

Keith Oatley BA, PhD, FRSC, FBPsS, FAPS***Brief curriculum vitae 2011-2017***Home Page: <http://sites.google.com/site/keithoatleyhomepage/>*Date and place of birth:* 16 March 1939 in London, England*Citizenship:* Citizen of Canada and the United Kingdom and European Union*Office address:* Department of Applied Psychology and Human Development
University of Toronto
252 Bloor Street West, Toronto M5S 1V6, Canada
Phone: 416 961 7969 Fax 416 926 4713
e-mail: keith.oatley [at] utoronto.ca**University education**

- 1958-61 Clare College, Cambridge
Natural Sciences Tripos Part I, (Anatomy, Physiology, Biochemistry, Pathology) Class 2-i
Natural Sciences Tripos Part II, (Psychology) Class 1
Awarded Scholarship of Clare College
Degree: B.A. (Cantab) June 1961
- 1961-62 University College Hospital Medical School
- 1962-64 University College London, Department of Psychology.
Medical Research Council training scholarship
Ph.D. in Physiological Psychology on Thirst and Drinking Mechanisms supervised by Dr. I.S.Russell, external examiner Prof. Robert Hinde.
Degree: Ph.D. (London) in Psychology, May 1965
- 1964-65 Imperial College London, Department of Electrical Engineering
One-year postdoctoral course in Engineering in Medicine with Prof. B.McA.Sayers; project on computer simulation of cochlear mechanisms

Current positionProfessor Emeritus of Cognitive Psychology, University of Toronto
Department of Applied Psychology and Human Development,
cross-appointed to Department of Psychology**Fellowships and honours**Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada
Fellow of the British Psychological Society
Fellow of the Association for Psychological Science**Research**

In the last six years my principal research has been on Cognitive psychology and literary fiction. I have developed the theory that fiction is a form of simulation that runs on minds. With Maja Djikic and Raymond Mar, I am a member of a small team that conducts research on readers' responses to short stories and other literature. Our group has found the first evidence that, as

compared with reading non-fiction, reading fiction is associated with improved empathy and theory of mind, and that literary fiction enables small but possibly important changes in readers' personalities.

Publications

Citations [Keith Oatley Google Scholar Citations](#)

16,750 citations, h-index 57

Books on psychology

Oatley, K. (1972). *Brain Mechanisms and Mind*. London: Thames & Hudson.

Oatley, K. (1978). *Perceptions and Representations: The Theoretical Bases of Brain Research*. London: Methuen; and New York: Free Press

Oatley, K. (1984). *Selves in Relation: An Introduction to Psychotherapy and Groups*. London: Methuen.

Oatley, K. (1992). *Best Laid Schemes: The Psychology of Emotions*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Oatley, K. (2004). *Emotions: A Brief History*. Malden, MA: Blackwell.

Oatley, K. (2011). *Such Stuff as Dreams: The psychology of fiction*. Oxford: Wiley Blackwell.

Keltner, D., Oatley, K. & Jenkins, J.M. (2014). *Understanding emotions, Third edition*. Hoboken NJ: Wiley; Fourth edition due in 2018

Oatley, K. (2018). *Our Minds, Our Selves, A Brief History of Psychology*. Princeton University Press.

Edited books

Oatley, K. (Ed.) (1988). *Cognitive Science and the Understanding of Emotions (Special issue of Cognition and Emotion.)* Hove: Erlbaum.

Stein, N. L. & Oatley, K. (Eds.) (1992). *Basic Emotions. (Special issue of Cognition and Emotion.)* Hove: Erlbaum.

Jenkins, J.M., Oatley, K. & Stein, N.L. (1998). *Human Emotions: A reader*. Oxford: Blackwell.

Novels

Oatley, K. (1993). *The Case of Emily V*. London: Secker & Warburg

Oatley, K. (1998). *A Natural History*. Toronto: Penguin.

