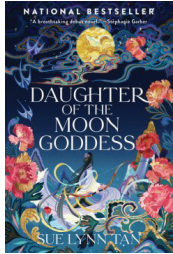




YA Best Books of 2023

Check out The Ground Floor staff's favorite books we read this year!



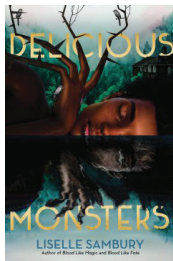
Daughter of the Moon Goddess by Sue Lynn Tan (Science Fiction & Fantasy–SF Tan)

Growing up on the moon, Xingyin is accustomed to solitude, unaware that she is being hidden from the feared Celestial Emperor who exiled her mother for stealing the elixir of immortality. But when Xingyin's magic flares and her existence is discovered, she is forced to flee her home, leaving her mother behind. To save her mother, Xingyin embarks on a perilous quest, confronting legendary creatures and vicious enemies.



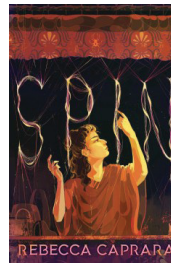
Rules for Vanishing by Kate Alice Marshall (YA Fiction–Y Marshall)

In the faux-documentary style of The Blair Witch Project comes the campfire story of a missing girl, a vengeful ghost, and the girl who is determined to find her sister—at all costs.



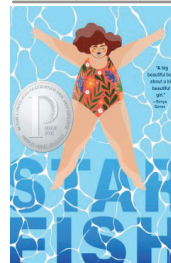
Delicious Monsters by Lisse Sambury (YA Fiction–Y Sambury)

Told in alternating timelines, Daisy and her mother move into her deceased uncle's mansion, only to find horrors waiting inside, and ten years later, Brittney investigates the mystery behind the Miracle Mansion that turned her mother's life around.



Spin by Rebecca Caprara (YA Fiction–Y Caprara)

Arachne turns to weaving for solace, but when word spreads of her skill she is confronted by the goddess Athena and the two enter a weaving contest that results in transformation and redemption.



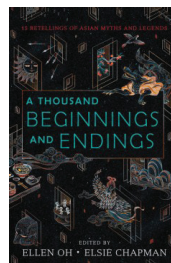
Starfish by Lisa Fipps (YA Fiction–Y Fipps)

Bullied and shamed her whole life for being fat, 12-year-old Ellie finally gains the confidence to stand up for herself, with the help of some wonderful new allies.



Gleanings: Stories from the Arc of Scythe by Neal Shusterman (YA Fiction–Y Shuster)

A collection of stories that span the time when humans live in a world without hunger, disease, or death and Scythes act as the living instruments of population control.



A Thousand Beginnings and Endings: 15 Retellings of Asian Myths and Legends Edited by Ellen Oh (YA Fiction–Y Thousan)

15 authors of Asian descent reimagine the folklore and mythology of East and South Asia, in short stories ranging from fantasy to science fiction to contemporary, from romance to tales of revenge.



Our Crooked Hearts by Melissa Albert (YA Fiction–Y Albert)

Told in alternating voices, years after it began, 17-year-old Ivy and her mom Dana's shared story comes down to a reckoning among a daughter, a mother, and the dark forces they never should have messed with.



Warrior Girl Unearthed by Angeline Boulley (Young Adult–Y Boulley)

With the rising number of missing Indigenous women, her family's involvement in a murder investigation, and grave robbers profiting off her Anishinaabe tribe, Perry takes matters into her own hands to solve the mystery and reclaim her people's inheritance.



The Weight of Blood
by Tiffany D. Jackson
(Young Adult–Y Jackson)

An outcast at her small-town Georgia high school, Madison Washington has been passing for white her entire life at the behest of her fanatical white father. After a viral bullying video pulls back the curtain on Springville High’s racist roots, student leaders come up with a plan to change their image: host the school’s first integrated prom as a show of unity. But some of her classmates aren’t done with her just yet.



Whalefall
by Daniel Kraus
(Science Fiction & Fantasy - SF Kraus)

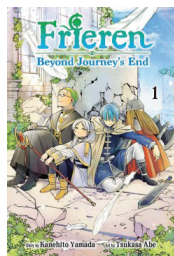
Jay Gardiner has given himself a fool’s errand—to find the remains of his deceased father in the Pacific Ocean off the coast of Monterey Beach. The dive begins well enough, but suddenly, Jay is caught in a giant squid’s tentacles and drawn into the whale’s mouth where he is pulled into the first of its four stomachs.

GRAPHIC NOVELS



Cursed Princess Club, Vol. 1
by LambCat
(GN Cursed Princess Club v. 1)

Gwendolyn, the youngest of the King’s three daughters, is living proof that princesses don’t always have it all. She isn’t like a typical fairy-tale princess, or other princesses in the Pastel Kingdom. So when her father proposes marriage for her and her sisters to make an alliance with the Plaid Kingdom, it breaks Gwendolyn’s heart to hear that Prince Fredrick thinks she’s “really ugly.”



Frieren: Beyond Journey’s End, Vol. 1
by Kanehito Yamada
(MANGA Frieren Beyondj v. 1 Yamada)

Elf mage Frieren and her courageous fellow adventurers have defeated the Demon King and brought peace to the land. With the great struggle over, they all go their separate ways to live a quiet life. But as an elf, Frieren, nearly immortal, will long outlive the rest of her former party. How will she come to terms with the mortality of her friends?



The Moth Keeper
by Kay O’Neill
(J–GN Oneill Moth Keeper)

Kit is excited to prove her worth as a Moth-Keeper, a protector of the lunar moths that allow the Night-Lily flower to bloom once a year, but she quickly finds that life as a Moth-Keeper is not what she imagined it would be.



The Out Side: Trans & Nonbinary Comics
Edited by The Kao
(GN 306.768 Out)

The Out Side: Trans & Nonbinary Comics includes 29 creators’ tales of self-love and affirmation that detail their experiences with gender and identity.



The Princess and the Grilled Cheese Sandwich
by Deya Muniz
(GN Muniz Princess And The Grilled Cheese Sandwich)

Lady Camembert wants to live life on her own terms, without marriage. Well, without marrying a man, that is. She disguises herself as a man and moves to the capital city of the Kingdom of Fromage to start over as Count Camembert. But it’s hard to keep a low profile when the beautiful Princess Brie, with her fierce activism and great sense of fashion, catches her attention.



Space Trash, Vol. 1
by Jenn Woodall
(Graphic Novels - GN Space Trash v. 1)

In 2115, a decrepit high school for underprivileged youth on the moon, Stab, Yuki, and Una are three teenagers who try to keep their boredom and resentment at bay by fighting rival gangs and cliques, and sleeping their way through class, all while trying to avoid punishment from the student council.



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