

# Exposition

## Further Reading

**Berger, James.**

*The Disarticulate: Language, Disability, and the Narratives of Modernity.*

**NYU Press, 2014.**

**ISBN: 978-0814725306**

Language is integral to our social being. But what is the status of those who stand outside of language? The mentally disabled, “wild” children, people with autism and other neurological disorders, as well as animals, infants, angels, and artificial intelligences, have all engaged with language from a position at its borders. In the intricate verbal constructions of modern literature, the ‘disarticulate’—those at the edges of language—have, paradoxically, played essential, defining roles.

Drawing on the disarticulate figures in modern fictional works such as *Billy Budd*, *The Sound and the Fury*, *Nightwood*, *White Noise*, and *The Echo Maker*, among others, James Berger shows in this intellectually bracing study how these characters mark sites at which aesthetic, philosophical, ethical, political, medical, and scientific discourses converge. It is also the place of the greatest ethical tension, as society confronts the needs

and desires of “the least of its brothers.” Berger argues that the disarticulate is that which is unaccountable in the discourses of modernity and thus stands as an alternative to the prevailing social order. Using literary history and theory, as well as disability and trauma theory, he examines how these disarticulate figures reveal modernity’s anxieties in terms of how it constructs its others.

**Choy, Howard Yuen Fung, ed.**

*Discourses of Disease: Writing Illness, the Mind and the Body in Modern China.*

**Brill, 2016.**

**ISBN: 978-9004319202**

This volume explores the various ways in which the meaning of disease has transformed in modern China over the last two hundred years. With the incorporation of Western medicine, Chinese conceptions of mental as well as physical illness have been rethought and rewritten since the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Evolved from an interdisciplinary panel at the 2011 conference of both the Association for Asian Studies and the International Convention of Asia Scholars in Honolulu, this volume mobilizes film, literature, history, psychology, anthropology, ethnography, cultural studies and gender studies in order to trace the transformation that disease has undergone. In doing so, they focus particularly on the discourse of disease that informs the way we deal with, for example, sickness prevention, mental illness, drug addiction, cancers, disabilities, or HIV. Chapters range from mental illness narratives in contemporary Chinese poetry to optimism under socialism and capitalism.

**Davidson, Joanna and Yomna Saber, eds.**

*Narrating Illness: Prospects and Constraints.*

**Inter-Disciplinary Press, 2019.**

**ISBN:978-1848884885**

Telling the story of illness emerges from a landscape of pain, grief and loss, but its therapeutic value is indubitable. This volume grapples with the potentials and limitations of such narratives as diverse cultural perceptions and realities are granted the voice to probe into those stories

from literary and textual material, as well as empirical, ethnographic, historical, and personal bases. Some of the chapters draw upon the capacity of storytelling to heal bodies and souls, whereas others provide an important corrective to this overwhelmingly optimistic portrayal by focusing on the limits of storytelling and narrative to address physical and psychic trauma. Despite the different approaches, what ties these chapters together is a more focused textual and contextual analysis of the intersection between forms of storytelling and sharing the experience of illness as studied and witnessed and sometimes even lived by the authors of the volume.

**Donaldson, Elizabeth J., ed.**

*Literatures of Madness: Disability Studies and Mental Health.*

**Palgrave Macmillan, 2018.**

**ISBN: 978-3030064853**

*Literatures of Madness: Disability Studies and Mental Health* brings together scholars working in disability studies, mad studies, feminist theory, Indigenous studies, postcolonial theory, Jewish literature, queer studies, American studies, trauma studies, and comics to create an intersectional community of scholarship in literary disability studies of mental health. The collection contains essays on canonical authors and lesser known and sometimes forgotten writers, including Sylvia Plath, Louisa May Alcott, Hannah Weiner, Mary Jane Ward, Michelle Cliff, Lee Maracle, Joanne Greenberg, Ann Bannon, Jerry Pinto, Persimmon Blackbridge, and others. The volume addresses the under-representation of madness and psychiatric disability in the field of disability studies, which traditionally focuses on physical disability, and explores the controversies and the common ground among disability studies, anti-psychiatric discourses, mad studies, graphic medicine, and health / medical humanities.