Oatley, K. (2010). *Therefore choose*. Fredericton, NB: Goose Lane.

Novella

Oatley, K. (2012). *The Passionate Muse: Exploring Emotion in Stories*. New York: Oxford University Press. (A novella in seven parts with psychological discussions of the emotions you may or may not feel as you read each part)

Selected articles since 2011

Oatley, K. (2011). The reader and the space-in-between. *Style*, 45, 330-332.

Oatley, K. (2011). Fiction and its study as gateways to the mind. *Scientific Study of Literature*, 153-164.

Mar, R. A., Oatley, K., Djikic, M., & Mullin, J. (2011). Emotion and narrative fiction: Interactive influences before, during, and after reading. *Cognition and emotion*, 25, 818-833.

- Wells-Jopling, R & Oatley, K. (2012). Metonymy and intimacy. *Journal of Literary Theory*, 6, 235-251.
- Djikic, M., Oatley, K., & Carland, M. (2012). Genre or artistic merit: The effect of literature on personality. *Scientific Study of Literature*, 2, 25-36.
- Djikic, M., Oatley, K., & Moldoveanu, M. (2013). Reading other minds: Effects of literature on empathy. *Scientific Study of Literature*, 3, 28-47.
- Djikic, M., Oatley, K., & Moldoveanu, M. (2013). Opening the closed mind: The effect of exposure to literature on the need for closure. *Creativity Research Journal*, 25, 149-154.
- Oatley, K. (2013). Worlds of the possible: Abstraction, imagination, consciousness. *Pragmatics and Cognition*, 21, 448-468.
- Olson, D. R., & Oatley, K. (2014). The quotation theory of writing. *Written Communication*, 31, 4-26.
- Maslej, M., Rain, M., Fong, K., Oatley, K., & Mar, R. A. (2014). The hierarchical personality structure of aspiring creative writers. *Creativity Research Journal*, 26, 192-202.
- Oatley, K. & Johnson-Laird, P.N. (2014). Cognitive approaches to emotions. *Trends in Cognitive Sciences*, 18, 134-140.
- Djikic, M., & Oatley, K. (2014). The art in fiction: From indirect communication to self-development. *Psychology of Aesthetics, Creativity and the Arts*, 8, 498-505.
- Oatley, K., Djikic, M. & Mar, R.A. (2016) The inwardness of James Joyce's story "The Dead." *Readings: A Journal for Scholars and Readers*, 2. Issue 1.
- Oatley, K. (2016). Imagination, inference, intimacy: The psychology of *Pride and prejudice*. *Review of General Psychology*, 20, 236-244.
- Oatley, K. (2016). Fiction: Simulation of social worlds. *Trends in Cognitive Sciences*, 20, 618-628.
- Maslej, M., Oatley, K., & Mar, R. A. (2017). Creating fictional characters: The role of experience, personality, and social processes. *Psychology of Aesthetics, Creativity and the Arts*, Online publication.
- Oatley, K., & Djikic, M. (2017). Psychology of narrative art. *Review of General Psychology*. Online publication. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/gpr0000113>
- Oatley, K. (2017) Art as emotional exploration. *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*, 40, 37-38.

Chapters in edited books and non-refereed publications since 2011

- Oatley, K. (2011). Theory of mind and theory of minds in literature. In P. Leverage, H. Mancing, R. Schweickert & J. M. William (Eds.), *Theory of mind and literature* (pp. 13-26). West Lafayette, IN: Purdue University Press.
- Oatley, K. (2011). In the minds of others. *Scientific American Mind*, 22(6), 62-67.
- Oatley, K., Mar, R. A., & Djikic, M. (2012). The psychology of fiction: Present and future. In I. Jaen & J. Simon (Eds.), *Cognitive literary studies: Current themes and new directions*. (pp. 235-249). Austin, TX: University of Texas Press.
- Oatley, K. (2012). Emotions in the individual mind, in relationships, and in reading fiction. In M. Eysenck, M. Fajkowska & T. Maruszewski (Eds.), *Personality, cognition and emotion* (pp. 107-121). Clinton Corners, NY: Eliot Werner Publications.
- Oatley, K. (2013). Love is love. In L. Bormans (Ed.), *The World book of love* (pp. 104-105). Tiel: Lannoo.
- Oatley, K. (2013). How cues on the screen prompt emotions in the mind. In A. P. Shimamura (Ed.), *Psychocinematics: Exploring cognition at the movies* (pp. 269-284). New York: Oxford University Press.

