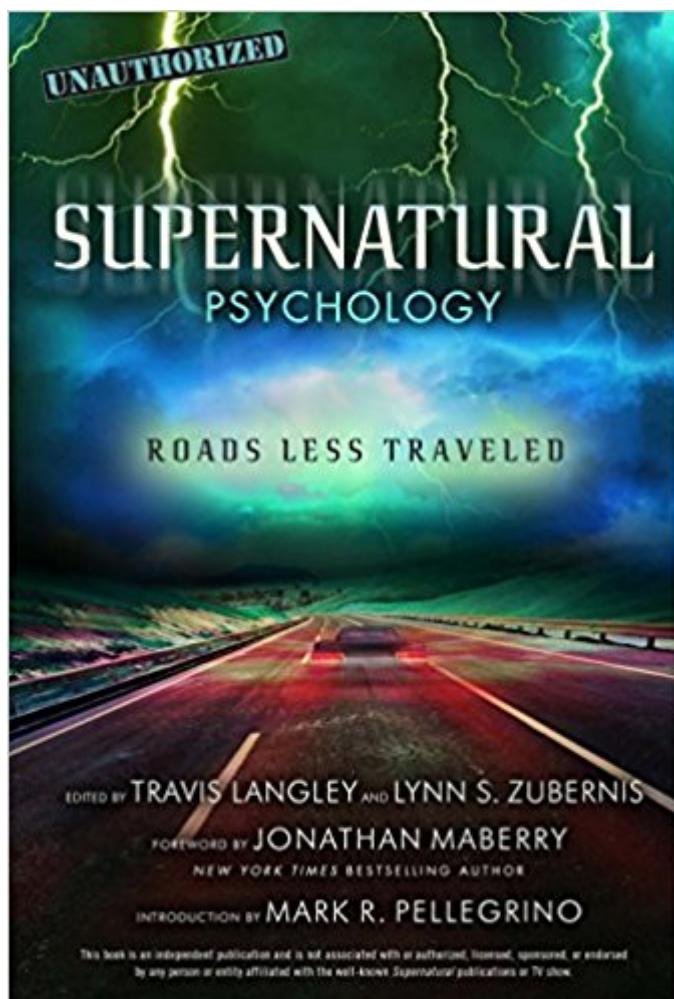


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Supernatural Psychology: Roads Less Traveled



Synopsis

A fascinating analysis of the psychology behind the popular TV series *Supernatural*. From Travis Langley (Batman and Psychology; *The Walking Dead* Psychology; *Game of Thrones* Psychology) and Lynn S. Zubernis (Family Don't End with Blood; Fan Phenomena: *Supernatural*). Following the adventures of two brothers who investigate deeply strange and paranormal mysteries in their never-ending road trip, the TV show *Supernatural* has many fans eager to better understand the psychology behind the series' themes and characters. Featuring cast & crew interviews, this collection examines issues at the heart and soul of *Supernatural*'s heroes and foes (fans, too): The role grief and trauma play in the protagonists' lives. The importance of music to the narrative. What motivates someone to hunt monsters and why we want to believe in magic. How angels relate to humanity and what that has to do with real intergroup conflict. How people can cope with tragedy, loss, addiction, and fear to become heroes who do the right thing. The dynamics of fandom: how fans relate to the narrative, characters, and actors, and continue to engage with series through fanfic, social media, and other practices. Contributors: Travis Adams * Colt J. Blunt * Jennifer Bonds-Raacke * Melanie Boysen * Jenna Busch * Erin Currie * Christine Dickson * W. Blake Erickson * Larisa A. Garski * Wind Goodfriend * J. Scott Jordan * Lara Taylor Kester * Elizabeth Kus * Travis Langley * Jonathan Maberry * Justine Mastin * Denisse Morales * James S. Nairne * Susan Nylander * Leandra Parris * Mark R. Pellegrino * John B. Pryor * John Raacke * Billy San Juan * Janina Scarlet * Stephan Schaffrath * Amanda Taylor * Paul VanPortfliet * Eric D. Wesselmann * Lynn S. Zubernis

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Travis Langley, PhD, is a psychology professor at Henderson State University, the author of *Batman and Psychology* (Wiley), and the volume editor of *The Walking Dead Psychology, Star Wars Psychology, Game of Thrones Psychology*, and the rest of the Popular Culture Psychology series (all Sterling). He speaks regularly on media and heroism at universities, conferences, and popular-culture conventions including San Diego Comic-Con, New York Comic Con, and others throughout the world. *A Necessary Evil: Super-Villains of DC Comics* and other films have featured him as an expert interviewee, and the documentary *Legends of the Knight* spotlighted how he uses fiction to teach real psychology. *Psychology Today* carries his blog "Beyond Heroes and Villains," and he is one of the 10 most popular psychologists on Twitter with over 100,000 followers:

@Superherologist.Lynn S. Zubernis, PhD, is a clinical psychologist and professor at West Chester University. She earned her bachelor's degree from Rosemont College and her graduate degrees from Bryn Mawr College in Pennsylvania. In addition to publishing a psychology textbook and a variety of articles on psychological topics, Dr. Lynn Zubernis has published five books that celebrate being a fan--Family Don't End With Blood: Cast and Fans on How Supernatural Has Changed Lives; *Fangasm* Supernatural Fangirls; Fan Phenomena Supernatural; Fandom at the Crossroads; and *Fan Culture: Theory/Practice*. She has written for *Slate*, *The Conversation*, and *Supernatural Magazine*. She regularly contributes to articles, podcasts, and documentaries on fandom, and has appeared on NPR. Dr. Lynn Zubernis was also co-writer and associate producer for the documentary *Squee: The Fangirl Project*. She chairs the Stardom and Fandom area of the Southwest Popular Culture Association, blogs at *fangasmthebook* on Wordpress, and tweets as @FangasmSPN.

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