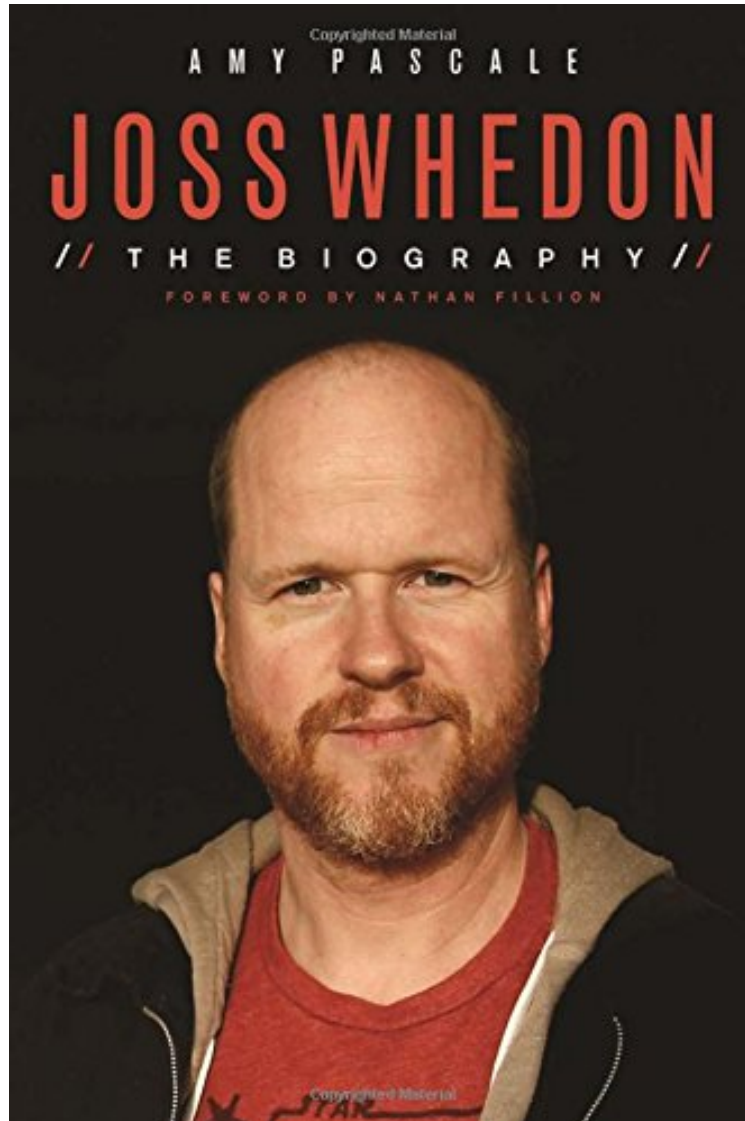


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Joss Whedon: The Biography

Amy Pascale

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Amy Pascale : Joss Whedon: The Biography before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Joss Whedon: The Biography:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Joss: a reflection of usBy J. K. RoseWonderful biography of Joss Whedon, researched and written by Amy Pascale. I can't imagine a more revert but honest look at a man who has inspired a generation of fans toward such activism and passion. I found it impossible to find in bookstores and so picked up the kindle version to read at my own pace. But once I started, I couldn't stop. Reading the story of Joss put me in the same frenzy to devour words that I would have when a new Harry Potter was released. I devoured the whole

