SPN Angels & Demons Bang: FAQ and Rules

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For any updates/revisions to this document, please see the end notes for the change log.

1. General information:

What is the SPN Angels & Demons Bang?

The SPN Angels & Demons Bang is an event focused on the angelic and demonic characters from the TV show *Supernatural*. This event is open to all participants of the age 14 or older. Writers and artists will work together to create completely new stories with illustrations which will be shared online in the Winter of 2024-25 (full schedule below).

Mini bang and big bang tracks will run side-by-side for this event.

Minibang stories will have a minimum 5,000 word length, with artists required to complete one banner art and one main art piece.

Big Bang stories will have a minimum 20,000 word length, with artists required to complete one banner art and two main art pieces.

Who's running this thing?

This bang is the brainchild of sidewinder (<u>hawkland on tumblr</u>) and for this round our moderation team consists of LadyKnightSkye, autisticandroids, and TwinOne.

For which characters and relationships can we write/create content?

For writers, your story should feature at least one angel or demon character (including nephilim or cambion) from *Supernatural* as its central focus. The character(s) can be human now, but the story should in some way focus on their experience or existence as an angel or demon. Angels & demons don't have to have the exact same abilities or characteristics as

in canon (that is, you can go AU in how angels/demons operate, or what their powers are) but they should still be identifiable as *non-human* beings.

"Always human"/"no supernatural" AUs are not on topic for this event.

Both gen and ship fics are welcome. If the story is focused on a romantic and/or sexual relationship, then that central ship *must* include at least one angelic or demonic character. Other relationships as background elements are acceptable, but will need to be disclosed before art claims and when reaching out to any event-registered beta-readers.

If we take Castiel as our character, some acceptable story premises would include:

- Genfic exploring some part of Cas's angelic life, such as during the civil war in Heaven, post-canon, or with his garrison before raising Dean Winchester from perdition.
- Cas and his fatherly relationship with Jack.
- Cas adjusting to being human during Season 9 (or at some other time if he loses his abilities.)
- A romantic story featuring Cas paired with another character of your choosing (ex: Dean, Sam, Hannah, Crowley, or an Original Character.)
- A "Team Free Will" casefic from Cas's point of view, or in which Cas's angelic nature plays some significant important role.
- The story of a Castiel from another universe created by Chuck, provided that Castiel is still an angel, or maybe a reverse-verse where he is a demon instead.
- Castiel is an Al with angel-like powers

These are just some examples, and could apply to any other SPN angel or demon character(s) of your choosing.

If you have any questions about the appropriateness of your story idea, please feel free to reach out to the mods for clarification either via email or on the discord server.

Is there a rating limit?

There is no rating restriction or requirement except that minor participants (under 18) are not allowed to create or claim works higher than a T rating, and will not be allowed in restricted adult-content writer and artist channels on our discord server. Beta-readers will have similar restrictions. Any minor found to be misrepresenting their age on any forms, or produced or claimed fic, will be removed from the bang immediately.

What about a participant turning 18 during the course of the bang?

<u>For authors</u>: If you should turn 18 **before writer sign-up closes** (September 2, 2024), you can let a moderator know & we will adjust your sign-up status. You can then submit a rated E or M fic if you choose.

For artists: If you should turn 18 before artist registration closes (October 27, 2024), you can let a moderator know & you would be allowed to claim a rated E or M fic during claims.

<u>For betas</u>: We can update your information on the beta list at any point during the process to note your age & availability. But until you turn 18 you can only be listed as available to beta-read a G or T-rated fic.

What can I not create?

- No works including minors under the age of 16 in sexual situations will be allowed for this Bang (ie, no "underage" fic including M or E rated content.)
- Additionally, "always human" or other Alternative Universe (AU) scenarios
 where characters were never angels or demons are also not acceptable. (It is
 fine if a character doesn't know they are an angel until some later point in the story.)
- No Al-generated content. It's ok if you use a grammar checker or editing program such as Grammarly or ProWritingAid to proofread/clean up your writing, but stories and art generated via Al tools are not allowed.

