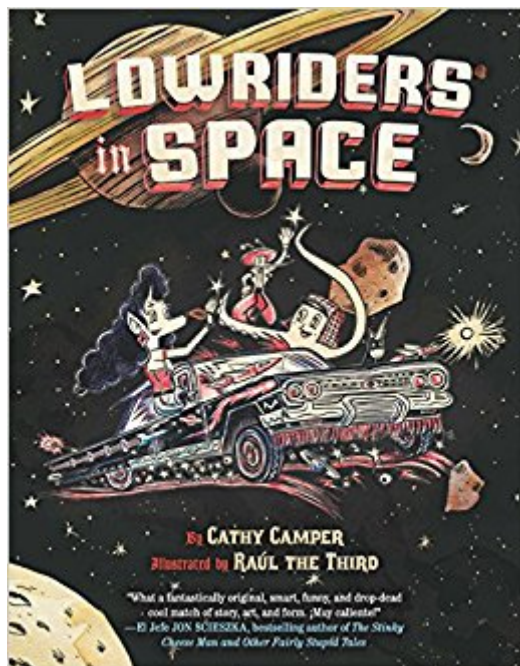


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# Low Riders In Space (Book 1)



## Synopsis

Lupe Impala, El Chavo Flapjack, and Elirio Malaria love working with cars. You name it, they can fix it. But the team's favorite cars of all are lowriders—cars that hip and hop, dip and drop, go low and slow, bajito y suavequito. The stars align when a contest for the best car around offers a prize of a trunkful of cash—just what the team needs to open their own shop! ¡Ay chihuahua! What will it take to transform a junker into the best car in the universe? Striking, unparalleled art from debut illustrator Raul the Third recalls ballpoint-pen-and-Sharpie desk-drawn doodles, while the story is sketched with Spanish, inked with science facts, and colored with true friendship. With a glossary at the back to provide definitions for Spanish and science terms, this delightful book will educate and entertain in equal measure.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: GN430L (What's this?)

Series: Low Riders (Book 1)

Hardcover: 112 pages

Publisher: Chronicle Books (November 4, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1452121559

ISBN-13: 978-1452121550

Product Dimensions: 7.6 x 0.5 x 9.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 30 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #638,978 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #107 in Books > Children's Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Action & Adventure #753 in Books > Children's Books > Cars, Trains & Things That Go > Cars & Trucks #8077 in Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works

Age Range: 9 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

Gr 4—Camper introduces readers to Lupe Impala, Flapjack Octopus, and Elirio Malaria, three friends who love working with cars and dream of having their own garage shop. One day they see an opportunity to achieve their goal—a car competition where the prize is a "carload of cash and a solid gold steering wheel." When they start working on a lowrider to prepare

it for the competition, an out-of-this world journey begins. Through anthropomorphic characters, the author narrates a tale of friendship, teamwork, and the passion for lowriding. She incorporates astronomy to this adventure, providing readers the opportunity to familiarize with terms from both worlds. Raúl the Third's colored pencil-and-marker illustrations effectively depict images from the lowriding subculture, while including references from Mexican pop culture, such as the iconic comedian Cantiflas and Chespirito's El Chavo del Ocho. The way he alternates among full-page artwork, spreads, and non-rectangular panels works well with the story and strongly supports its visual understanding. However, although it is true that some Latinos code-switch in their conversation, the use of Spanish words didn't feel organic to the story. There is also inconsistency in the use of accents, and footnotes that point readers to phrases and word meanings are explained as "nonsense words in Spanish," when that's not necessarily the case. *Lowriders in Space* fills a gap of Latino graphic novels for kids, and its quirky characters and illustrations have the potential to engage children. Let's hope that future installments will have a more accurate and natural use of Spanish. A helpful glossary of astronomy and lowriding terms is appended.

