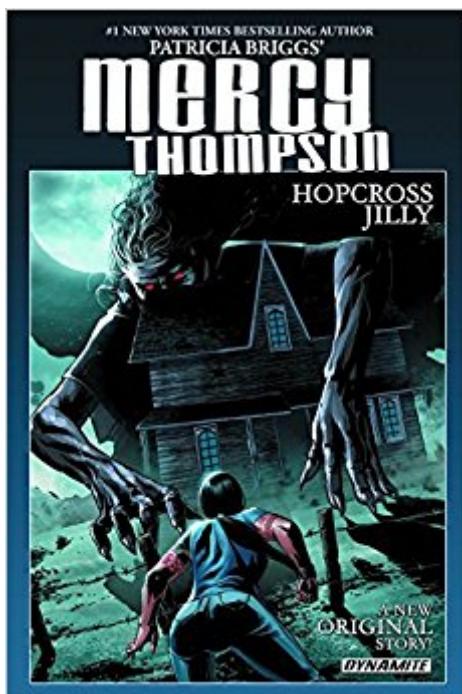


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# Mercy Thompson: Hopcross Jilly (Mercy Thompson Novels)



## Synopsis

Mercy is a shapeshifting coyote and honorary member of the Tri-Cities werewolf pack. When the pack stumbles upon the buried bones of numerous dead children, she shapeshifts into a mystery of the legendary fae - a mystery that draws Mercy's stepdaughter Jesse into the fray! The supernatural romance series Mercy Thompson continues in this all-new, original story by New York Times bestselling author, Patricia Briggs, exclusively created for the comic book medium! Collects the six-issue Mercy Thompson comic book series from 2014-2015, a story set in official continuity.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"All the ancient classic fairy tales have always been scary and dark." -Helena Bonham Carter I should probably be embarrassed to say this, but here goes. I have never read a graphic novel. I know. Loser, right? But it is something that simply never really interested me. Oh, I read comics when I was a kid. I remember walking to the market when I was able to pull enough pennies together for a comic or two, and I cherished them. But I never really came across a graphic novel whose concept interested me. When I was offered "Hopcross Jilly" for a review, it was a perfect opportunity to check out the genre and see what I thought with an author whose work I know I like. The fact that it also features Jesse, daughter to Adam Hauptman and step-daughter to Mercy Thompson, was a plus. I must say, my personal feelings are mixed. That is the problem with building a picture of an authors characters up in your mind over time. If the

picture you see, whether on screen or in print is different from what you expect, it can be disappointing. Adam didn't look anything like I pictured him, though Jesse was a good fit. Mercy? Not so much. Now the story, I liked that. Jesse has a really hard time in high school. Well, when your father is the Alpha of the local Pack, and the face of werewolves all over, kids can be vicious. Since kids can be more vicious than a school of rabid piranha anyway, add in the fact that your dad is Top Were and your life can be utterly miserable. That only gets worse when the pack finds the bodies of four children - then four more, then four more, and four more - buried ritualistically on an abandoned farm. And when one of the bodies happens to be the aunt of the Queen Mean Girl in school, things get even worse. I can't say the graphic novel format was my favorite way to read the story but that is personal preference, and has nothing to do with whether it was well done or not because it really was well done. Anything from Patricia Briggs I can pretty much expect to be exceptional, and the art and storyline are just that. Simply a matter of taste, but if you like graphic novels, I will highly recommend this. I believe she also has other graphic novels out give them a look if you are a graphic novel buff. I received Hopcross Jilly from the publisher in exchange for a realistic review. All thoughts are my own.

I love the Mercy Thompson but I didn't love this particular story. I enjoyed it, I just didn't love it. It seemed predictable to me. But Briggs' depiction of Mercy and Jesse's relationship was a delight and Mercy and Adam's interactions with the police rang true. My heart broke for Jesse and her relationship with her peers; having your father be publicly outed as a werewolf is not a cause for celebration. We also are reminded once again that the fae are not nice, but tricky and violent and as a race, they are not humankind's friends. I liked that actually; I like that Briggs' fae are not sparkly and wonderful or fuzzy and friendly. Watch your step with these fae or you may lose your life! The mystery was obvious and predictable. The only anticipation was how long before someone figured it out and how many people would die first. The artwork was too dark for my taste but it conveyed the atmosphere of the story nicely. Overall, a good but not great addition to the Mercy Thompson canon.

The story is good, the action well drawn, and enjoyable. My only issue with the story is the whitewashing of Zee. In Iron Kissed, when Zee first drops his glamour to fight for Mercy and Warren, he is described as follows: "And he changed, dropping his glamour. This Zee was a good ten inches taller than mine, and his skin was POLISHED TEAK instead of age-spotted German pale. Glistening hair that could have been gold or gray..." In Silver Borne, when he drops his glamour for

Mercy and Samuel and Jesse, to open Elphame, he is described as follows: "One moment he was the tallish skinny old man with a little rounded belly and age spots on his neck and hands, and the next he was a tall, sleek warrior with skin DARK AS WET BARK. Sunlight tinted his hair gold. It hung in a thick braid that flowed over one shoulder and hung lower than his belt. The last time I'd seen him, his pointed ears had been pierced many times, and he had worn bone earrings in the piercings. There were no decorations at all." - so from these vivid and fierce images, we get instead his 'true image' in Hopcross Jilly illustrated like a pointy-eared Thor-look-alike. Pointy-eared Thor would be fine, as another glamour - but WHY do this - why slight Zee's true image as written - through a sloppy color choice. This threw me right out of the story. Disappointing.

I REALLY like Patricia Briggs' Mercedes Thompson and Alpha and Omega books so I decided to give this a try even though I don't like graphic novels and comic books... this re-affirmed that dislike. The story was great as always but, it was hard to really get into it because of how chopped up it was. I also disliked having to weed through advertisement for other graphic novels everytime I finished a sequence. Overall I don't think that this book was a waste of money but, I won't be buying anymore of them.

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