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Nota di contenuto	Intro -- Acknowledgements -- Contents -- Abbreviations -- List of Figures -- Chapter 1: Introduction -- Ready, Virtual Reality Consumer -- Evangelists and Sceptics -- Structure and Scope -- The Phenomenology of Presence in VR -- Phenomenology and Embodiment in VR -- Chapter Overview: Case Studies in Violence and Trauma -- Conclusion -- References -- Chapter 2: Phenomenology and the Virtual Reality Researcher-Critic -- Introduction -- Film Phenomenology and VR Phenomenology -- VR and Embodiment -- Case Study: VR Military Shooter Experience -- Conclusion -- References -- Chapter 3: On the Excitement of Measuring the Virtual Reality Audience -- Introduction -- Quantifying the VR User -- Hypothesis Generation -- Self-Report Surveys -- Biometrics -- Limitations-and Surprising Benefits-of Audience Quantification -- Case Study: VR Zombie Games -- Studies 1 and 2 -- Study 3 -- The Impact of VR Phenomenology -- Conclusion -- References -- Chapter 4: Virtual Reality Exposure Therapy -- Introduction -- Virtual Reality Exposure Therapy: A Background -- VRET in Practice -- Assumptions and Categories of Realism in VRET -- Category 1: Photorealism -- Category 2: Authenticity of Scenarios, Events, Specific Details -- Category 3: Immersion, Presence, Involvement and Interaction -- Category 4: Specific/Abstract Environments -- VR Phenomenology and Anxiety: A Reflection -- Conclusion -- References -- Chapter 5: Virtual Reality,

Trauma and Empathy -- Part 1: User Interpretations -- [08:46] (2015)
-- YouTube Prosumer/Viewer Comments on [08.46] -- New
Dimensions in Testimony (2017) -- Part 2: Immersion and Testimony
-- Kiya (2016) -- Collisions (2016) -- Chernobyl (2016) -- Conclusion
-- References -- Chapter 6: Regulation of Violent Content in Virtual
Reality -- Introduction -- Media-Effects Research -- Assumptions
of Impact: A Lack of Research.
Virtual Bootcamps or Premature Hype? -- VR Phenomenology
and Violent VR -- Conclusion -- References -- Chapter 7: Conclusion
-- The 'Unknowability' of VR -- Contribution and Limitations -- Future
Research -- Conclusion -- References -- Index.

Sommario/riassunto

Virtual Realities presents a ground-breaking application of phenomenology as a critical method to explore the impact of immersive media. Specific case studies examine 360-degree documentary productions about trauma, virtual military simulations, VR exposure therapy for anxiety and posttraumatic stress disorder, and the emerging debate about regulating violent content in immersive media gaming. By addressing these texts primarily as experiences, Virtual Realities deploys an analytic and critical methodology that is sensitive to the bodily and cognitive impact of immersive media, especially via the body of an appropriately attentive researcher-critic. Virtual Realities provokes a rethinking of many of the taken-for-granted ideas and assumptions circulating in the field of immersive media. These include concepts of empathy, embodiment, the affective impact of textual and immersive properties on the users' experience, as well as the "gee-whizz" mentality often associated with approaches to the medium. The case studies provide fresh engagement with immersive media such as cinematic VR at a time when dominant attitudes about the technology display an evangelical fascination with VR and other mixed realities as inexorably beneficial. Virtual Realities makes a compelling case for VR-phenomenology to be employed as a methodology by humanities scholars and also in cross-disciplinary applications of immersive media in fields such as psychology, human-computer interaction studies and the health sciences.