—Sujei Lugo,  
Somerville Public Library, MA

"A fun and educational (don't tell the kids!) text for young readers."--Sense and Sensibility and Storeies  
 "This buoyant graphic novel highlights lowrider culture with all the flair the subject deserves."--Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books, starred review  
 "This book was created to celebrate the creativity and ingenuity of the lowrider culture."--Library Media Connection  
 "Thanks to writer Cathy Camper's passion for science, and Raul inventive drawings, this kid's graphic novel about creatures (Lume Impala, El Chavo Flapjack and Elirio Malaria) who pimp their rides will make adults steal the book from children."--Entertainment Weekly, The Must List  
 "Roars with high-octane energy, in both the artwork and the prose."--Common Sense Media  
 "Readers will rejoice in their triumph. As a celebration of Latino lowrider culture, too, it's estelar."--Publishers Weekly, starred review  
 "Only from the inventive mind of writer Cathy Camper could come such genius: A book for kids that has it all-kooky characters, cool cars and . . . outer space, no less! Not to mention a high-interest graphic-novel form, full of hip and hop, sure to grab the wits of the most reluctant of readers." - Megan McDonald, bestselling author of the Judy Moody and Stink series  
 "One of the most delightful comics to come out this year."--Brigid Alverson, Good Comic For Kids, a School Library Journal blog  
 "Lowriders in Space is a beautifully imagined graphic novel that will spark young readers' imaginations while broadening their understanding of language. The art is inspired, the story fantastic, and together they make a truly magical tale."--Mat Johnson, author of Incognegro

and Pym"Lowriders in Space is FAR OUT, and the illustrations are OUT OF THIS WORLD. Love this graphic novel. ¡ Muy buena!"--Amy Sedaris"It's fun, it's silly, it's totally cool."--Amy Cheney, School Library Journal"Intricate ballpoint pen illustrations by Raul the Third could be pored over for hours."--St. Louis Post-Dispatch"Incredibly fun ."--The Planetary Society"From the 'hood to the Hollywood Hills and the projects to the Poconos, Cathy Camper and Raúl the Third's thrilling interstellar adventure is sure to put a smile on the face of any kid and any parent. I love Lowriders in Space!" --Davy Rothbart, author of My Heart Is an Idiot, creator of FOUND magazine, and contributor to This American Life"Check out these names: Lupe Impala. Flapjack Octopus. Elirio Malaria. Now imagine how awesome a story about characters with these names ought to be. Then double it. That's pretty much how awesome this graphic novel is."-- Gene Luen Yang, National Ambassador for Young People's Literature"Celebrates the artistry and inventiveness that goes into modifying and customizing cars . in space!"--Geek Dad"Brings together Hispanic lowrider culture with astronomy and aeronautics for one wild ride."--Publishers Weekly"A rollicking ride that's totally cosmic and caliente. In other words, this lowrider delivers!"--Good Reads with Ronna"A joyous, celebratory tale."--Latinos in Kid Lit"A highly entertaining and culturally authentic romp."--Kirkus Reviews, starred review"A fantastic voyage for the ages. Your graphic novel section needs this."--Travis Jonker, 100ScopeNotes"A fanciful story wonderfully illustrated by Raúl the Third."--The New York Times"We need Low Riders in Space out there now. It's cool and funny and original. AND it fills a huge need for books about Latino culture."--Jon Scieszka, bestselling author of The Stinky Cheese Man

Like a Chitty-Chitty Bang Bang taking place in the southwest US (or is it northwest Mexico). Upbeat fantastical humor and imagery. The colorful, high-energy drawings keep the fantasy alive and driving forward. There is no surprise at the end, but it doesn't matter, these are like the day dreams of every kid as they tighten the bolts on their bicycle or hammer together two boards in the basement. "What if I could make this thing fly..."Seems at a level for older elementary school age to read themselves or younger elementary to have read to them. Or, jackpot, if your middle or high school-er to reads it to the younger kids of your posse. The spectacular drawing will keep even the youngest paying attention even if they don't understand all the words and ideas the first time through.

Bought this for my brother in law and he wrote back saying he loved it. He didn't expect to but did. :)

I did my best with the Spanish, but high school's not enough for me apparently. Hee hee. Ah well it was a good story. Very cute drawings and I wonder what's gonna happen next! Until then, HASTA LUEGO MI AMIGOS! TE AMO!

What a great story...very refreshing. The illustrator is definitely talented. The art has great flow and the characters are so cute! My nephew is going to really enjoy this book.

Such a fun story and beautifully illustrated! I especially love that the hero mechanic is a Latina woman. Very cool for Latina girls to see themselves represented in stories like these.

It is cool because I like cars and my mom always tells me about Lowriders! It is also educational because it has English and Spanish teaching children other languages.

Excellent read for my boys 9 and 7. They love the characters and the art pops in a colorful display of cosmic resonance. Yeah it's good.

Loved by all my students!

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