

# CONTENTS

Acknowledgments .....	vii
Introduction: The General Accident of Digital Network Culture.....	1
Disease and Technology .....	1
Media Theory Meets Computer Technology: Concepts and Sources .....	11
Media and Multiplicity: Nomadic Cultural Memory .....	20
Notes .....	26
Chapter One:	
Fear and Security: From Bugs to Worms .....	33
Prologue: Foldings of Order and Cleanliness .....	33
Security in the Mainframe Era: From Creepers to Core Wars.....	39
The Shift in Safety: The 1980s.....	52
Fred Cohen and the Computer Virus Risk.....	63
The Morris Worm: A Media Virus .....	75
Computer Viruses and Network Society .....	86
Coda: Viral Capitalism .....	96
Notes .....	101
Chapter Two:	
Body: Biopolitics of Digital Systems.....	119
Prologue: How Are Bodies Formed?.....	119
Diagrams of Contagion .....	126
The Order-Word of AIDS .....	137
Excursus: Faciality.....	144
Digital Immunology .....	147
The Care of the Self: Responsible Computing.....	161
The Body of the Virus Writer: Irresponsible Vandalism .....	172
Notes .....	185

## Chapter Three:

Life: Viral Ecologies .....	199
Prologue: The Life of Information .....	199
The Benevolent Viral Machine .....	207
Cellular Automata and Simulated Ecologies.....	216
Organisms of Distributed Networks .....	229
Ecologies of Complexity and Networking.....	244
Coupling and Media Ecology .....	256
Coda: Viral Philosophy.....	264
Notes.....	272

Conclusions: Media Archaeology as Ecology .....	285
Notes.....	295

## Appendix:

A Timeline of Computer Viruses and the Viral Assemblage .....	297
Bibliography.....	301
Index.....	321