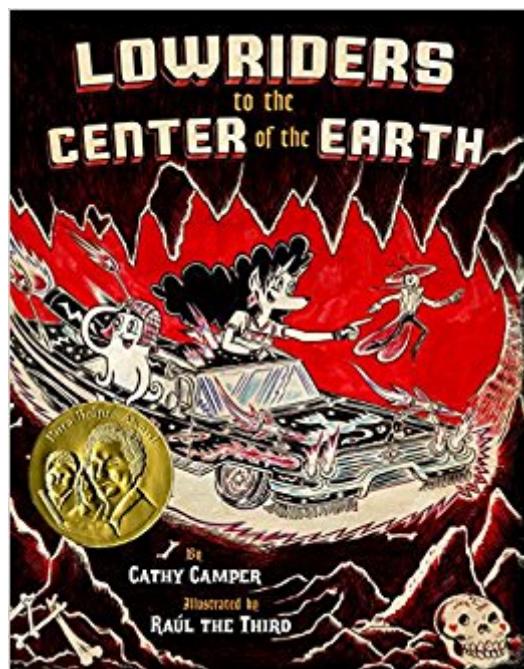


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# Lowriders To The Center Of The Earth (Book 2)



## Synopsis

2017 Pura Belpré © Illustrator Award Winner The lovable trio from the acclaimed Lowriders in Space are back! Lupe Impala, Elirio Malaria, and El Chavo Octopus are living their dream at last. They're the proud owners of their very own garage. But when their beloved cat Genie goes missing, they need to do everything they can to find him. Little do they know the trail will lead them to the realm of Mictlantecuhtli, the Aztec god of the Underworld, who is keeping Genie prisoner! With cool Spanish phrases on every page, a glossary of terms, and an action-packed plot that sneaks in science as well as Aztec lore, Lowriders to the Center of the Earth is a linguistic and visual delight. *¡Que suave!*

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 360 (What's this?)

Series: Low Riders

Hardcover: 128 pages

Publisher: Chronicle Books (July 5, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1452123438

ISBN-13: 978-1452123431

Product Dimensions: 7.8 x 0.8 x 9.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 7 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #513,964 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #91 in Books > Children's Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Action & Adventure #517 in Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Multicultural #6703 in Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works

Age Range: 9 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

Gr 4-8 • Lupe, Elirio, and Flapjack • an impala, a mosquito, and an octopus • work in a garage, repairing and detailing cars. When they discover their cat, Genie, is missing, they follow his tracks to a corn maze that turns out to be a trap used by the Aztec god Mictlantecuhtli to steal the skeletons of wayfarers. Can the trio challenge him in the underworld, rescue their pet, and return safely home? The artwork is intricate but accessible; the textures and

colors invite imitation. The storytelling is inventive, juggling cultural references, surreal circumstances, and educational impulses. As in the previous volume, *Lowriders in Space*, the dialogue combines Spanish and English slang, with frequent footnotes and definitions for the Spanish terms. This reinforces a narrative distance created by the flat affect of the characters and the woodenness of the included vocabulary. Perhaps the book is trying to do too much, incorporating lucha libre, mythology, Day of the Dead imagery, fanciful geology lessons, and multilingual puns all into one narrative. Or perhaps readers just need to go along for the ride, bajito y suavecito. **VERDICT** A jumble of creative ambition, the compelling visuals and scattershot storytelling will appeal to those not distracted by the roller-coaster plotting and jagged, more-is-more approach. Purchase where the first installment is popular. —Benjamin Russell, Belmont High School, NH

"Solidly uplifting graphic novel that offer plenty of comedy, adventure, information, and magnificent art."-Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books"This gonzo graphic novel. celebrates Latino culture, provides memorable dialogue in Spanish, and offers a highly detailed picture of Aztec mythology. Reluctant readers will be drawn to the series by its refreshing, anything-goes attitude and multicultural flavor."--Common Sense Media, 5-star review"This book is dynamite." -Junot Díaz, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*"Satisfyingly over-the-top mayhem."-Kirkus Reviews"Raul the Third's drawing will dazzle you. Cathy Camper's writing will have you on the edge of your seat. This book is the complete package-drama, humor, pathos, joy, rice, beans! So refreshing to see el español ritu mexicano come to life in such a fun, well-paced romp to the center of the earth!" -Mimi Pond, author of *Over Easy* and winner of the PEN Center USA Award for Graphic Literature Outstanding Body of Work"The wild antics, exuberant illustrations, and frequent Spanish will launch the Lowriders straight into many hearts."-Booklist"The storytelling is inventive, juggling cultural references, surreal circumstances, and educational impulses."-School Library Journal

