



## Goldie Vance Vol. 1

*Hope Larson , Brittney Williams (Illustrations)*

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GOLDIE VANCE IS ON THE CASE

Sixteen-year-old Marigold "Goldie" Vance has an insatiable curiosity. She lives at a Florida resort with her dad, who manages the place, and it's her dream to one day be the hotel's in-house detective. When Walter, the current detective, encounters a case he can't crack, together they utilize her smarts, skills, and connections to solve the mystery...even if it means getting into a drag race, solving puzzles, or chasing a helicopter to do it!

## Goldie Vance Vol. 1 Details

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Author : Hope Larson , Brittney Williams (Illustrations)

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## From Reader Review Goldie Vance Vol. 1 for online ebook

### Cassie Stever says

this was great! it took a direction i didn't expect, but it's okay because i loved that it did. can't wait to read the next one. :)

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### Kristina says

I really enjoyed the 1960s setting and how old school everything was. It reminded me a lot of the Nancy Drew series but Goldie is so much cooler and quirkier!

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### Kate (GirlReading) says

This was so freaking cute!

Goldie is totally kickass and smart and I adore her and I want to steal Diane's wardrobe. She reminded me of Rizzo from Grease and I'm all for whatever is happening between these two. I'm completely obsessed with the art style, with this bright colour scheme and 60's setting making it all more fun. I have a feeling I'm going to become very attached to this series, its unique plot and wonderful characters. I mean, seriously, who doesn't love a retro detective series, set in a hotel, with a diverse cast of characters and an awesome qwoc lead?!

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### Erica says

Oh, goodness gracious. This is ridiculously adorable and full of good, clean fun.

After all my bitching about Princeless, Vol. 1: Save Yourself and Rat Queens, Vol. 1: Sass & Sorcery, after my terrible disappointment in Unstoppable Octobia May, this comes along and redeems everything!

Ok, so, the actual story is worth four stars but with the candy-cute art, the teeny-bopper fun of it all, the fast-paced black-belt action that still contains a plot, this puppy deserves one more star.

Pretty much, mix up Nancy Drew with the aforementioned Princeless plus Archie or Richie Rich and add some Scooby-Doo but then remove the all-white, all-straight, all-same-bodied cast and you've got this little gem!

We're cataloging it as YA (for now) but it seems aimed more toward the 10 to 14-year-old crowd.

Spunky teen valet Goldie Vance, daughter of a hotel manager for the upscale, ritzy Crossed Palms Resort in Florida and a mermaid at The Mermaid Club, has a part-time (self-appointed) job as hotel detective, assisting

(according to her) the Head of Security, Walt Tooey. She also moonlights as a matchmaker, trying to hook a dorky but decent-hearted bellhop up with her best friend, Cheryl, who works the front desk and is enchanted with science and space and might want to be an astronaut. Meanwhile, Goldie's got her own crush on Diane, greaser record store clerk, the coolest gal of 'em all. Oh, and she's a car enthusiast...especially when it comes to racing.

The backdrop is the sock-hopping '50's, though that doesn't necessarily mean this takes place in our '50's; it's got a more contemporary feel. It's not all golly-gosh, clean as a whistle. Goldie engages in morally questionable activities from time to time, believing that the ends justify the means, an outlook with which her father definitely does not agree. This, of course, leads to her fair share of trouble as she squares off with Russian kidnappers and necklace thieves as well as her personal arch nemesis, Sugar Maple.

I adore the artwork. The colors are vibrant, the illustrations just the cutest, and the panels support the story well, something especially important in a story where there's so much going on. All in all, it's a light-hearted, fun, and somewhat silly graphic novel that doesn't obviously push any boundaries but also feels open and inclusive. I look forward to the next volume.

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### **Rena says**

An adventure-filled comic about a girl detective and a female-centered romance? I'll take more, please?

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### **Maggie Gordon says**

Oh, this book was just delightful! It's a Nancy Drew for the modern age, with wonderfully diverse characters, lots of humour, and an exciting mystery! It is aimed at younger readers, so the plot is relatively simple and moves fast. But it's a great read for the younger crowd, and it is filled with some fantastic, vibrant, retro art! (Though perhaps it is important to ensure that the younger ones know that you just cannot steal cars even if your reason is thwarting evil international spies)

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### **Angie says**

- 01: A biracial lesbian lead.
- 02: TONS of POC side/background characters.
- 03: A whizz-bang James Bond-esque plot.
- 04: The mystery-solving sensibilities of Nancy Drew.
- 05: Greaser/Surfer aesthetics of the 50's.
- 06: Super capable ladies, while some of the guys are damsels in distress.

Add it all up and I think I've found my new fave lady sleuth series. WHAT A CHARMER.

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### Sonia says

[

Okay so basically this books seems to take a r

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### Elysia says

3.5

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### Danika at The Lesbrary says

This was cute! I was thinking it was going to be a little less international intrigue, but I still liked it. And apparently I'm still at the point where I think "Is she gay?? She couldn't possibly be. That's too good to be true. I mean, she is admiring this girl through the window, and then in the next panel there are just three repeating thought bubbles of her imagining this girl smiling at her. And she blushes when she sees her. And they hold hands. But that couldn't possibly be actual queer text in an all-ages comic, could it??"