- Oatley, K. (2013). Thinking deeply in reading and writing. In P. Socken (Ed.), *Literature in the digital age* (pp. 175-191). Kingston, ON: Queens McGill Press.
- Djikic, M., & Oatley, K. (2014). On the fragility of the artist: Art's precarious triad. In J. C. Kaufman (Ed.), *Creativity and mental illness*. (pp. 281-294). New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Oatley, K. (2013). Emotion. Oxford Bibliographies in Psychology.
- Johnson-Laird, P.N. & Oatley, K. (2015). Emotions in music, literature and film. In L. Feldman Barrett, M. Lewis & J. Haviland-Jones (Eds.). *Handbook of Emotions*, Fourth Edition (pp. 82-97). New York: Guilford
- Djikic, M., & Oatley, K. (2016). The inner choice of hope. In L. Bormans (Ed.), *The World Book of Hope* (pp. 44-47). Tiel: Lannoo.
- Oatley, K. (2016). On the sharing of mind. In U. Hess & A. Fischer (Eds.), *Emotional mimicry in social context* (pp. 7-26). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Djikic, M., & Oatley, K. (2016). Creativity and its discontents: The Weary Voyager model of creativity in relation to the self. In M. Karwolski & J. C. Kaufman (Eds.), *Creativity and the self*. San Diego, CA: Academic Press.
- Oatley, K. (2017). On truth and fiction. In M. Burke & E. T. Troscianko (Eds.), *Cognitive literary science: Dialogues between literature and cognition* (pp. 259-278). New York: Oxford University Press.
- Oatley, K. & Djikic, M. (2017). The creativity of literary writing. In J. Kaufman, V. Glăveanu & J. Baer (Eds.) *The Cambridge Handbook of Creativity Across Different Domains*, (pp. 63-79). New York: Cambridge University Press.

Technical reports, conference presentations, colloquia, since 2011

- Djikic, M., Oatley, K., & Moldoveanu, M. (2011). The Effect of Literature on Cognitive Biases. Poster presented at the First Canadian Conference on Medical and Health Humanities: Creating Space for Arts and Humanities in the Education of Health Professionals, Toronto, 7 May.
- Oatley, K. (2011). Four workshop presentations for historians on the psychology of emotions and of fiction. Columbia University, 24-27 May.
- Oatley, K. (2011). Cues and imagination: How writers prompt empathy, sympathy, curiosity and memory in prose fiction and film. CCCT Summer-school, University of Amsterdam, 12 July.
- Oatley, K. (2011). Emotions in literary history, and the history of emotions. Shannon Lecture, Carleton University, 23 September.
- Oatley, K. (2012). How emotions are regulated by empathetic relating. International Symposium on Emotion Regulation, University of Limerick, 30 April.
- Oatley, K. (2012). Why reading fiction is good for you. Annual Conference of the College Association for Language and Literacy, Toronto, 6 June.
- Oatley, K. (2013). Understanding others ... changing oneself: Independent effects of literary reading. Modern Language Association, Boston, 4 January.
- Oatley, K. (2013). Why fiction is good for you. Toronto Arts and Letters Club, 12 February.
- Oatley, K. (2013). Effects of literature: Understanding others, transforming oneself. In Session on Transfer of learning from the arts: Evidence from music, fiction, and drawing." American Association for the Advancement of Science, Boston, 17 February.
- Oatley, K. (2013). Beyond fictionality: Cognition and the psychology of fiction. International Conference: Fiction in historical and cultural context. University of Sao Paulo, 19 March.
- Oatley, K. (2014). The experience of emotions in everyday life, in fiction, and on journeys.