<u>IMPORTANT</u>: What other things should I take into consideration before participating?

All participants will be required to join the discord server for the event. You don't need to be an active participant there, but you will need to introduce yourself so as to be assigned proper roles. All reminders, announcements, and check-in form links will be shared on the discord server and tagged appropriately for authors, artists, and/or betas. (Basically, the mod doesn't want to have to deal with sending out email reminders, plus too many times people had important messages go "lost" or end up in "junk mail.") However you prefer to communicate with your partners in the event is up to you, but you *must* join the server for admin purposes.

Participants are responsible for keeping track of all due dates. Check-ins are mandatory and failure to complete check-ins without communicating with the mods before deadlines will be considered dropping out of the Bang, no exceptions. Writers dropping after claims and artists dropping out after posting dates have been established could result in a

one-round ban to discourage the practice, but ultimate decisions are at the mods' discretion and will be judged on a case-by-case basis. Communication between all parties is key.

Those who "ghost" their partner and the event entirely, such as an artist who does not communicate to the admin/their author that they cannot complete the work on time and simply vanishes, will be permanently banned from future rounds.

Please show consideration and respect your fellow participants in this exchange. As this is an open ship and character event, you may not like all characters or opinions on the show expressed by other participants. This exchange and its discord server are not an appropriate place for character, ship, show or individual bashing. Harassment, discrimination, and hateful language will not be tolerated and any issues you may experience from other participants should be reported to the moderators.

During claims, your Do Not Wants and preferences must pertain to potential art content, not the claimants. That is, you *can* say you are not comfortable with NSFW art, blood in art, representations of angelic trueforms, etc. You *cannot* say "No shippers of X/Y, please" to try to limit who may claim your story.

Stories and art posted for this bang should remain accessible online for at least one year, though you are free to "orphan" or move your work to an anonymous collection if you choose to for any reason. Artists are responsible for providing their own hosting for their art such that it can be easily accessed by the author for embedding on AO3.

Author/Artist teams will be given an assigned posting date and will be expected to share their collaboration publicly, in its entirety, on that date—serialized posting will not be allowed. This is to ensure equal visibility to all participants and to make moderating the event easier. Details on the posting process will be provided to all participants as we get closer to the end of the registration period.

Authors are not to commission or include art or graphics made by anyone other than their assigned artist (limited exceptions being something such as an author-drawn or provided map or diagram - please contact the mods to verify acceptability). Authors also may not dictate what scenes or images from their fic that their artist chooses to work on, though we encourage open communication between collaborating parties from claims until posting.

IF YOU NEED TO DROP OUT AT ANY POINT, PLEASE EMAIL A MOD AND LET THEM KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

Participation Information:

Mini Bang vs Big Bang

There will be two tracks for this event: a Mini Bang and a Big Bang. Writers can choose either track to participate in depending on the **projected length** of your story (and you won't need to choose your track until the first check-in). Artists can choose which length story (or stories, over multiple rounds) to claim based on how much art you are willing to create.

Stories between 5,000-19,999 words will be considered "Mini Bang" fics. Your artist will be required to create a title banner and **one** additional piece of art to go with your story.

Stories 20,000 words and longer will be considered "Big Bang" fics. Your artist will be required to create a title banner and **two** additional pieces of art to go with your story.

If a story was submitted for the Mini Bang but ends up longer than 20,000k at posting time, the artist will still only have to meet the Mini Bang requirements as that is what they signed up for. Artists may choose to create more than the required number of art pieces if they wish, but authors cannot pressure or ask them to do so.

Writer requirements

There is no maximum word count for fics. Authors are responsible for finding their own beta-readers—they will not be assigned but are **highly** encouraged. We will have a channel on discord for authors seeking beta assistance as well as having a group of event registered beta-readers willing to help out, but reaching out to them will be on the writers.

