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L.A. PUNK ORIGINATOR ALICE BAG RELEASES VIOLENCE GIRL MEMOIR

New book on Feral House chronicles the feminist punk experience and the birth of the L.A. punk scene from a Chicana perspective.

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Alice Bag was the lead singer of the Bags, the first female fronted punk band to play the Masque during the West Coast punk revolution of 1977. *Violence Girl, From East LA Rage to Hollywood Stage* is the story of her upbringing in East LA, her eventual migration to Hollywood and the euphoria and aftermath of the first punk wave. *Violence Girl* reveals how domestic abuse fueled her desire for female empowerment and sheds a new perspective on the origin of hardcore, a style most often associated with white suburban males.

The proximity of the East L.A. barrio to Hollywood is as close as a short drive on the 101 freeway, but the cultural divide is enormous. Born to Mexican-born and American-naturalized parents, Alicia Armendariz migrated a few miles west to participate in the free-range birth of the 1970s punk movement. Alicia adopted the punk name Alice Bag, and became lead singer for *The Bags*, early punk visionaries who starred in Penelope Spheeris' documentary *The Decline of Western Civilization*.

Here is a life of many crossed boundaries, from East L.A.'s musica ranchera to Hollywood's punk rock; from a violent male-dominated family to female-dominated transgressive rock bands. Alice's feminist sympathies can be understood by the name of her satiric all-girl early Goth band *Castration Squad*. *Violence Girl* takes us from a violent upbringing to an aggressive punk sensibility; this time a difficult coming-of-age memoir culminates with a satisfying conclusion, complete with a happy marriage and children. Many personal photographs energize the text in remarkable ways.

Violence Girl, From East LA Rage to Hollywood Stage – A Chicana Punk Story by Alice Bag is published by Feral House. ISBN: 978-1-936239-12-2 • 6 x 9 • 384 pages • \$17.95 • Pub date: October 11, 2011 • An Original Feral House Paperback

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Alice Bag's work and influence can be seen this year in the traveling Smithsonian exhibition "American Sabor: Latinos in U.S. Popular Music." Visit www.alicebag.com for more information or follow Alice on Twitter at www.twitter.com/alicebag

For more information on *Violence Girl* including excerpts and author photo visit www.feralhouse.com/violence-girl. Press inquiries please contact besslovejoy@gmail.com

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