Record Nr. UNINA9910583592103321 Autore Schmitz Rahel Sixta <1991-> Titolo The supernatural media virus: virus anxiety in Gothic fiction since 1990 // Rahel Sixta Schmitz Bielefeld:,: Transcript,, [2021] Pubbl/distr/stampa ©2021 **ISBN** 3-8394-5559-6 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (291 pages) Collana Contemporary literature; ; Volume 4 Disciplina 809.3876 Soggetti Gothic fiction (Literary genre) - 20th century - History and criticism Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references. 1 Contents 5 List of Figures 7 Acknowledgments Nota di contenuto Frontmatter 9 Introduction: The Age of Virus Anxiety 11 1. The Virus, the Network, and the Supernatural Media Virus 39 2. Ghostwatch and the Advent of the Network Society 83 3. House of Leaves, the Network Paradigm, and the Abstract Supernatural Media Virus 115 4. The Moral Dimension of the Supernatural Media Virus in the Ring Franchise 155 5. The Digital Supernatural Media Virus and the Network Apocalypse in Kairo and Pulse 205 Conclusions: Future Mutations of the Supernatural Media Virus 249 Bibliography 269 Sommario/riassunto Since the 1990s, the virus and the network metaphors have become increasingly popular, finding application in a broad range of everyday discourses, academic disciplines, and fiction genres. In this book, Rahel Sixta Schmitz defines and discusses a trope recurring in Gothic fiction: the supernatural media virus. This trope comprises the confluence of the virus, the network, and a deep, underlying media anxiety. This study shows how Gothic narratives such as House of Leaves or The Ring feature the supernatural media virus to negotiate as well as actively shape imaginations of the network society and the dangers of a

globalized, technologized world.