



Monster Culture in the 21st Century: A Reader

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In the past decade, our rapidly changing world faced terrorism, global epidemics, economic and social strife, new communication technologies, immigration, and climate change to name a few. These fears and tensions reflect an evermore-interconnected global environment where increased mobility of people, technologies, and disease have produced great social, political, and economical uncertainty.

The essays in this collection examine how monstrosity has been used to manage these rising fears and tensions. Analyzing popular films and television shows, such as *True Blood*, *Twilight*, *Paranormal Activity*, *District 9*, *Battlestar Galactica*, and *Avatar*, it argues that monstrous narratives of the past decade have become omnipresent specifically because they represent collective social anxieties over resisting and embracing change in the 21st century.

The first comprehensive text that uses monstrosity not just as a metaphor for change, but rather a necessary condition through which change is lived and experienced in the 21st century, this approach introduces a different perspective toward the study of monstrosity in culture.

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