thing in two sittings, staying up until 5 am the first night. I picked up the book because I've been a fan of Joss's for years (staring with Buffy) without ever really knowing much about him. It wasn't until the cancellation of Firefly that I truly became a follower and realized the beautiful genius that touches and moves us through his storytelling. The book is an intimate look at his life and his influences, without getting distracted by the drama that surrounded some of his productions and ideas. My only complaint is it felt like it spent too much time focusing on the development of Buffy and conversations from the Bronze forum. But after reading through the rest of the book, I know that the time spent there was connected to the larger themes of feminism and fan connection that permeates everything that Joss creates. I would have liked to have seen just as much time and space devoted to Dollhouse, which I feel is an even more relevant message of empowerment to resist "the system" than even when it first aired. Thank you for letting us in on the humble genius that is Joss. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. To quote Faith, this book is 5 (stars) by 5By Paul This biography was up for book of the year in this category, which is a bit of a surprise, not because it isn't good enough, but because it has the same irreverent style as its namesake. If you're reading this because you're a fan of the man I think he'd like that rhyme you will not be disappointed. There's plenty of background on his growing-up years, his time in college where he learned about filmmaking, and his early years with his father in Hollywood. But where it really takes off, as should be expected, is with Buffy The Vampire Slayer, first his disappointment at how the movie was taken out of his control, then Buffy's triumphant return, this time on TV. For those who are not particularly fans of his yet reading this anyway, there's plenty of interesting tidbits from his time in Hollywood, all the way to Much Ado About Nothing and the preproduction of the semi-sequel to that blockbuster that is The Avengers, Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D. There's just a touch about this family life, a few mentions without being intrusive; since I'm not a person who follows such things, I didn't even know he had kids. And just because there's nowhere else for me to put this, I'm gonna say right now that, after binging on Buffy the Vampire Slayer for about a month, what I thought the first time is confirmed: the best moment of the whole series is Buffy Summers, Class Protector. 5/5 (Or as Faith would say, Five by five.) 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. get to know Joss... By @EstherKReading this book is like spending a day (or more than a day, depending on how fast you read) with Joss and his many friends/fans/frolleagues, and it's just as delightful to meet them in the confines of the book as you might have imagined from having experienced Buffy, Angel, Firefly, Dollhouse or anything else he's come into contact over the last two decades or so (including Speed and the original Toy Story that you love so much). It confirmed for me something that I probably already knew as a writer: that good stories require a combination of good storytellers, passion, commitment, hard work, and families, whether organic or created by circumstance or script. While I don't write as well as or in the same formats as Joss, I am certain that this book has imparted to me many lessons on writing, crafting story, gleanig inspiration from the world, and acknowledging those who deserve credit. A must-read for Joss fans, and a great read for other writerly/sci-fi/fantasy folk. It's all about story, people. And this one is a good one.

Going from the 4 million US viewers who watched Buffy the Vampire Slayer to a worldwide box office of \$1.5 billion for The Avengers is quite a leap. Yet the creator of them both, Joss Whedon, told as personal a story with a cast of A-list movie stars and complicated CGI effects as he had with a modestly budgeted teen fantasy series on an upstart netlet. Whedon deals in classic themes of love, death, and redemption with a feminist perspective that his mother, a beloved teacher and activist, imparted to him. Although he comes from a family of television writers, he was determined to follow his own path from a young age. This definitive biography shows how his years at an elite English public school led to his early successes, which often turned into frustration in both television (Roseanne) and film (Buffy the Vampire Slayer; Alien: Resurrection). But when he resurrected his girl hero on a young network, the results enabled him to direct, write, or produce three more television series, several movies, Marvel comic books, and an innovative web series, culminating in the blockbuster The Avengers. Then Much Ado About Nothing, a personal project shot in his home and cast with friends, allowed him to step out of Marvel's shadow. Amy Pascale has based this revealing biography on extensive original interviews with Whedon's family, friends, collaborators, and stars as well as with the man himself. They've shared candid, behind-the-scenes accounts of his work with Pixar, his filmmaking adventures, and the making of his groundbreaking series Buffy, Angel, Firefly, Dollhouse, and Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.

From Booklist Pascale offers a biography of television auteur Joss Whedon, who is perhaps the first celebrity television show-runner. The son of a history teacher and a television writer, Whedon began his television career with a staff writing job on the sitcom Roseanne, but once that job experience soured, he turned to features, penning the script for Buffy the Vampire Slayer. Though disappointed with the final cut of the film, Whedon enjoyed a prosperous stint writing and rewriting films such as Speed and Toy Story before returning to the small screen to resurrect his slayer. The show was a modest hit, but the passionate fan base it cultivated led to an active online community that Whedon participated in as well as further groundbreaking television offerings (Angel, Firefly, etc.) that cemented Whedon's status as an icon even before he was tapped to direct Marvel's high-profile flick, The Avengers. Though Whedon's many fans are fairly familiar with the ups and downs of his career, the many frank quotes from Whedon, his friends,

family, and coworkers make Pascales absorbing bio a must-read. --Kristine Huntley