



# Jack Jackson's American History: Los Tejanos & Lost Cause

*Jack Jackson*

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**Jack Jackson's American History: Los Tejanos & Lost Cause** Jack Jackson

**Two landmark works of graphic nonfiction under one cover.**

Jack Jackson loved American history and creating comics. He combined these into a single vocation and created a legacy of historical graphic novels that has never been equaled.

Jackson is credited with creating what many consider the first underground comic, *God Nose*, in 1964. He co-founded Rip-Off Press in 1969, and made some of the most scathing satirical comics about contemporary America ever seen. But, Jackson was a Texan, and in the 1970s he returned to his roots and began writing and drawing short historical comics about Texas history. He then went on to produce six graphic novels chronicling 19th century Western history focusing on his beloved Texas and the Plains Indians. Fantagraphics, which published *Los Tejanos* originally in 1981, is proud to bring his graphic histories back into print in a series of three volumes, each reprinting two of his long narratives. The first volume features *Los Tejanos*, which Fantagraphics published as a solo book in 1981, and *Lost Cause* (1998) ? chronicling Texas history before and after the Civil War.

*Los Tejanos* is the story of the Texas-Mexican conflict between 1835 and 1875 as seen through the eyes of tejano (literally Texan of Mexican, as distinct from anglo, heritage) Juan Seguín. It is through Seguín, a pivotal and tragic figure, that Jackson humanizes Texas' fight for independence and provides a human scale for this vast and complex story.

*Lost Cause* documents the violent reaction to Reconstruction by Texans. As Jackson wrote, "Texas reaped a bitter harvest from the War Between the States. Part of this dark legacy was the great unrest that plagued the beaten but unbowed populace." The tensions caused by Reconstruction are told through the Taylor-Sutton feud, which raged across South Texas, embracing two generations and causing untold grief, and the gunslinger John Wesley Hardin, who swept across Texas killing Carpetbaggers, Federal soldiers, and Indians.

Jackson's work is as known for its rigorous research ? he became as good an historian as he was a cartoonist ? as well as its chiseled, raw-boned visual approach, reproducing the time and place with an uncanny verisimilitude.

This edition includes an essay by and interview with Jackson about the controversy *Lost Cause* generated, and an introduction by the novelist Ron Hansen.

320 pages of black-and--white comics

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