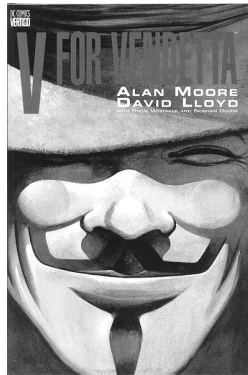


# COMIC BOOKS

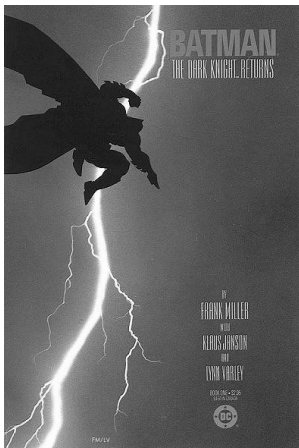
The comic and graphic novel genre has a strong cadre of stories with radical elements. There is virtually something for everyone in this list of the best radical stuff.

## Moore, Alan. *V for Vendetta*. Vertigo / DC Comics, 1982-1988

Set in a dystopic future United Kingdom, *V for Vendetta* is the story of V, a Guy Fawkes-masked anarchist vigilante, hell bent on taking down the corrupt totalitarian party ruling the country with an iron fist. This comic has recently been made into a spectacular movie starring Natalie Portman and Hugo Weaving. Expect viewers of the film to seek out the comic book later.



## Miller, Frank. *Batman: The Dark Knight Returns*. DC Comics, 1986



Another incredibly successful series by Frank Miller, *Batman: The Dark Knight Returns* is set twenty years in the future. Bruce Wayne has retired from the crime fighting game after the death of Robin, and now Gotham City is under the control of supervillans and mutants. Batman returns, but in a very dark, grim, psychological state.

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## Moore, Alan. *Watchmen*. DC Comics, 1986-1987

*Watchmen* is largely considered a ground-breaking comic book series.

Set in an alternate version of 1985 United States, one that is on the brink of war with the Soviet Union, the story focuses on the real lives of superheroes and the events surrounding the murder of one of their own. *Watchmen* is the only comic book to have ever won the Hugo Award for Science Fiction writing, is a vital piece of any graphic novel collection.



## Miller, Frank. *Ronin*. DC Comics, 1983 - 1984



In this dystopic offering from Frank Miller, a ronin (a Japanese samurai) is re-incarnated in New York City. This New York City of the future, however, is a grim wasteland of squatters, mutants, and warring factions. This comic book was praised by critics and fans alike when it was published, and a movie version is set to be produced.

## Otomo, Katsuhiro. *Akira*. Epic Comics / Dark Horse, 1982 - 1990

*Akira* is a massive cyberpunk comic book series in the manga style, which closely examines the themes of social isolation, corruption, and power. Due to the current interest in manga with North American young adults, this is certainly a title worth having in your collection.