Submitted stories must be completely brand new and must not have been discussed publicly anywhere (discord server, tumblr, twitter, etc.) before art claims—this is to ensure anonymity during the matching process. No currently posted WIPs will be acceptable. Stories that are part of a series are allowed, although it should be something that can stand on its own (and not be immediately recognized as your work/series based on information shared with artists during claims.)

Writers can submit only one fic, however they can work with a writing partner if they choose.

There will be two check-in points for writers before art claims: one, a general progress check to make sure you are still on track to submit a work for the event, so the mods can determine what the artist to author ratio is shaping up to be.

At the second pre-claims check-in, authors will need to submit to the mods a copy of their work showing they are at least 50% of the way to their projected word count (and a minimum 2.5k for Mini Bang works, and 10k for Big Bang works.) This can be a very rough draft, however it must be clear that you have put effort into your story at this point and have a clear sense of where it is headed (outline notes for missing sections are strongly encouraged, especially as this may be of help to your artist in getting a sense of where the story is headed/what other scenes may interest them if they have time.)

Story summary and claim notes do not count toward your minimum word count.

uthors will also be asked to provide other information about their story which will be shared with artists for claims, including projected length, summary, rating, relationships, tags, and visual elements.

Some story elements will be required to be fully disclosed at this time, as described below:

Content Disclosure Requirements

Because there are very few limitations on ships and content for this bang, there will be strict disclosure requirements for authors when reaching out to event-registered beta-readers and during art claims.

Specifically:

- All ships, whether a primary focus of the story or only mentioned in passing, must be disclosed
- All major Archive Of Our Own warnings must be mentioned/tagged for during claims (Rape/Non-con, Major Character Death, and Graphic Depictions of Violence. Underage not allowed). Writers may still select "Creator Chose Not To Use Archive Warnings" when posting their story, however.
- The moderators are also requiring authors disclose the following content/tags for claims and beta-readers: **incest**, **child abuse**, **vessel consent issues**.
- If any angel or demon is possessing a vessel/human other than the primary one(s) shown on screen, that also must be disclosed during claims and when

contacting registered betas, especially if the angel is involved in any sexual or romantic situations (for instance, Michael possessing John Winchester instead of Adam Milligan as only briefly seen on screen, Cas possessing Claire Novak, or an angel possessing any original/newly added character.)

The moderators will be reviewing all submitted drafts before claims and may request additional tags/warnings be added during claims. This is all to ensure that author/artist teams will be on the same page as far as content they are comfortable collaborating on.

After all stories have been claimed, the list of matches will be posted on the discord server.

Authors must share the draft of their story, in whatever state it's currently in, within 48 hours of announced matches. This is to ensure all artists have sufficient time to begin working on their art. There will be a team check-in two weeks after claims begin to make sure all teams are communicating smoothly, and to get posting date preferences & any black-out dates.

If your artist drops out/misses check-ins after claims, the mods will put out a call for Pinch Hitters to find a new artist to collaborate with you. Rest assured, we will make sure no author is left without art to go with their story! If that drop out is close to posting time the mods may allow for an extension/delayed posting date to give the new artist enough time to complete the work.

Submissions must be completed by the final draft deadline, regardless of posting date. (You can continue to edit/proofread after that point, but must be able to show the moderators a 100% complete draft.) At posting, we recommend participants use at least five descriptive tags, in addition to warning tags. Please reach out to the mods if you need help choosing descriptive tags to their fics.

Artist requirements

Artists will be required to complete a title banner for their claimed fic, as well as a minimum of 1 other piece for Mini Bang stories and 2 other pieces for Big Bang stories. The medium can be of the artists' choosing including:

- Traditional media drawing/painting/crafting (provided the work can be photographed or scanned clearly for online sharing)
- digital drawing/painting

 gifs/gifsets or photomanipulation, provided the work involves more than applying a simple filter or collage combination

Basically, your work should appear complete and indicate that thoughtful effort has been put into it and not just be a rough sketch. Consider each art piece as similar to the amount of work a writer would put into 5-10k worth of a story. If you have questions about whether your type of art would be suitable/qualify for the event, please contact the moderators. Art dimensions can be of your choosing, the only requirement being to include one of the bang graphics on your title banner (these will be made available by the time claims opens.) You can choose to do more than the required minimal amount of art.

