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The Comics of Joss Whedon: Critical Essays

By Valerie Estelle Frankel



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A great deal of scholarship has focused on Joss Whedon's television and film work, which includes *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, *Firefly*, *Doctor Horrible's Sing-Along Blog*, *The Cabin in the Woods* and *The Avengers*. But Whedon's work in the world of comics has largely been ignored. He created his own dystopian heroine, Fray, assembled the goofy fannish heroes of *Sugarshock*, and wrote arcs for Marvel's *Astonishing X-Men* and *Runaways*. Along with *The Avengers*, Whedon's contributions to the cinematic Universe include: script doctoring the first *X-Men* film, writing a ground-shaking *Wonder Woman* screenplay, and co-creating ABC's *Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.*

Today, Whedon continues the *Buffy* and *Firefly* stories with innovative comics that shatter the rules of storytelling and force his characters to grow through life-altering conflicts.

This collection of new essays focuses on Whedon's comics work and its tie-ins with his film and television productions, emphasizing his auteurism in crossing over from panel to screen to panel. Essays focus on the comic inspirations and subversive tropes of the Whedonverse, as well as character changes and new interpretations.



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Editorial Review

Review

The Comics of Joss Whedon: Critical Essays was selected as one of the finalists for 2015's long form Mr. Pointy award (offered by The Whedon Studies Association) and one of the essays in it -- David Kociemba and Mary Ellen Iatropoulos's "Separate Worlds or One?: Canonicity, Medium and Authorship" -- won for short form.

About the Author

Valerie Estelle Frankel has been a storyteller, an award-winning novelist, and a lecturer at San Jose State University. The author of 30 popular culture books and more than 100 stories and essays, she lives in Sunnyvale, California.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Randy North:

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