Undead in the West: Vampires, Zombies, Mummies, and Ghosts on the Cinematic Frontier

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In *Undead in the West: Vampires, Zombies, Mummies, and Ghosts on the Cinematic Frontier*, Cynthia J. Miller and A. Bowdoin Van Riper have assembled a collection of essays that explore the many tropes and themes through which undead Westerns make the genre's inner plagues and demons visible, and lay siege to a frontier tied to myths of strength, ingenuity, freedom, and independence. The volume is divided into three sections: "Reanimating Classic Western Tropes" examines traditional Western characters, symbolism, and plot devices and how they are given new life in undead Westerns; "The Moral Order Under Siege" explores the ways in which the undead confront classic values and morality tales embodied in Western films; and "And Hell Followed with Him" looks at justice, retribution, and retaliation at the hands of undead angels and avenger.

The subjects explored here run the gamut from such B films as *Curse of the Undead* and *Billy the Kid vs. Dracula* to A-list features like *From Dusk 'til Dawn* and *Jonah Hex*, as well as animated films (*Rango*) and television programs (*The Walking Dead* and *Supernatural*). Other films discussed include Sam Raimi's *Bubba Ho-Tep*, John Carpenter's *Vampires*, George Romero's *Land of the Dead*, and Sergio Leone's *Once Upon a Time in the West*. Featuring several illustrations and a filmography, *Undead in the West* will appeal to film scholars, especially those interested in hybrid genres, as well as fans of the Western and the supernatural in cinema.

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