Artists will make their claims selections based on the information provided by authors and claims will operate on a first-come, first-served basis. Only one artist will be assigned to each story, however an artist can claim more than one story based on what remains available after each round of claims. You may not claim your own fic if you are also writing for this bang.

Claims will take place in two closed rounds on the first day, where only registered artists can participate. If any stories remain available after that, there will be a third round of "public" claims the days after. Teams will be announced once everyone has a match.

If there are more artists than authors, you can choose to be alerted if any fics require pinch-hitter artists after claims. We may also have optional prompts for artists who were unable to claim a story so they can still take part in this celebration of SPN Angels in another fashion.

Beta readers

We strongly encourage authors to use a beta reader (or more than one!) to review their stories before posting. Your beta(s) can assist you in spotting spelling and grammar issues, continuity, characterization, and also give you encouragement and support while working on your fic!

You can use your own beta reader(s) if you already have them. We will also have a channel on the discord server available to both writers and betas, for those who would like to reach out for assistance, along with maintaining a spreadsheet of registered beta readers and what they are available to assist with. (If you are also a registered artist, you will not have access to the beta channel until after claims.) We will also provide some links to handy online tools available to help proofread your stories, however we will not be directly involved in editing/betaing services beyond that.

Pinch Hitters

Pinch hitters are artists who are willing to take on a story post-claims if the assigned artist drops out/cannot complete their assignment. Calls for pinch hitters will go out via email and the artist discord channel if and when the need arises. Pinch hits will be assigned on a first-come, first-serve basis (however, an artist who has dropped out or missed deadlines on any previous fics for this bang will not be able to claim a pinch hit this round.)

Discord

Once you've signed up, you will receive an invitation to the discord server for this event. By adding yourself to our server, you agree to abide by the rules in the server. Failure to do so will result in your ejection from the Discord and potentially removal from the Bang. Only participants of the Bang are allowed on the server. If you are signed up as both an artist and an author, you will only be granted access to the author sections of the server once art claims are complete.

Full Schedule

Please note all deadlines are 11:59PM (23:59) ET unless otherwise noted.

July 1, 2024	Tumblr, Twitter and Discord announcements with event, notice on Discord that the previous round roles will be eliminated on or before sign-ups open.	
July 15, 2024	Sign-ups open for authors, artist and betas.	
September 2, 2024	Sign-ups close for authors.	
September 30, 2024	First progress check-in due from authors.	
November 3, 2024	Authors - 50% Drafts and claims information due. Artists - Registration closes.	
November 11, 2024	Claims information including fic summaries and visual notes made available for artists.	

November 16, 2024	Art Claims Round #1 opens at 10:00am ET. Art Claims Round #2 opens at 4:00pm ET.		
November 17, 2024	Public Art Claims (Round #3): If any stories remain unclaimed a this time, a public claims round will open such that registered & non-registered artists alike can claim a fic. Teams will be announced on the Discord server once all stories art claimed.		
December 1, 2024	Team check-ins due. Authors & artists must both confirm that they have established contact with each other and that the author has shared their most recent fic draft with the artist to begin work.		
December 22, 2024	Artists - Banner artwork due. Authors - Promotional information due. Teams must coordinate on selecting any preferred posting and/or black-out dates.		
December 30, 2024	Posting schedule announced (if not sooner). Promotional posts begin on Tumblr and Twitter.		
January 13, 2025	Final drafts due from authors. Updates due from artists to show additional, non-banner artwork is in progress.		
February 3, 2025	Posting begins, no more than one story per day. Length of posting window to be determined based on number of collaborations to share and posting no more than one fic per day.		
TBD	Masterpost of all posted works released and event is closed for the year.		

End notes (Changes/additions to the rules):

Friday November 1: Schedule updated with adjusted dates (all deadlines from due date for claims info pushed back one week.)