

Why The Crises Should Stop

By: Paige Platter

DC's CW TV show, *Arrow*, has been running for eight years now, with nine other shows crossing over into theirs. All of these shows make up the Arrowverse. These shows collide once a year, usually around December, creating a crossover. This started in 2014 with *Flash vs Arrow*. There are officially eight crossovers now in the Arrowverse with this year being the craziest.

This year's crossover is called *Crisis on Infinite Earths* and it involved shows you didn't even know are part of the Arrowverse. It starts with *Supergirl* on earth 38, with The Monitor, from last year's crossover, and dark matter. The Monitor brings Lex Luthor back from the dead and rips people from their worlds, bringing Barry Allen, Kate Kane, Sara Lance, Ray Palmer, Oliver Queen, and Mia Smoak from Earth 1 to *Supergirl*. This brings in the CW shows, *Batwoman*, *Arrow*, *Flash*, and *DC Legends of Tomorrow*. This seems hard to follow right? It is, and it only gets worse from here.

It's been getting more complicated and more overrated as the years have gone on. It was interesting the first few times they did it, especially when *Flash* and *Supergirl* crossover in 2016 for the episode "Duet" which was a musical episode set in an alternate Earth. It was fun and fast-paced. But when *Crisis on Earth-X* was brought about things got boring. They've gotten repetitive. *Arrow's* fallen into the same thing, it's become repetitive and doesn't bring anything new. Most shows fall into this slump after years of being on the air - they run out of ideas. *Arrow's* slump has spread to the other shows in the Arrowverse as well, *Supergirl* and *Flash*, they've both become repetitive and have lost the fire they once had. *Legends of Tomorrow* probably aren't far behind them, but they have a revolving door of cast members giving the show new life every few seasons.

Crisis on Infinite Earths is bringing some fresh ideas to the table, with introducing *Black Lightning* to the Arrowverse and having *Lucifer* join in, but it's not what these shows need. These creative slumps are causing the crossovers to feel bored and bogged down. They need to cancel these slumped shows, or give them a year off, to revitalize these universes. They've overplanted the field and need to give it time to fallow. Let these new shows like *Batwoman* or *Black Lightning* take the stage. Every show has an expiration date and some of these DC CW shows have hit it.