

In the Library With a Comic Book
Diversity in Comics:
Graphic Novels, Literacy and Diversity Webinar
Resource List *

Here is a list of various tools, articles, resources, and communities that we would like to share with you to help you explore some of the conversations happening around diversity in the comic book industry, and find diverse books for your community. If you find anything else that's awesome, please let us know!

American Indians in Children's Literature:

<https://americanindiansinchildrensliterature.blogspot.com/>

Established in 2006, American Indians in Children's Literature (AICL) provides critical perspectives and analysis of indigenous peoples in children's and young adult books, the school curriculum, popular culture, and society.

Beware the Valkyries:

<http://bewarethevalkyries.com/>

We are the women behind the counters of comic shops worldwide. Owners, managers, salespeople, event organizers and more! We pull accounts, place orders, set up displays and tweet our picks of the week. Some of us are new to comics, some are lifelong devotees, but we share one thing in common – we all live for Wednesdays and the lifestyle that comes with them. The Valkyries are a community of fans and friends, and we're growing all the time.

Bisexual Books:

<http://www.bisexualbooks.com/>

Here you'll find views and reviews on books from multiple genres and for all ages from the bisexual perspective. Be warned this site contains spoilers and reviews of erotica and other sexual material.

Black Girl Nerds:

<https://blackgirlnerds.com/>

Black Girl Nerds is a place for women of color with various eccentricities to express themselves freely and embrace who they are. This is not a site exclusively for Black women. It's for ALL women who are just as nerdy as we are and the men who love and appreciate us.

Black Nerd Problems:

<http://blacknerdproblems.com/>

Website dedicated to and from the perspective of Blerds (Black Nerds).

Codeswitch Podcast:

<http://www.npr.org/podcasts/510312/codeswitch>

We're all journalists of color, and this isn't just the work we do. It's the lives we lead. Sometimes, we'll make you laugh. Other times, you'll get uncomfortable. But we'll always be unflinchingly honest and empathetic.

Comic Book Women:

<http://wemakecomics.tumblr.com/>

We make comics (or make them happen.)

Dwayne McDuffie Awards for Diversity in Comics:

<http://comicsalliance.com/ms-marvel-dwayne-mcduffie-diversity-award/>

"The Dwayne McDuffie Award is a significant step forward in not merely acknowledging the need to expand diversity of the characters represented in comics and those who create them, but also taking action to make that need into a reality," said Neo Edmund, director of the Dwayne McDuffie Award for Diversity in Comics. "Stories arise from a diverse array of voices from all over the world, thus playing a pivotal role in broadening our understanding of cultural values beyond our own." (<http://bit.ly/2eonVKr>)

Gay League:

<http://www.gayleague.com/>

The Gay League is one of the first and largest groups in the world for LGBT comics fans.

Hawkeye Initiative:

<http://thehawkeyeinitiative.com/>

"How to fix every Strong Female Character pose in superhero comics: replace the character with Hawkeye doing the same thing." -Gingerhaze

Lighten Up by Ron Wimberly:

<https://thenib.com/lighten-up-4f7f96ca8a7e>

A cartoonist reflects on the subtle racism of shifting skin tones in a Marvel comic.

Luke Cage and the Year Marvel Finally Reckoned with Its Black Audience:

<https://bitly.com/>

Informative Vanity Fair article with lots of great quotes from David Brothers.

The Mary Sue:

<http://www.themarysue.com/>

We promote, watchdog, extoll, and celebrate diversity and women's representation in all of these areas (and more!) and work to make geekdom safe and open for everyone.

Milestones for Diversity in Children's Literature and Library Services:

<http://bit.ly/2ezbiZ7>

*Comprehensive timeline on diversity in children's literature by K.T. Horning for *Children and Libraries* from 2015.*

Native Realities:

<https://www.nativerealities.com/>

Featuring the incredible tales of Indigenous icons, First Nations freedom fighters, Aboriginal astronauts, and Native American superheroes whose stories have long been coopted, unheard or ignored. We strive to give you the most original and authentic representations of Native and Indigenous peoples through stories and texts that educate and entertain children, youth and adults.

Queer Cartoonists Data Base:

<http://queercartoonists.com/>

I (MariNaomi) created this database so that queer cartoonists can find each other. It's also great for finding queer comics to read and teach, and finding queer cartoonists to befriend, promote, hire, and learn from.

Reading While White:

<http://readingwhilewhite.blogspot.com/>

We are White librarians organizing to confront racism in the field of children's and young adult literature. We are allies in the ongoing struggle for authenticity and visibility in books; for opportunities for people of color and First/Native Nations people in all aspects of the children's and young adult book world; and for accountability among publishers, book creators, reviewers, librarians, teachers, and others. We are learning, and hold ourselves responsible for understanding how our whiteness impacts our perspectives and our behavior.

Reading Without Walls:

<http://geneyang.com/tag/reading-without-walls>

Every National Ambassador picks a platform. Mine is Reading Without Walls. I want every kid — every reader, really — to explore the world through books. Books have played a vital role in getting me outside of my comfort zone. I believe they can do the same for you.

Sexy Lamp Test:

<http://sexylampstest.tumblr.com/>

"So, there's the Bechdel test. I've got another test that works just as well. The Sexy Lamp test. If you can take out a female character and replace her with a sexy lamp, YOU'RE A FUCKING HACK." -- Kelly Sue DeConnick, at ECCC's 'From Victim to Hero' panel.

We Need Diverse Books:

<http://weneeddiversebooks.org/>

We Need Diverse Books™ is a grassroots organization of children's book lovers that advocates essential changes in the publishing industry to produce and promote literature that reflects and honors the lives of all young people.

We Are Comics:

<http://wearecomics.tumblr.com/>

We Are Comics is a campaign to show—and celebrate—the faces of our community, our industry, and our culture; to promote the visibility of marginalized members of our population; and to stand in solidarity against harassment and abuse.

Welcome to Valhalla:

<http://bewarethevalkyries.com/valhalla/>

Where The Valkyries are comprised exclusively of comic shop employees, Valhalla is open to anyone who works with comics; librarians, curators, bookstore employees, former comic shop workers and more. Valhalla started as a place for former Valkyries to talk, but we're expanding to include a wider variety of people who work with and are interested in comics.

Where is the Diversity in Publishing?

<http://bit.ly/1Tm9bad>

From the Lee and Low Books Blog. Lee & Low Books is the largest multicultural children's book publisher in the country. We are also one of the few minority-owned publishing companies in the United States, as well as a throwback to what many publishers used to be: independent, generational businesses in which the people running the company have a personal stake in its success.

Women in Refrigerators:

<http://lby3.com/wir/>

This is a list I (Gail Simone) made when it occurred to me that it's not that healthy to be a female character in comics. I'm curious to find out if this list seems somewhat disproportionate, and if so, what it means, really.

Women Write About Comics:

<http://womenwriteaboutcomics.com/>

Women Write About Comics is an all-woman online magazine providing a diverse perspective on comic culture and industry.

*Italicized descriptions pulled from resources website.