

Death Matters in the Digital Age: Embracing Virtual Immortality and Online Afterlives

In the 21st century, we are increasingly confronted with the digitalization of our lives. This transformation is not just limited to our interactions and communication, but also to our very existence. With the rise of social media, virtual reality, and artificial intelligence, we are now presented with new opportunities to connect with the departed and to experience a form of digital immortality.

This book, "Death Matters in the Digital Age: Chapman & Hall/CRC Artificial Intelligence and Robotics," explores the profound implications of these technological advancements on our understanding of death and mourning. Authored by renowned philosophers Luciano Floridi and David Stout, the book offers a unique perspective on the evolving relationship between death and technology.

Key Concepts

Data Immortality

One of the central themes discussed in the book is the concept of data immortality. In the digital age, our lives are increasingly recorded and stored in the form of data. This data includes our social media posts, emails, photographs, and even our genetic information. As a result, our digital presence persists long after our physical deaths.

**Digital Afterlife: Death Matters in a Digital Age
(Chapman & Hall/CRC Artificial Intelligence and
Robotics Series)** by Joel Ohman



★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 1580 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Print length	: 229 pages
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This data immortality raises a number of questions. Does it mean that we are truly immortal in the digital realm? If so, what are the implications for our understanding of death and our relationship with the deceased?

Virtual Afterlives

As data immortality becomes more prevalent, it is also giving rise to the concept of virtual afterlives. These are online spaces where the deceased can exist in a digital form, interacting with their loved ones and sharing their experiences.

Virtual afterlives offer a unique opportunity to maintain a connection with the departed. However, they also raise ethical concerns. For example, who has the right to decide what happens to a person's digital remains after they die?

The Ethics of Death in the Digital Age

The digitalization of death also raises a number of ethical issues. These include:

- **The right to privacy:** Does the deceased have the right to control how their digital remains are used after their death?
- **The right to be forgotten:** Do we have the right to request that our digital data be deleted after we die?
- **The right to connection:** If we have a virtual afterlife, do we have the right to maintain a connection with our loved ones after they die?

Applications

The concepts and ideas explored in "Death Matters in the Digital Age" have a wide range of applications, including:

- **Memorialization:** How can we use technology to create meaningful memorials for the deceased?
- **Grieving:** How can technology help people to grieve and cope with loss?
- **End-of-life planning:** How can we use technology to make decisions about our digital legacy after we die?

"Death Matters in the Digital Age" is a timely and thought-provoking book that provides a comprehensive overview of the implications of technology on our understanding of death and mourning. It offers a unique perspective on the emerging relationship between death and technology, and it raises important ethical questions that will need to be addressed in the coming years.

This book is essential reading for anyone interested in the future of death and technology, and it is a valuable resource for researchers, practitioners,

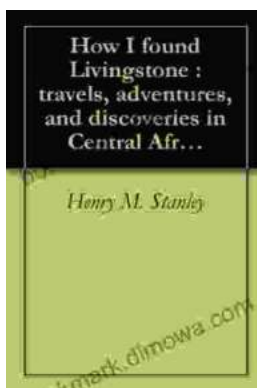
and policymakers working in the fields of digital ethics, death studies, and artificial intelligence.



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