



Firefly Revisited: Essays on Joss Whedon's Classic Series (Science Fiction Television)

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According to Joss Whedon, the creator of the short-lived series *Firefly* (2002), the cult show is about "nine people looking into the blackness of space and seeing nine different things." The chronicles of crewmembers on a scruffy space freighter, *Firefly* ran for only four months before its abrupt cancellation. In that brief time, however, it established a reputation as one of the best science-fiction programs of the new millennium: sharply written, superbly cast, and set on an exotic multicultural frontier unlike anything ever seen on the small screen. The show's large, enthusiastic fan following supported a series of comics and a theatrical film, *Serenity* (2005), that extended the story, deepened the characters, and revealed new wonders and dangers on the deep-space frontier.

In Firefly *Revisited: Essays on Joss Whedon's Classic Series*, Michael Goodrum and Philip Smith present a collection that reflects on the program, the characters, and the post-cancellation film and comics that grew out of the show. The contributors to this volume offer fresh perspectives on familiar characters and blaze new trails into unexplored areas of the *Firefly* universe. Individual essays explore the series' place in the history of the space-Western subgenre, the political economy of the Alliance, and the uses of music and language in the series to immerse audiences in a multicultural future.

These essays look at how the show offered viewers high adventure as well as engaged with a range of themes that still resonate today. As such, Firefly *Revisited* will intrigue the show's many fans, as well as Whedon scholars and anyone interested in the twenty-first-century renaissance of science-fiction television.



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