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The Zombie Book: The Encyclopedia of the Living Dead

Redfern, Nick, and Brad Steiger.

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What do Adolf Hitler, alien abductions, and mad cow disease have in common? Believe it or not, the answer is zombies. Nick Redfern and Brad Steiger, both experts in the unexplained, have compiled an interesting and extensive zombie encyclopedia, covering all aspects of zombies in popular culture, folklore and mythology, religion, and diverse topics throughout history. While some topics might not seem related to zombies on the surface, such as Spanish Flu, the authors manage to draw parallels that make you rethink what you thought you knew about zombies. Comprised of 235 entries with a heavy focus on zombie movies (both the well known and those that are more obscure) and zombies in popular culture, entries vary in length from a short paragraph to several pages. Some entries are kept rather short and specific; for example, the six-paragraph entry on funerals, which only focuses on funerals in the Buddhist religion, could leave readers a bit unsatisfied. However, a number of the entries contain *see also* references, which are especially helpful for some of these larger topics, such as burial traditions, that can include many facets such as funerals, coffins, cemeteries and tombs, cremation, and mummies helping readers locate more information on their topic of interest. While individual entries do not include references, there is a bibliography at the end of the encyclopedia; however, some of the sources may not be reputable so the reader should use caution when citing this encyclopedia as a source. Overall, an amusing and helpful encyclopedia to have in a public library or in an academic collection to aid in film studies as well as research into popular culture.