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Seinfeldia: How A Show About Nothing Changed Everything



Synopsis

Comedians Larry David and Jerry Seinfeld never thought anyone would watch their silly little sitcom about a New York comedian sitting around talking to his friends. NBC executives didn't think anyone would watch either, but they bought it anyway, hiding it away in the TV dead zone of summer. But against all odds, viewers began to watch, first a few and then many, until nine years later nearly 40 million Americans were tuning in weekly. In *Seinfeldia*, acclaimed TV historian and entertainment writer Jennifer Keishin Armstrong celebrates the creators and fans of this American television phenomenon. She brings listeners behind the scenes of the show while it was on the air and into the world of devotees for whom it never stopped being relevant, a world where the Soup Nazi still spends his days saying, "No soup for you!", Joe Davola gets questioned every day about his sanity, Kenny Kramer makes his living giving tours of New York sights from the show, and fans dress up in Jerry's famous puffy shirt, dance like Elaine, and imagine plotlines for *Seinfeld* if it were still on TV.

Book Information

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#39 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Arts & Entertainment > Performing Arts #66 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Arts & Literature > Television Performers

Customer Reviews

This starts out as a good book, or at least one that is full of information that you may not know if you are a casual fan and some bits that are interesting even for the diehard fan. It does have its faults, and goes completely off the rails at the end, but is an easy light read that is not something you should rush out to buy at all. It is a disappointing purchase for hardback.-For a 320 page book, it goes surprisingly fast. This is praise and criticism, as it makes for light reading but seems oddly empty.-It is strongest when the actual show is the main focus. When it discusses things after the

show and (especially) fandom it shows its lack of real depth.-Many things about the show aren't new and revelatory, but that isn't a problem per se, as any fan can find a few nuggets that are interestingly new, and re-living some other events and stories surrounding the show can't be anything but fun to read about.-The writing can be choppy at times, with abrupt stopping and little transition into another topic within a chapter.-The focus on much of the meat of the book is about the writers, which I found fascinating and interesting, though others that might care more about the actors might not appreciate as much.-You can really tell who she interviewed more in depth because it comes through loud and clear via the amount of coverage that certain writers or people get compared to others. Some writers get barely a mention while others get superfluous details added.-She is really obsessed with the cars people drive, implying a sort of meaning to them. I didn't notice this at first, but you notice as the book goes on that you may not know if a person is married or how old they are, but you sure know what car they drive at that time.

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