



CasaHatcherPress

MARIO: COMING OF AGE

MARIO 2 COMING OF AGE

GEORGE HATCHER

What do you do when everyone you know is a criminal, a juvenile delinquent, or a murderer in training, and all you want is a nice television, a car to drive, a pretty girl, and some spending money?

When you're a kid growing up in East Los Angeles, where everyone is in a gang, and it's just you and your overworked aunt, and her skinny paycheck--against the world, that car you dream of might as well be on the back side of the moon, the tv is a pipe dream, the girl is smiling at you from inside a magazine, and the only thing in your pockets is lint.

Maybe it's all okay. . . that is until Auntie catches you with your naked magazines before the TV gets repossessed, and when Auntie Carmen disappears, you hear she got hauled off by the police. Now you're on your own, locked out of your apartment with nowhere to go.

If you're Mario Luna, you may be down, and the future look bleak, but you don't stay down. Book 2 in the Ambulance Chaser series, available from CasaHatcher Press from 39,000 bookstores.

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Los Angeles in the sixties was the epitome of the wild frontier, a land of transition. The streets were a cityscape of drugs and fists and bullies and the power struggles of gangs trying to strong-arm their corner of the city of Angels. Being tough and thorny and flexible were essential to survival.

Mario grew up here in this garden of thorns. Not only grew but thrived, running the gauntlet of rage and violence with nothing more to sustain him than an entrepreneurial spirit, the will to succeed, and a desire not to let down his aunt, who believed in him. Here was a boy who took lemons and made lemonade, a boy who fell, but was never down for long.

Coming of Age continues Mario's story from his tragic beginnings in Woman in Jeopardy.

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