins in subtle, tonal shades of black ink, introduces color slowly over the next 50 pages until it explodes into a glorious full color palette. The irreverent characters begin to bloom and to live life fully, resurrecting the dead in order to map the geography among infertility, sexuality, choice, and mortality. The drawing is visceral, symbolic, and naturalistic.

**Toulme, Fabien**    **GRAPHIC 956.91 TOU**  
*Hakim’s Odyssey: Book 1 from Syria to Turkey*

What does it mean to be a “refugee”? It is easy for those who live in relative freedom to ignore or even to villainize people who have been forced to flee their homes. After all, it can be hard to identify with others’ experiences when you haven’t been in their shoes. In *Hakim’s Odyssey*, we see firsthand how war can make anyone a refugee. Hakim, a successful young Syrian who had his whole life ahead of him, tells his story: how war forced him to leave everything behind, including his family, his friends, his home, and his business. After the Syrian uprising in 2011, Hakim was arrested and tortured, his town was bombed, his business was seized by the army, and members of his family were arrested or disappeared. This first leg of his odyssey follows Hakim as he travels from Syria to Lebanon, Lebanon to Jordan, and Jordan to Turkey, where he struggles to earn a living and dreams of one day returning to his home.

*Hakim’s Odyssey Book 2 from Turkey to Greece April 2022*

April 2022    **Portland Library**    20 Freestone Avenue  
Annotations from Amazon [www.portlandlibraryct.org](http://www.portlandlibraryct.org)