- Conference on Experience in Theory and in Use. Arctic University of Norway, Tromsø, 14 January.
- Oatley, K. (2014). The projection of meaning: Image and experience in American and Japanese films. Society for Cognitive Studies of the Moving Image. Franklin & Marshall College, Pennsylvania, 11 June.
- Oatley, K. (2014). Emotions and action: Their interconnections in cognitive approaches. International Summer School in Affective Sciences, Geneva, 7 July.
- Oatley, K. (2014). Emotion in the arts of literature, music, and film. International Summer School in Affective Sciences, Geneva, 11 July.
- Oatley, K. (2014). Cognitive bases of emotions, emotional disorders, and psychotherapy. Cognitive Science Society, Quebec City, 23 July.
- Oatley, K. (2015) Empathy and the reading of fiction. Roots of Empathy Research Symposium, Toronto, 13 May.
- Oatley, K. (2015). Indirect communication: Literature as a social influence that enables people to understand others and to be themselves. International Conference: Why the humanities? Answers from the cognitive and brain sciences. Kent State University, 9-12 July.
- Oatley, K. (2016). Indirect communication: Literature enables people to understand others and to be themselves. Carleton University, Department of English: Exploring Literature Through Cognitive Science, 11 March.
- Oatley, K. (2016). The psychology of fiction. Spring Learning and the Brain Conference: The Science of imagination. Orlando, FL. 8 April.
- Oatley, K. (2016). Fiction, mind, consciousness. Make-Believe in Drama and Fiction, Calleva Workshop, Magdalen College, Oxford, 20 May.
- Oatley, K. (2017). Cognitive psychology, writing, imagination, empathy. Colloquium, School of Psychology, University of Sussex, 2 March.
- Oatley, K. (2017). Fiction and its emotions in empathy and understanding: Implications for health and other issues. Department of Communication, Cornell University, 10 April.

Magazine and newspaper articles since 2011

- Oatley, K. (2011). Why fiction is good for you. *Literary Review of Canada*, 19 (6), July-August, pp. 7-9.
- Oatley, K. (2011). In the minds of others. *Scientific American Mind*, 22(6), 62-67.
- Oatley, K., & Djikic, M. (2014, 21 December). How reading transforms us. *New York Times*, Gray Matter, Sunday Review Section.

Selected book and film reviews since 2011

- Fame. Review of *Citizen Kane* (1941) dir. Orson Welles, *PsycCRITIQUES*, 56 (12), 2011, pp. [np]
- A view from the interior. Review by Keith Oatley & Ryan Niemiec of *Black swan* (2011) dir. Darren Aronofsky, *PsycCRITIQUES*, 56 (17), 2010, pp. [np]
- The face of humanity. Review of *Persona* (1966) dir. Ingmar Bergman, *PsycCRITIQUES*, 56(22), 2011, pp. [np]
- The right thing. Review of *Casablanca* (1942) dir. Michael Curtiz, *PsycCRITIQUES*, 56(36), 2011, pp. [np]
- Things as they might be. Review of *Le Havre* (2011) dir. Aki Kaurismäki, *PsycCRITIQUES*, 57(7), 2012, pp. [np]
- Coercion. Review of *A separation* (2011) dir. Askhar Farhadi, *PsycCRITIQUES*, 57(17), 2012,