**Hardy, Pip and Tony Sumner.**

*Cultivating Compassion: How Digital Storytelling is Transforming Healthcare.*  
2<sup>nd</sup> edition.

**Palgrave MacMillan, 2018.**

**ISBN: 978-3030097097**

This book explores how digital storytelling can catalyze change in healthcare. Edited by the co-founders of the award-winning Patient Voices Programme, the authors discuss various applications for this technique; from using digital storytelling as a reflective process, to the use of digital stories in augmenting quantitative data. Through six main sections this second edition covers areas including healthcare education, patient engagement, quality improvement and the use of digital storytelling research. The chapters illuminate how digital storytelling can lead to greater humanity, understanding and, ultimately, compassion. This collection will appeal to those involved in delivering, managing or receiving healthcare and healthcare education and research, as well as people interested in digital storytelling and participatory media.

**Keyser, Samuel Jay.**

*The Mental Life of Modernism: Why Poetry, Painting and Music Changed at the Turn of the Twentieth Century.*

**MIT Press, 2020.**

**ISBN: 978-0262043496**

At the beginning of the twentieth century, poetry, music, and painting all underwent a sea change. Poetry abandoned rhyme and meter; music ceased to be tonally centered; and painting no longer aimed at faithful representation. These artistic developments have been attributed to cultural factors ranging from the Industrial Revolution and the technical innovation of photography to Freudian psychoanalysis. In this book, Samuel Jay Keyser argues that the stylistic innovations of Western modernism reflect not a cultural shift but a cognitive one. Behind modernism is the same cognitive phenomenon that led to the scientific revolution of the seventeenth century: the brain coming up against its natural limitations. Keyser argues that the transformation in poetry, music, and painting (the so-called sister arts) is the result of the abandonment of a natural

aesthetic based on a set of rules shared between artist and audience, and that this is virtually the same cognitive shift that occurred when scientists abandoned the mechanical philosophy of the Galilean revolution. The cultural explanations for Modernism may still be relevant, but they are epiphenomenal rather than causal. Artists felt that traditional forms of art had been exhausted, and they began to resort to private formats—Easter eggs with hidden and often inaccessible meaning. Keyser proposes that when artists discarded their natural rule-governed aesthetic, it marked a cognitive shift; general intelligence took over from hardwired proclivity. Artists used a different part of the brain to create, and audiences were forced to play catch up.

**Klambauer, Anna, and Doreen Bauschke, eds.**

*The Sense and Sensibility of Madness: Disrupting Normalcy in Literature and the Arts.*

**Brill, 2018**

**ISBN: 978-9004382374**

This volume explores the intriguing ontological ambiguities of madness in literature and the arts. Despite its association with a diseased / abnormal mind, there can be much sense and sensibility in madness. Daring to break free from the dictates of normalcy, madwomen and madmen disrupt the status quo. Yet, as they venture into uncharted or prohibited terrain, they may also unleash the liberatory and transformative potential of unrestrained madness. Contributors are Doreen Bauschke, Teresa Bell, Isil Ezgi Celik, Terri Jane Dow, Peter Gunn, Anna Klambauer, Rachel A. Sims and Ruxanda Topor.

**Kramnick, Jonathan.**

*Paper Minds: Literature and the Ecology of Consciousness.*

**University of Chicago Press, 2018.**

**ISBN: 978-0226573151**

How do poems and novels create a sense of mind? What does literary criticism say in conversation with other disciplines that addresses problems of consciousness? In *Paper Minds*, Jonathan Kramnick takes up these vital questions, exploring the relations between mind and environment,

the literary forms that uncover such associations, and the various fields of study that work to illuminate them.

