



Genius on Television: Essays on Small Screen Depictions of Big Minds

By Ashley Lynn Carlson

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Whether it's Sherlock Holmes solving crimes or Sheldon and Leonard geeking out over sci-fi, geniuses are central figures on many of television's most popular series. They are often enigmatic, displaying superhuman intellect while struggling with mundane aspects of daily life.

This collection of new essays explores why TV geniuses fascinate us and how they shape our perceptions of what it means to be highly intelligent. Examining series like *Criminal Minds*, *The Big Bang Theory*, *Bones*, *Elementary*, *Fringe*, *House*, *The Mentalist*, *Monk*, *Sherlock*, *Leverage* and others, scholars from a variety of disciplines discuss how television both reflects and informs our cultural understanding of genius.

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About the Author

Ashley Lynn Carlson is an assistant professor at the University of Montana Western, teaching courses in British literature, popular culture and women's writing. In addition to cultural studies, she also writes on the intersections between gender, science and popular culture.

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