- pp. [np]
- Beneath the surface. Review of *Monsieur Lazhar* (2011) dir. Philippe Falardeau, *PsycCRITIQUES*, 57(18), 2012, pp. [np]
- Coming closer. Review of *The sessions* (2012) dir. Ben Lewin, *PsycCRITIQUES*, 58 (1), 2013, pp. [np]
- Selves and others. Review of *Anna Karenina* (2012) dir. Joe Wright, *PsycCRITIQUES*, 58 (3), 2013, pp. [np]
- Hope springs. Review of *Silver Linings Playbook* (2012) dir. David O, Russell, *PsycCRITIQUES*, 58 (15), 2013, pp. [np]
- Who are we? Review of *Holy Motors* (2012) dir. Leos Carax, *PsycCRITIQUES*, 58 (28), 2013, pp. [np]
- Dream. Review of *The Great Gatsby* (2013) dir. Baz Luhrmann, *PsycCRITIQUES*, 58 (41), 2013, pp. [np]
- Stage of life. Review of *Tokyo Story* (1953) dir. Yasujiro Ozu, *PsycCRITIQUES*, 58 (42), 2013, pp. [np]
- Search. Review of *Particle Fever* (2013) dir. Mark Levinson, *PsycCRITIQUES*, 59 (16), 2014, pp. [np]
- In the picture. Review of *Tim's Vermeer* (2013) dir. Teller, *PsycCRITIQUES*, 59 (31), 2014, pp. [np]
- In the now. Review of *Mindful America: The mutual transformation of Buddhist meditation and American culture*, by Jeff Wilson. Oxford University Press. *Literary Review of Canada*, November 2014, pp. 30-31.
- Growing Up in America. Review of *Boyhood* (2014) dir. Richard Linklater, *PsycCRITIQUES*, 59 (50), 2014, pp. [np]
- Coded messages. Review of *The Imitation Game* (2014) dir. Morten Tyldum, *PsycCRITIQUES*, 59 (52), 2014, pp. [np]
- Emotions in mind. Review of *Inside Out* (2015) dirs. Pete Docter & Ronaldo del Carmen. *The Psychologist* (2015), 28, p. 686.
- First thought, second thought. Review of *Black or White* (2014) dir. Mike Binder. *PsycCRITIQUES*, 60 (37), 2015, pp. [np]
- The world within and the world outside. Review of *Room* (2015) dir. Lenny Abrahamson. *PsycCRITIQUES*, 60 (52), 2015, pp. [np]
- Dilemma. Review of *Eye in the sky* (2015) dir. Gavin Hood. *PsycCRITIQUES*, 61 (24), 2016, pp. [np]
- Worlds of imagination. Review of *The young and prodigious T.S. Spivet* (2013, 2015) dir. Jean-Pierre Jeunet. *PsycCRITIQUES*, 61 (7), 2016, pp. [np]
- The care in health care. Review of *Love, fear and health: How our attachments to others shape health and health care*, by Robert Maunder and Jonathan Hunter. *Literary Review of Canada*, April 2016, p. 23.
- The time is now. Review of *Arrival* (2016) dir. Denis Villeneuve. *PsycCRITIQUES*, 62 (14), 2017, pp. [np]
- Presentation of self. Review of *The salesman* (2016) dir. Asghar Farhadi. *PsycCRITIQUES*, 62 (24), 2017, pp. [np]
- The psychology of cities. Review of *Citizen Jane* (2016) dir. Matt Tyrnauer. *PsycCRITIQUES*, 62 (33), 2017, pp. [np]
- Better angels. Review of *Wings of Desire* (1987) dir. Wim Wenders. *PsycCRITIQUES*, 62 (39),

2017, pp. [np]

Editorial boards

Series Co-Editor: "Studies in Emotions and Social Interaction" Second Series, edited by Keith Oatley and Antony Manstead. Cambridge University Press.

Editorial boards of journals: *Emotion Review*, *Journal of Intelligent Systems*, *Review of General Psychology*, *Scientific Study of Literature*

Interviews and articles on my work since 2011

The Guardian, 7 September 2011

Globe and Mail, 10 September 2011, p. R21

New York Times, 17 March 2012. Sunday Review section, p. 6

Süddeutsche Zeitung, 20 July 2016, p. 1

Wall Street Journal, 11 November 2016