

Queen in Comics

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The tale of the legendary rock band Queen is given pictorial treatment in the handsome graphic novel *Queen in Comics*.

Queen maintained a perennial presence on the pop charts in the 1970s, 1980s, and early 1990s, but their path to success was not easy. From Freddie Mercury's childhood in Zanzibar to the aftermath of his death at forty-five, the book covers the band's setbacks and triumphs, including creative differences, business decisions, and the complication of distinctive individual personalities. There are fascinating insights about outside musical partnerships and the creation of specific songs, as well as Mercury's revelation of his sexual identity. Still, the book's most lasting impression is that of the friendships that kept the band together for so long.

The book's chapters feature a variety of creative formats; their art styles range from cartoonish to realistic, and their visual storytelling remaining strong throughout. Each chapter is followed by brief recaps, in text and photographs, of the events covered in the preceding pages. Some repetitiveness results; still, this is a comprehensive picture of the band members and their stories.

Queen in Comics is a revealing and inspiring graphic introduction to a legacy rock band that continues to entertain the world.

PETER DABBENE (May / June 2023)

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