Opening with a discussion of how literary scholarship's particular methods can both complement and remain in tension with corresponding methods particular to the sciences, *Paper Minds* then turns to a series of sharply defined case studies. Ranging from eighteenth-century poetry and haptic theories of vision, to fiction and contemporary problems of consciousness, to landscapes in which all matter is sentient, to cognitive science and the rise of the novel, Kramnick's essays are united by a central thematic authority. This unified approach of these essays shows us what distinctive knowledge that literary texts and literary criticism can contribute to discussions of perceptual consciousness, created and natural environments, and skilled engagements with the world.

**Lau, Beth.**

*Jane Austen and Sciences of the Mind.*

**Routledge, 2018.**

**ISBN: 978-1472488183**

The essays in this volume interpret Jane Austen's fiction through the lens of various sciences of the mind and brain, especially the cluster of disciplines implicated in the term cognitive science, including neuroscience, evolutionary biology, evolutionary and developmental psychology, and others. The field of cognitive literary studies has rapidly developed in the last few decades and achieved the status of an established (if still evolving) critical approach. One of the most popular authors to analyze from this perspective is Jane Austen. As numerous critics have noted, Austen was a keen observer of how the mind operates in its interactions with other minds, both when it functions successfully and when, as often happens, it goes awry, and her perceptions are often in synch with current neuroscientific and psychological research. Despite the widespread recognition of the special congruity between Austen's novels and cognitive science, however, no book has been devoted to this subject. *Jane Austen and Sciences of the Mind* is the first monograph wholly comprised of readings of Austen's oeuvre (juvenilia as well as all six completed novels) from cognitive and related psychological approaches. In addition, the volume

operates under the assumption that cognitive and historicist approaches are compatible, and many essays situate Austen within the climate of ideas during her era as well as in relation to current research in the sciences and social sciences. *Jane Austen and Sciences of the Mind* offers a new lens for understanding and illuminating the concerns, techniques, and enduring appeal of Austen's novel.

**Maier, Sarah E. and Brenda Ayres, eds.**

*Neo-Victorian Madness: Rediagnosing Nineteenth-Century Mental Illness in Literature and Other Media.*

**Palgrave Macmillan, 2020.**

**ISBN: 978-3030465810**

*Neo-Victorian Madness: Rediagnosing Nineteenth-Century Mental Illness in Literature and Other Media* investigates contemporary fiction, cinema and television shows set in the Victorian period that depict mad murderers, lunatic doctors, social dis / ease and madhouses as if many Victorians were "mad." Such portraits demand a "rediagnosing" of mental illness that was often reduced to only female hysteria or a general malaise in nineteenth-century renditions. This collection of essays explores questions of neo-Victorian representations of moral insanity, mental illness, disturbed psyches or non-normative imaginings as well as considers the important issues of legal righteousness, social responsibility or methods of restraint and corrupt incarcerations. The chapters investigate the self-conscious re-visions, legacies and lessons of nineteenth-century discourses of madness and/or those persons presumed mad rediagnosed by present-day (neo-Victorian) representations informed by post-nineteenth-century psychological insights.

**Wood, Mary Elene.**

*Life Writing and Schizophrenia: Encounters at the Edge of Meaning.*

**Brill, 2013.**

**ISBN: 978-9042036840**

How do you write your life story when readers expect you not to make sense? How do you write a case history that makes sense when, face to face with schizophrenia, your ability to tell a diagnostic story begins to fall

apart? This book examines work in several genres of life writing—autobiography, memoir, case history, autobiographical fiction—focused either on what it means to live with schizophrenia or what it means to understand and ‘treat’ people who have received that diagnosis. Challenging the romanticized connection between literature and madness, *Life Writing and Schizophrenia* explores how writers who hear voices and experience delusions write their identities into narrative, despite popular and medical representations of schizophrenia as chaos, violence, and incoherence. The study juxtaposes these narratives to case histories by clinicians writing their encounters with those diagnosed with schizophrenia, encounters that call their own narrative authority and coherence into question.