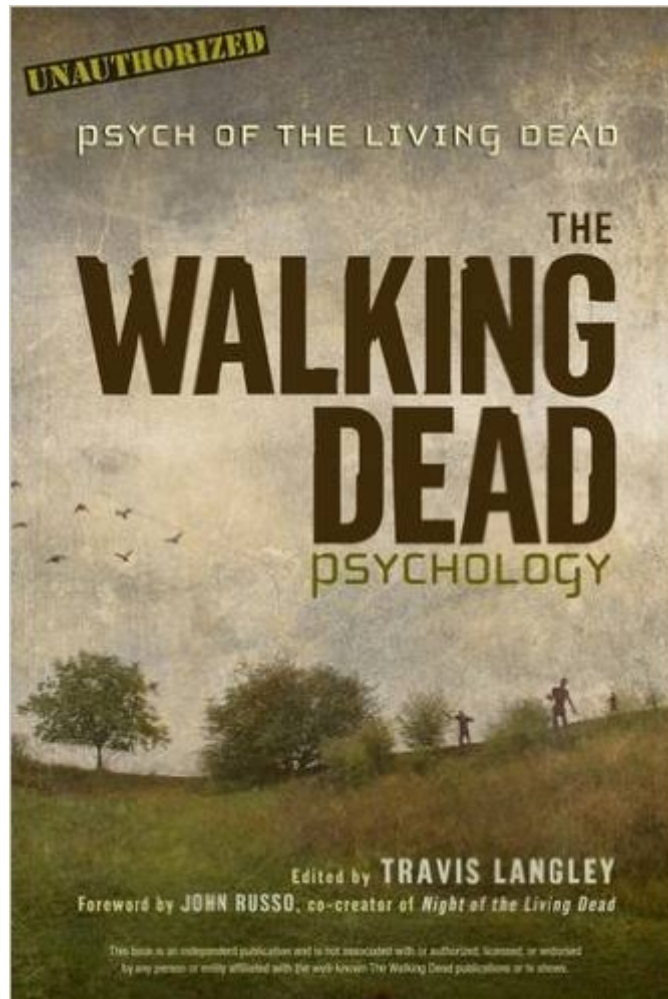


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# The Walking Dead Psychology: Psych Of The Living Dead



## Synopsis

Aim for the brain! The characters of *The Walking Dead* live in a desolate post-apocalyptic world, filled with relentless violence and death. In reality, how would such never-ending stress and trauma affect the psyche? By understanding the psychological forces that drive the series' action, fans can better grasp Robert Kirkman's compelling fictional universe. Which characters suffer PTSD, which show the most hope for recovery, and which instead show posttraumatic growth? Has Rick Grimes lost his mind? What's it like for kid like Carl growing up during the zombie apocalypse? Is the Governor a psychopath, a sociopath, or something even worse? What does that make Negan? What is the emotional cost of killing a walker or even another living person? What does Terror Management Theory tell us about what it means to fight constantly or survival? What is groupthink and how does it affect the decisions made by the people of Woodbury, Terminus, Alexandria, and Rick's "family"? How do they find hope? In 19 chapters from a range of esteemed contributors, plus "Case Files" sidebars by renowned editor Travis Langley with a foreword by George A. Romero's *Night of the Living Dead* co-creator John Russo, *The Walking Dead Psychology: Psych of the Living Dead* answers these and many other questions in a way sure to fascinate the millions of passionate graphic novel readers and TV viewers. What does it take to stay human when humanity has lost the world? Contributors include: John Blanchard \* Megan Blink \* Colt J. Blunt \* Josue Cardona \* Adam Davis \* William Blake Erickson \* Frank Gaskill \* Jennifer Golbeck \* Jonathan Hetterly \* Katrina Hill \* Alan Kistler \* Dana Klisanin \* Stephen Kuniak \* Martin Lloyd \* Stephanie Norman \* Patrick O'Connor \* Katherine Ramsland \* Clay Routledge \* John Russo \* Billy San Juan \* Janina Scarlet \* Steven Schlozman \* Lara Taylor \* Dave Vergaagen \* Mara Wood \* E. Paul Zehr \*

## Book Information

Paperback: 286 pages

Publisher: Sterling (August 4, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1454917059

ISBN-13: 978-1454917052

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.7 x 8.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars See all reviews (18 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #149,139 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #46 in Books > Literature &

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## Customer Reviews

I absolutely loved this book. It takes a serious look at the psychological aspects of the show, both why viewers watch and the toll the Zombie Apocalypse (or any other type of apocalypse) takes on survivors and affects their behaviors. Psychology has always been a casual hobby of mine, and I am truly obsessed with the show, so this was right up my alley. The book is a collaborative effort of several Psychology professors and counselors, and they all offer interesting insights on varying aspects of the show. So why DO we watch? One of the authors posits that it is because we have a longing for a sense of community, deeper relationships, and connections. There are no cell phones or computers in the ZA. No television, no Internet, and none of the constant bombardment of stimuli that we are subjected to on a daily basis. The survivors have to rely on each other for everything and deep relationships are formed. When you place your life into the hands of others on a daily basis, forging such strong bonds is a major contribution to your survival. There is also a strong sense of nostalgia for things lost. The survivors feel it as they make their way through the wasted land filled only with walkers; something as simple as the ice cubes in Andrea's glass of lemonade at Woodbury are seen as a long-lost luxury. After Rick and Carl flee the prison and find refuge in an empty home, Carl looks at the video games in a kid's room and the big screen TV with longing...then rips the cord off of the useless TV to use to secure the front door. The viewers feel it, too. Seeing abandoned homes and signs of the people who lived there, seeing rusted cars grown over with kudzu, seeing a world that has ended for the vast majority of human beings...

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