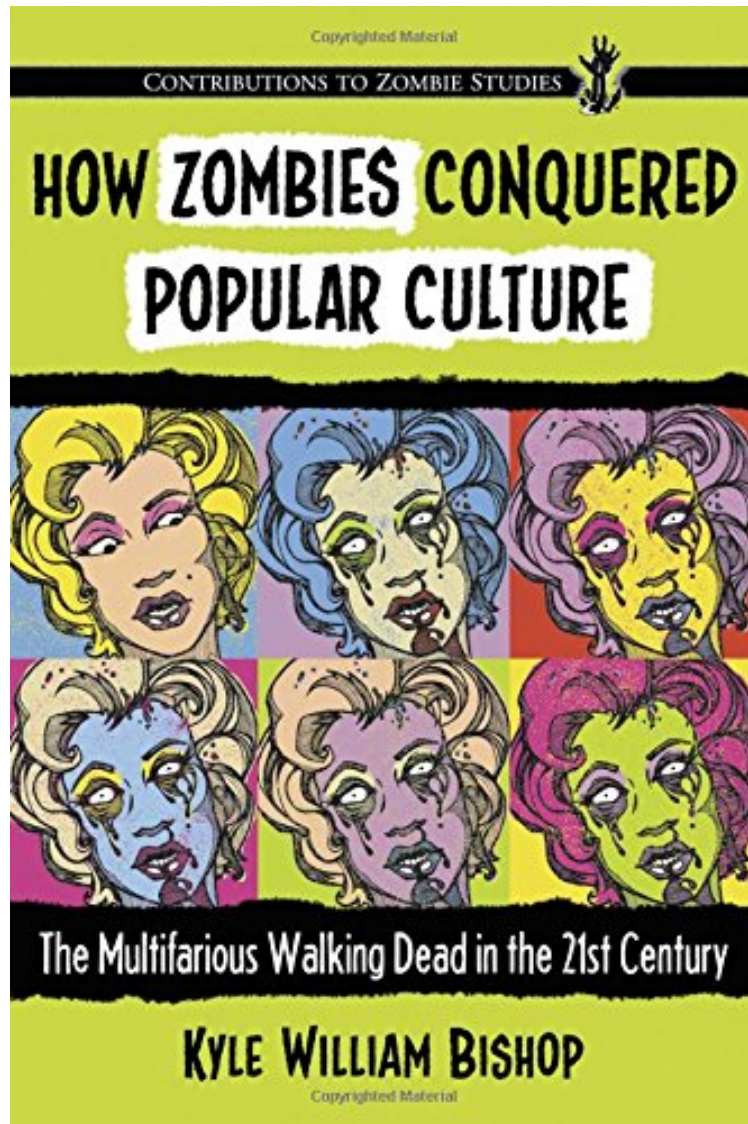


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How Zombies Conquered Popular Culture: The Multifarious Walking Dead in the 21st Century (Contributions to Zombie Studies)

Kyle William Bishop

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Since the early 2000s, popular culture has experienced a "Zombie Renaissance," beginning in film and expanding into books, television, video games, theatre productions, phone apps, collectibles and toys. Zombies have become allegorical figures embodying cultural anxieties, but they also serve as models for concepts in economics, political theory, neuroscience, psychology, computer science and astronomy. They are powerful, multifarious metaphors representing fears of contagion and doom but also isolation and abandonment, as well as troubling aspects of human cruelty, public spectacle and abusive relationships. This critical examination of the 21st-century zombie phenomenon explores how and why the public imagination has been overrun by the undead horde.

About the Author Kyle William Bishop is an associate professor of English at Southern Utah University, teaching American literature and culture, and film and screen studies. He has published papers on popular culture, cinematic adaptation and monster studies.