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SUPERNATURAL

A History of Television's Unearthly Road Trip

By Erin Giannini

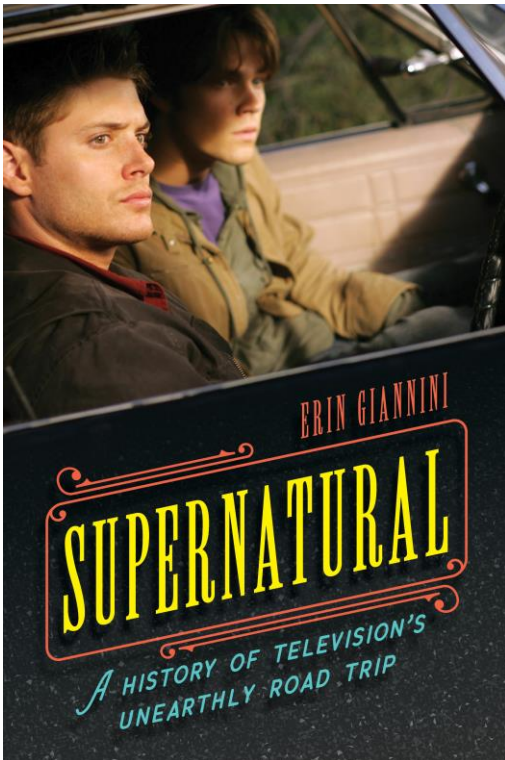
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About the Book

When *Supernatural* first aired on the CW in 2005, it was dismissed by many for being “pretty guys fighting demons.” Yet *Supernatural* persisted for 15 seasons to become the anchor of the network’s line-up and the longest running genre series in US television history.

In *Supernatural: A History of Television's Unearthly Road Trip*, Erin Giannini delves into the phenomenon of this cult series and its devoted fan base. Covering all 15 seasons, including the series finale that aired in 2020, this book examines the show’s predecessors, characters, major storylines, and fan activism. It also revisits creator Eric Kripke’s road to creating the series, draws surprising and revealing connections between the show and other series, and discusses the ways *Supernatural* responded to social and industry changes throughout its long run.

Supernatural was the little show that could for 15 years, persisting beyond its original network’s lifespan and surviving the departure of its creator and showrunner, in no small part due to its loyal fans. Inspired by shows such as *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* and going on to influence many shows that followed, *Supernatural* offers insight into how a series can adapt and grow to become a mainstay of primetime television.

About the Author

Erin Giannini has served as an editor and contributor at PopMatters and has published and presented work on television series such as *Supernatural*, *Dollhouse*, *iZombie*, and

Angel. She is the author of *Joss Whedon Versus the Corporation: Big Business Critiqued in the Films and Television Programs*. She lives in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Praise for the Book

“Erin Giannini’s *Supernatural: A History of Television's Unearthly Road Trip* is an impressive road map through one of television’s most-loved cult series. Giannini weaves together expert knowledge of television history and network production with a passion for *Supernatural* in her discussion of this show that defied the odds. Filled with the insight and conviction of a Winchester, this book is ideal for both the newcomer and established *Supernatural* fan, longing to revisit their favorite show.”—**Stacey Abbott, author of *Undead Apocalypse*, coauthor of *TV Horror*, and coeditor of *TV Goes to Hell: An Unofficial Road Map of Supernatural***

“*Supernatural* defied the odds since its beginning—a rare horror genre television show, surviving the crash of its network in its first year, and premiering in 2005 when the media landscape was changing dramatically. Despite those challenges, the show not only survived but thrived. Giannini investigates and ultimately explains *Supernatural*’s success, writing from her perspective as both a media scholar with a vast knowledge of television and a fan of the series, to allow an in-depth understanding of the show’s enduring appeal.”—**Lynn Zubernis, author of *Fangasm*, *Family Don't End With Blood*, and *There'll Be Peace When You Are Done***

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