

(Ebook free) Dying in Full Detail: Mortality and Digital Documentary

# Dying in Full Detail: Mortality and Digital Documentary

*Jennifer Malkowski*

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**Jennifer Malkowski : Dying in Full Detail: Mortality and Digital Documentary** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Dying in Full Detail: Mortality and Digital Documentary:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I recommend it to everyone who wants to better understand their ...By Pooja RanganI taught a chapter from Jen Malkowski's important new book in my documentary class this Spring, and it changed the way my students think about YouTube, online activism, and images of death. I recommend it to everyone who wants to better understand their own practices of digital activism!

In *Dying in Full Detail* Jennifer Malkowski explores digital media's impact on one of documentary film's greatest taboos: the recording of death. Despite technological advances that allow for the easy creation and distribution of death footage, digital media often fail to live up to their promise to reveal the world in greater fidelity. Malkowski analyzes a wide range of death footage, from feature films about the terminally ill (*Dying*, *Silverlake Life*, *Sick*), to surreptitiously recorded suicides (*The Bridge*), to #BlackLivesMatter YouTube videos and their precursors. Contextualizing these recordings in the long history of attempts to capture the moment of death in American culture, Malkowski shows how digital media are unable to deliver death "in full detail," as its metaphysical truth remains beyond representation. Digital technology's capacity to record death does, however, provide the opportunity to politicize individual deaths through their representation. Exploring the relationships among technology, temporality, and the ethical and aesthetic debates about capturing death on video, Malkowski illuminates the key roles documentary death has played in twenty-first-century visual culture.

"In our current media moment, where to record and distribute images of anything including death is becoming increasingly mundane, Jennifer Malkowski carefully draws out the complex and changing relations between aesthetics and ethics, and as importantly, aesthetics and action. Exploring what the digital reveals about death and how death reveals the digital, Malkowski makes an exciting contribution to film and documentary studies."