There is so much to love. The first *Lowriders* book was excellent and this one is even better, as the story is bigger, the adventures more, well, adventurous, and pardon my pun, just goes deeper. Plus the illustrations are amazing (and award-winning!). It is fun to get lost the details of Raul the Third's art (can you spot El Vez?). I read Book 1 with my daughter when she was 1 or 2 years old, and she was thrilled when Book 2 arrived. We read both books with different voices and actions. It is a good time every time. She loves Lupe the mechanic and I love that she has a strong female role model

that ISN'T a princess. When we'd pass tool shops and repair stores in town, she'd mention Lupe with a smile. Yes, dear, you can do this, too! My girl also loves Genie the cat and that's where this edition begins, to find the missing feline. Book 2 takes us on an epic ride through Aztec culture and the bonds of friendship, all with silly jokes and thoughtful writing by Cathy Camper. You've got to love a writer that's self-aware enough to know that Miclantecuhtli is near impossible to pronounce for the non-Aztec reader, and can yet manage to poke fun at that while still respecting the character. There is also the infamous Chupacabra and La Llorona and more. When we pass cornfields, my daughter doesn't think of dinner, but the Coyote and Xilonon in the maze of maize. Lowriders in Space joyfully travels through my daughter's imagination and richly informs her daily experiences. It is a wonderful world Cathy and Raul have created. It is a treasure to experience a book like this - fun, educational, affirming. I hear that Book 3 is in the works, which is great news. But you have to read the first ones first!

Pretty great, though somehow slightly less awesome than the original - even though my son likes geology more than space, and he's pretty into wrestling, there's just something about the pacing, or having a villain to fight against, that makes this one not hold together quite as well. But the art is as great as ever.

The dynamic duo of Cathy Camper and Raul the 3rd are at it again. Pure love for this sequel to Lowriders from Space. I love it and my sons 11 and 9 love it to the moon.

Fantastic entertainment!

My students love this book!

As owners of an awesome garage and an "exquisitely detailed" lowrider car, Lupe Impala, Elirio Malaria the mosquito, and El Chavo Flapjack the octopus, couldn't ask for a better life. Earthquakes literally rock their world and Genie, their beloved cat, winds up missing. Following the cat's trail leads them on an exciting adventure through a corn field and ultimately through a trap that leads to the realm of the Aztec god of the Underworld, Miclantecuhlti. After the three friends plunge into a cave, they meet up with the legendary La Llorona who thinks Flappy is her long lost child. She is the least of their worries. When they finally find the caged Genie, they come face to face with Miclantecuhlti. Will they be able to rescue their beloved cat from the god of the Underworld? It's not

all "pun" and games but the jokes abound and with the endless Spanish vocabulary, the reader gets laughs and learning at the same time. The exquisite illustrations add to the fun. The reader will enjoy figuring out the puns and looking at the pictures so much that the cultural references and Aztec lore will come as a sneaky bonus. A playful graphic novel for the reluctant reader. My review as it originally appears on my blog, Boys To Books.

Lowrider's to the Center of the Earth, by Cathy Camper is a graphic novel for middle grade readers. This fun story features three main characters: an impala, a mosquito and an octopus, each with their own strengths. When they discover their cat is missing, they set off in their lowrider to find him. The story emphasizes teamwork. With elements of Aztec mythology, some science and Spanish words throughout; it makes for an interesting read. The very detailed artwork is the handiwork of Raul the Third, and is well done and complements the story. You could spend a lot of time just taking in all the different elements of each drawing. There is also a helpful dictionary in the back of the book.

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