Graphic Novel Adaptations of Classic Mysteries

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Classic and popular mystery novels have often been adapted into graphic novels. The adaptations range from being close to the original to re-inventing the story. It is becoming a trend to see new or popular books being adapted into graphic novels.

Reasons for Adaptation

There are various reasons to adapt books into graphic novels, including:

- Graphic novels provide the text and the visual context for it together
- Graphic novels are popular, and thus graphic novel adaptations may reach a different audience than the texts they are based upon
- Graphic novel provide a new twist on classic or popular books
- Graphic novel adaptations feel like new books, even though they are derived from old books
- Graphic novels adaptations can reach younger audiences
  - Gorman (2004) provided a list of various novels adapted into graphic novels for young audiences of children and teenagers
  - Graphic novel adaptations can help readers discover classics, as Price (200) noted. They are like gateway drugs to the original works

Examples of Adaptations

Mystery classics such as Sherlock Holmes, Nancy Drew, James Bond, and The Hardy Boys have all been adapted into graphic novels. The following is a list of some key graphic novel adaptations of classic mysteries for teens.


Takeru is going to get a new dog, and he is attracted to a special dog that seems more intelligent than others. It turns out that dog is the reincarnation of Sherlock Holmes. The dog can talk to Takeru with the help from a relic from his past, but only to Takeru, who turns out to be the reincarnation of Watson. What trouble will Sherlock cause Watson this time around?
Lady Christie, the 10-year-old daughter of count Hope, is much like her uncle Sherlock Holmes. She has a keen sense of observation, has a high intellect, and loves solving mysteries, all of which makes her encounter her uncle on many of his jobs.

This is a direct adaptation of one of the Sherlock Holmes' novels; thus, it has the same title. In this book, Sherlock meets Watson and they move in together. Sherlock gets some interesting mysteries to unravel with the help of Watson. Other Sherlock Holmes novels have also been adapted by the same person and illustrator.

The story of Silverfin is about the young adventures of James Bond. We see what his life was like, his fearlessness, and his curiosity, which lead him to spying on a family he just met. This will prove to be a very dangerous mission.

While this graphic novel is marketed towards children, it may appeal to teens who are fans of Nancy Drew and The Hardy Boys, both of which are classics in the mystery genre. Nancy Drew and the Hardy boys must solve a series of crimes together related to Nancy and her friends, but Nancy finds herself caught in the middle of the tension between the Hardy Boys.

This story is based on the novel of Agatha Christie, which might appeal to older teens. A man wants to purchase a piece of land to build his dream house on. However, there are a couple things stopping him: the land is cursed, and he has no money. He meets a wealthy young lady whom he falls in love with, and they buy the house on the cursed land. Will the curse get to them?
References

