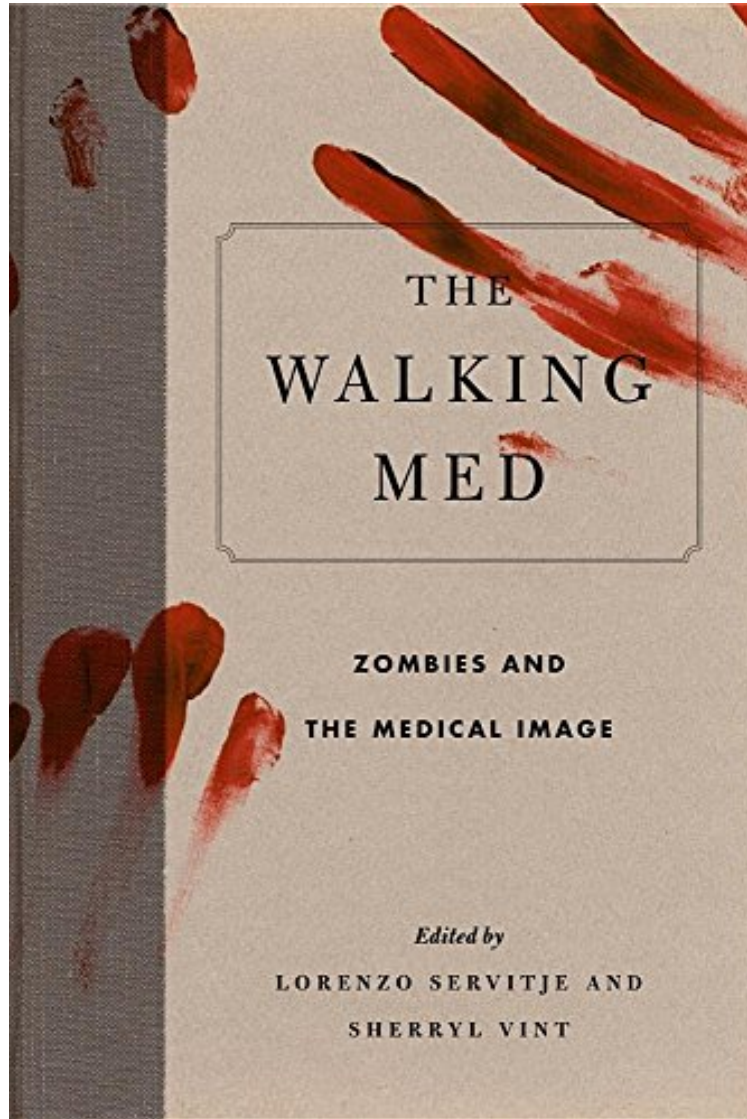


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## The Walking Med: Zombies and the Medical Image (Graphic Medicine)

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The zombie craze has infected popular culture with the intensity of a viral outbreak, propagating itself through text, television, film, video games, and many other forms of media. As a metaphor, zombies may represent political notions, such as the return of the repressed violence of colonialism, or the embodiment of a culture obsessed with consumerism. Increasingly, they are understood and depicted as a medicalized phenomenon: creatures transformed by disease into a threatening vector of contagion. *The Walking Med* brings together scholars from across the disciplines of cultural studies, medical education, medical anthropology, and art history to explore what new meanings the zombie might convey in this context. These scholars consider a range of forms from comics disseminated by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to graphic novels and television shows such as *The Walking Dead* to show how interrogations of the zombie metaphor can reveal new perspectives within the medical humanities. An unprecedented forum for dialogue between cultural studies of zombies and graphic medicine, *The Walking Med* is an invaluable contribution to both areas of study, as well as a potent commentary on one of popular culture's most invasive and haunting figures. In addition to the editors, the contributors are Tully Barnett, Gerry Canavan, Daniel George, Michael Green, Ben Kooyman, Sarah Juliet Lauro, Juliet McMullin, Kari Nixon, Steven Schlozman, Dan Smith, and Darryl Wilkinson.

Lorenzo Servitje and Sherryl Vint have combined the disparate threads of medical science, the graphic novel, and zombie studies into an unlikely yet highly successful anthology of essays. By assembling a cast of some of the most influential scholars working today in these fields, they have produced a valuable interdisciplinary collection of thought-provoking and timely essays. Kyle Bishop, author of *How Zombies Conquered Popular Culture: The Multifarious Walking Dead in the 21st Century* *The Walking Med* represents interdisciplinary scholarship at its best, situating the necropolitical stakes of zombie media in relation to the undead tropes of clinical discourse, addressing the liminal condition of the body even life itself under the regime of contemporary biomedicine. Ghastly smart stuff! Colin Milburn, author of *Mondo Nano: Fun and Games in the World of Digital Matter* *The Walking Med* shows, in no uncertain way, the power of interdisciplinary inquiry at the intersection of medical humanities, visual culture, and monster studies. This highly innovative and original collection illustrates how contemporary zombie narratives and images help us think of crises and opportunities in medicine and health care systems. As a whole, *The Walking Med* convincingly argues that zombies are powerful and necessary symbols of medicine and its politics. Marina Levina, coeditor of *Monster Culture in the 21st Century: A Reader* Beautifully presented, with numerous illustrations and figures, this collection will make the reader approach the zombie with fresh eyes. Andrew Peter Godfrey, *The Comics Grid* This collection takes a most innovative and interdisciplinary approach to the very prevalent cultural phenomenon of the zombie. Instead of retracing conventional methodological pathways, the editors have done a remarkable job in guiding their contributors toward new and challenging perspectives on the subject. For anyone wanting a swerve from their own well-trodden paths researching or teaching the zombie, I wholeheartedly recommend a deep and thorough look into this book for inspiration. Lars Schmeink, *Science Fiction Studies* About the Author Lorenzo Servitje is a Ph.D. candidate in English at the University of California, Riverside, and the coeditor of *Endemic: Essays in Contagion Theory*. Sherryl Vint is Professor and Director of the Speculative Fiction and Cultures of Science program at the University of California, Riverside, editor of *Science Fiction and Cultural Theory: A Reader*, and an editor of the journals *Science Fiction Studies* and *Science Fiction Film and Television*.