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### Devann says

This was a fun read but there's just *something* missing that makes it a 3 star book instead of a 4. The story, art, and characters are all cute but it definitely felt a bit contrived at times and I guess like it was maybe trying a bit too hard to be so quirky. Still, I enjoyed it and I'll definitely check out the next volume to see if things maybe pick up a bit.

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### Maddie (Heart Full Of Books) says

Goldie Vance is the new Nancy Drew in my life and I absolutely adore her and the crew of the Crossed Palms hotel! More mysteries, please!

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### Elise (TheBookishActress) says

*Goldie Vance* is a bit of a Nancy-Drew type. Not my thing - until you put it in graphic novel form. Graphic novels are just the kind of thing to turn my brain off.

The first thing I want to say is that this is **one of the best-drawn graphic novels I have read**. I have read a lot of YA graphic novels with fairly half-assed art styles, or styles I found too colorful and cheesy. There's a

line, you know? After a while, all those colors get annoying. But this one is nothing of that sort.

The plot here is ridiculous. It's graphic novel fodder. But sometimes, you just need to turn your brain off. I did like the characters a fair amount; though none are anything particularly developed or special, I liked their feisty and sweet personalities.

Onto volume 2!!

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### **Cece (ProblemsOfaBookNerd) says**

Excuse me, where has this fabulous retro queer woc detective been all my life???? Everything about this is a win. The art style is bright and fun, the storyline walks just the right side of ridiculous, and it stars a 16 year old girl who kicks ass, solves mysteries, and falls for a sometimes-record salesperson/sometimes-actress girl named Diane. There's also street racing and hotel shenanigans and like.... this was perfection. I'm going to pick up volume 2 as soon as I can possibly get to the library.

In short: came for the fun detective story, stayed for EVERYTHING ELSE

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### **The FountainPenDiva, Old school geek chick and lover of teddy bears says**

I figured I'd play catch up on my past comics purchases since my beloved IR romance genre (save for a few notable exceptions) is boring the fuck out of me. I'd grabbed Goldie Vance #1 just because the cover looked awesome.

I grew up with Nancy Drew and this story brought a huge smile to my face as it took me back to my childhood, thrilled to the adventures of the intrepid girl detective. And Marigold (aka Goldie) is definitely heir to Miss Drew's throne. Spunky? Yes. Intrepid? Yes. A tendency to get involved when those around her don't think she should? Oh yes. Not only that, but she's a gearhead too.

Of course, Goldie Vance rocks even harder because of its diversity. The lead character is a Black teenage dynamo who solves mysteries while working with her father at a Florida resort. Of course, my other favorite character is Cher, who not only wants to be an astronaut (and this is wonderfully prescient given the story of the Black women "computers" who were instrumental in our space program) but she fangirls hard over astronaut Alan Shepard, which means any regular guy just might fall short.

The artwork is reminiscent of old Hanna-Barbara cartoons (at least to me). This is just the first issue, but I'm definitely going to be following Goldie Vance's adventures.

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### **David Schaafsma says**

First Nancy Drew, then Harriet the Spy, and now this, for tweens, mainly. Goldie wants to be her dad's hotel detective, and she gets the chance! Eisner Award-winning writer Hope Larson (A Wrinkle in Time: The Graphic Novel) and artist Brittney Williams (Patsy Walker, A.K.A Hellcat!) with a new whodunnit that kids will like a lot, I think.

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**Stefani Sloma says**

Fun, diverse, retro. Looking forward to reading more!

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**Deera says**

Think Nancy Drew but bi-racial and queer. Goldie is fantastic. I'm in the middle of a reading slump and comics are all I can manage. This gave me all the warm fuzzies. I was like Jessica Fletcher in that gif where she's eating popcorn the whole time.

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**Melki says**

While I loved Larson's *Compass South*, this one barely earned a third star from me.

The story: Goldie is a young teen who yearns to be a detective at the Florida hotel managed by her dad. She gets her chance to solve a big-time mystery when it seems that all manner of skeevy weirdos want to get their hands on a cheap, crappy necklace stolen from the resort.

It was all a little too far-fetched for me. The whole premise was hard to swallow, plus, good girl Goldie seems awfully adept at not only stealing cars, but racing them against more experienced drivers. Brittney Williams' artwork also drove me batty. Characters seemed to be passing by funhouse mirrors - one minute they are tall and slender, the next, they're short and squat.

Aaaaa!

For me, this was a two-star read, but since I'm not the intended audience - (my ten-year-old self would probably have loved it) - I'll award another star. I've also never been a Nancy Drew fan, so maybe that accounts for my lack of amusement. I see this is being compared to *Lumberjanes* #1, another one I didn't relish, so maybe fans of *that* book will enjoy this one. I did not.

Time for my Geritol and a nap.

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**Bee (Heart Full of Books) says**

Everyone's cute, Goldie is cutest. Everyone's cool, Diane is coolest.

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