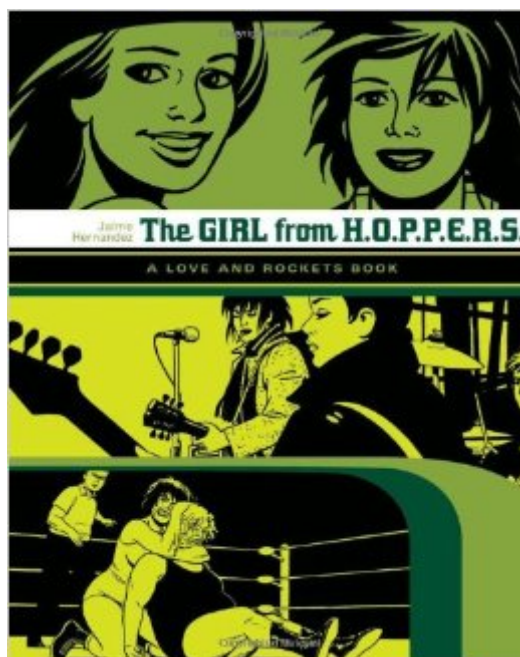


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# The Girl From HOPPERS (Love & Rockets) (v. 2)



## Synopsis

Centered on one of Jaime's peaks, "The Death of Speedy," the second comprehensive "Locas" collection (with stories not in the hardcover) alternates between wrestling action and the triangle of Maggie, Hopey and Ray D. The 25th anniversary Love and Rockets celebration continues with this, the second of three volumes collecting the adventures of the spunky Maggie; her annoying, pixie-ish best friend and sometime lover Hopey; and their circle of friends, including their bombshell friend Penny Century, Maggie's weirdo mentor Izzy •as well as the aging but still heroic wrestler Rena Titanon and Maggie's handsome love interest, Rand Race. After the sci-fi trappings of his earliest stories (as seen in *Maggie the Mechanic*, the first volume in this series), Hernandez refined his approach, settling on the more naturalistic environment of the fictional Los Angeles barrio, Hoppers, and the lives of the young Mexican-Americans and punk rockers who live there. A central story and one of Jaime's absolute peaks is "The Death of Speedy." Such is Jaime's mastery that even though the end of the story is telegraphed from the very title, the downhill spiral of Speedy, the local heartthrob, is utterly compelling and ultimately quite surprising. Also in this volume, Maggie begins her on-again off-again romance with Ray D., leading to friction and an eventual separation from Hopey. (Note: A number of these stories, including a whole cycle of wrestling stories starring or co-starring Rena Titanon, were not collected in the hardcover *Locas*.) Black-and-white comics throughout

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars • See all reviews (5 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

I fell for her hard. It was the kind of relationship you wanted to last forever, but all your sleepless

nights only drew you to the end. I tried to quit her, or space our time so that we could be together forever, but I rushed it, and now I have to start all over. This book kept me up nights when I wasn't reading it. That's how good it is.

'Love and Rockets' remains one of the brightest, if most obscure, stars in the comic world. Little-known outside the circles of indie-comic fandom, 'Love and Rockets' features brilliant BW artwork and superb storytelling from Jaime Hernandez. In this, the second collected volume featuring Jaime's heroine Maggie the Mechanic, Jamie slowly phases out the more outre elements that gave the comic its name. No more rockets! No more dinosaurs! No more sci-fi! Instead, Jaime focuses on the trials and tribulations of growing up in punk and post-punk era, with gangs, nosy relatives and the quiet tragedies of normal life more than filling in for lasers and killer robots. The subtle development of Maggie from punkette to a young woman struggling with the burden of adulthood is a thing to behold. My favorite story in the volume doesn't feature Maggie, though, but her older, stranger friend Izzy. 'Flies on the Ceiling' is either the tale of how Izzy met the Devil in Mexico, or it is the tale of how Izzy's already vulnerable mind was finally shattered beyond repair. Whatever your interpretation, it remains one of the most terrifying narratives ever put to funnybook form. Highly Recommended. NOTE: You'll really need to read 'Maggie the Mechanic', the first volume in the collected Love and Rockets, to fully appreciate what's going on here...and you'll probably want to become up volume 3, 'Perla la Loca' just to see how it all wraps up.

The stories all follow a nice narrative. It is what I love about his writing and images--real people living believable lives with an occasional touch of surreality!

I cannot say enough good things about 'Love and Rockets' or Jaime Hernandez. Just classic!

I'm sure I'm one of a tiny minority that didn't enjoy this book. This is the first comic/graphic novel that I literally couldn't finish. I started and re-started 3 times and couldn't get into it. The "story" dragged on and never really went anywhere. I love comics and could read a graphic novel about nuclear fission, but this book just had no plot. I never fell for the characters. Maybe my expectations were too high - I know Jaime Hernandez is an incredible talent and most people like his work. I almost never write negative reviews out of respect for the artists - I feel fine doing so here because Hernandez is so popular and my little review will have no impact on his sales. Be sure to look at a few pages yourself before buying this book. Maybe it's just like an expensive Cabernet- totally wasted on

someone that doesn't like wine.

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