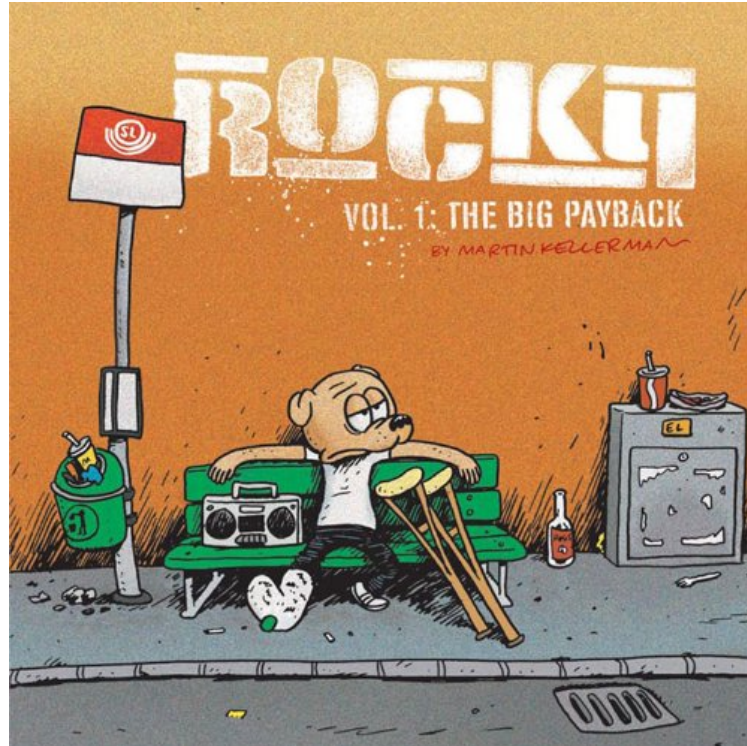


[Get free] Rocky, Vol. 1: The Big Payback

Rocky, Vol. 1: The Big Payback

Martin Kellerman

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Martin Kellerman : Rocky, Vol. 1: The Big Payback before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Rocky, Vol. 1: The Big Payback:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Humor for people younger than I amBy LauraWInteresting, but not as appealing as I had hoped. I guess I am too old for this type of humor.6 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Hilarious comic. Serious translation errors.By J. SkinnerI came at Rocky from the other direction - having learned Swedish years before, I was looking around for good Swedish web comics and found Rocky through Dagens Nyheter. I've been a big fan ever since.Martin Kellerman's sense of humor is uproarious and I can't help but laugh in recognition of Rocky's "Why *me*, for @%#!'s sake?!" anger at trying to get by in the modern world. He may live in Sweden, but the situation he and his friends get themselves into perfectly mirror the experiences of the twenty- (and thirty-) somethings living from check to check in any major city around the globe. It's one of those rare mainstream comics that are worth reading again and again - for episodes like "Rabbit Goes to the Country", individual strips, or even the stage business Kellerman plants in many of the strips behind the ongoing conversation. Martin Kellerman deserves every bit of exposure he can get in the English-speaking world.Now for the technical bit. If you're not a translator like I am, you can probably skip this and not miss too much.I met the translator of this book at SPX 2006 in Bethesda MD, where I bought this book and talked to him briefly about the project. He doesn't speak Swedish - he grew up speaking Danish, but since he works for Fantagraphics they chose him to do it. For any serious translator, this should raise a big red flag.It shows in the work. Among other gaffes, there are several strips where he mistranslates

"granne" as 'grandparents' when it means 'neighbors'; he inexplicably changes "Costa Rica" to "Malta"; and in one strip ("Say something sexy in Swedish") he alters the original text. These are all errors any translator who is serious about the profession really should strive to avoid. For someone like me who enjoys Rocky in both Swedish and English, this takes away from what is otherwise a spectacular work. Fantagraphics folks, you should consider hiring someone who actually works in Swedish to English for the forthcoming volumes. Just so you know, I'm easy to find. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Great comic, but poorly translated By P. Franck My motivation for 3/5 is that this comic, albeit funny, is the first of the "Rocky" books, and in my opinion, the character didn't mature fully until later in the series. If the book was in Swedish, I'd rate it 4/5, because the English translation removes a lot of the elements of humor, and to a certain extent some of the quirks that makes it funny in the first place. As a native Swede, I have to admit that much of the humor and warmth in this comic stems from the author's use of colloquial expressions and language use in general. Much of the books' humor also contains many references to pop culture only known to Swedes. But that being said, ****GET IT****, I think as someone who appreciated the Swedish humor in the book, I felt a bit robbed, but it's very funny nonetheless.

Fritz the Cat meets Jane Austen (!) in this raucous comedy. Martin Kellerman is the Jane Austen of 21st century twentysomething urban European slackers. Firmly in the tradition of Fritz the Cat, Hate, and Clerks, Rocky is his mostly autobiographical daily strip detailing the rudely hilarious travails of a young cartoonist and his circle of layabout pals and neurotic, indignant girlfriends. In this action-packed volume collecting the first year of the smash-hit strip, Rocky gets tossed out of his apartment, flies across the pond to visit a gay African-American pal (not realizing he lives in deepest Harlem); is ill-advisedly given the mission of euthanizing a friend's beloved pet rabbit ("Tom, give this job to Clemenza." "Yes, Godfather."); makes a spectacularly unsuccessful attempt to trade in his girlfriend for her younger, more buxom sister; gets a bowel inflammation and a colonoscopy; goes to a costume party dressed as Tinky Winky; tries to get laid while camping out at a rock festival-and basically drinks and fornicates (or tries to) his way through Stockholm and New York, with hangover following drunken binge and mortification following faux pas as night follows day. What will probably be amazing to American readers is how similar the day-to-day experiences of these Seinfeld-watching, Big Mac-eating, hip-hop-listening Swedes is to theirs. Rocky is a reminder as to how utterly global our culture has become-and a reminder that laughter is truly universal. Black-and-white comics throughout

This collection of strips is a laugh riot, full of moments that will instantly ring true. -- The Patriot-News
What an American newspaper comic might look like if the American newspaper comics page didn't suck. -- Metro
About the Author
Martin Kellerman was born in 1973. He lives in Stockholm, Sweden, where he is working on an animated Rocky motion picture.