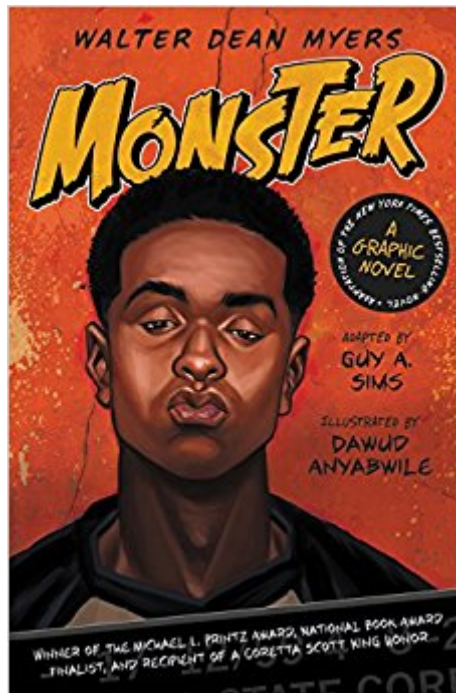




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# Monster: A Graphic Novel



## Synopsis

A stunning black-and-white graphic novel adaptation of Walter Dean Myers's Michael L. Printz Award winner and New York Times bestseller *Monster*, adapted by Guy Sims and illustrated by Dawud Anyabwile. *Monster* is a multi-award-winning, provocative coming-of-age story about Steve Harmon, a teenager awaiting trial for a murder and robbery. As Steve acclimates to juvenile detention and goes to trial, he envisions the ordeal as a movie. *Monster* was the first-ever Michael L. Printz Award recipient, an ALA Best Book, a Coretta Scott King Honor selection, and a National Book Award finalist. Now *Monster* has been adapted into a graphic novel by Guy Sims, with stunning black-and-white art from Dawud Anyabwile, Guy's brother. Fans of *Monster* and of the work of Walter Dean Myers and even kids who think they don't like to read will devour this graphic adaptation.

## Book Information

Series: *Monster*

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## Customer Reviews

Behind the Scenes of *Monster*: A Graphic Novel

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Gr 9 Up This is the story of a teenager named Steve Harmon who is on trial for murder and robbery, but it is not clear if he's guilty or not (in part because we see the story through his eyes, and he is reluctant to admit the full truth). Steve is interested in film, and so much of the story is told in a screenplay format. The screenplay idea worked well as a novel in the source material, and the

format was noticeable enough that it jumped off the page and readers could clearly understand what was going on in Myers's Printz-winning *Monster* (HarperCollins, 1999). But this graphic novel adaptation is clunkier in its attempts to use this same format. Steve shares that he wants to make this story into a movie, and then readers are presented with traditional words and images often depicted in comics, which may confuse teens about whether they are seeing the movie idea or just the graphic novel format. Anyabwile's black-and-white artwork will give this tale added visual appeal, as the scenes portray the action takes place from different characters' points of view, as well as close-ups of conflicted emotional expressions. VERDICT This graphic novel adaptation will introduce this story to a new generation of fans, but unfortunately it does not maintain the strength or the style of the original novel. —Andrea Lipinski, New York Public Library --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

—“The superbly rewarding format serves to powerfully emphasize Myers's themes of perspective and the quest to see one's self clearly. A must-have for public and school libraries, and a standout graphic novel. — (Booklist (starred review)) —“It's not easy for an adaptation to please both old and new readers, but this respectful one pulls off that trick. — (Kirkus Reviews) —“This graphic novel adaptation will introduce this story to a new generation of fans. — (School Library Journal)

Wow. Just Wow. To turn such a powerful story into something visual and frankly, more powerful. These brothers (literally, they're siblings) are a powerful team and need to take on more projects. This book got me so emotional and so mad and so hopeful all at once. The graphics show such expression in the faces, backgrounds, and various scene elements that it takes a long time to absorb each page. Give it the time it deserves! Don't rush through it.

I recently bought my 13 year old son this book to get him interested in reading. He couldn't put this book down. Thank you. Looking forward to purchasing more

I bought this for my alternative high school (teen male) students who hate reading and they LOVED it! Most read it in a single day and couldn't stop talking about it and telling me every detail of what they were reading. I had a waiting list to borrow it! My students had never enjoyed reading, but this book's graphic novel set-up and high-interest plot turned them into readers!

This book was an assignment in my Literature class. Love the book. Very well written. The author allowed you to see and feel the experience through Steve's eyes. The ending was a lot of emotions. Highly recommended.

This book brings a truth both visually and in writing, what a person of color can get caught up in when in the type of neighborhood the MC was in. It shows the one lesson in that neighborhood. Keep your head down, and keep it moving.

The art work in the graphic novel is awesome, one of the best I have seen lately. The Story line is the exact the same as the regular young adult novel that Walter Dean Myers published years ago.

This book was so good a kid stole it from my classroom. While it was there, my students were constantly asking to borrow it and read it. I got it as a resource for struggling readers since we were covering the original book in class. It's done really well and helps readers put the events of the story together. Plus it's just cool.

I read this book when I was in middle school and it left an impact but re reading it again..... In this time is still leaving that same impact. It showcased the same things that is going on right now with the justice system

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