

The Storytelling Animal



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Humans live in landscapes of make-believe: we spin fantasies, we devour novels, films, and plays, and even our sporting events and criminal trials unfold as narratives. Yet the world of story has long remained an undiscovered and unmapped country. It's easy to say that humans are "wired" for story, but why?

In this delightful and original book, Jonathan Gottschall offers the first unified theory of storytelling. He argues that stories are a way of rehearsing life's complex social problems. Our penchant for story has evolved, like other behaviors, to enhance our survival, and, crucially, that of our social group. (In fact, studies show that people who read fiction are more empathetic.) Gottschall explores the deep pattern in children's make-believe, and what that reveals about story's prehistoric origins. He shows how a story was partly responsible for Hitler's rise, how schizophrenia is an example of the story mind run amok, and how successful fiction is inherently moral. We are master shapers of story. The Storytelling Animal finally reveals how stories shape us.

作者介绍:

Jonathan Gottschall teaches English at Washington & Jefferson College and is one of the leading figures in the movement toward a more scientific humanities. The author or editor of five scholarly books, Gottschall's work has been prominently featured in The New York Times Magazine, Scientific American, and The Chronicle of Higher Education, among others. Steven Pinker has called him "a brilliant young scholar" whose writing is "unfailingly clear, witty, and exciting."

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标签

Storytelling

人性

讲故事

进化心理学

美国文学

人文

闲书

英文版

评论

心理学家主要时间是不是都花在给心理现象起好玩的名字上了...

阅读此书，帮助你了解人为什么要讲故事

:无

不能忍！！！！

beauty instinct , spent 的续集

感觉没有预想的这么好

等你回来了睡前给你读

怎么说呢？开头读着，觉得有点牵强的赶脚。。。嗯，也许需要慢慢读完。有一部分非常认同的就是：我们自己讲的自己的故事，就算回忆吧，不是精确的事实，但这样的人生故事让我们过得更好

Pale fire

故事的意义

Intensely insightful! In his uniquely witty and open style, J.G. explains, in my view, one of the most profound human instincts - the story-telling and story-consuming instinct. Though the book is short, it also concisely explores themes like sleep, national myths, and games. Totally worth the time!

这个主题非常感兴趣。。。这个主题的书非常少，这是其中一本，也有收获，不过没有从根本上解决我们的疑问。

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书评

年纪大了，看书总会带着自己预设的套路。如果作者没有按套路走，多少会有些诧异。本以为本书是科普向的，介绍的是与故事和叙事性相关的认知科学以及古人类学研究成果，不过却总读不到预想中的干货。于是往前翻到作者简介，才赫然发现作者是英文系的教授。也不是说英文系就写不...

前言 说故事、听故事不只是休闲娱乐

统计学家都同意，只要能够抓到一群长生不老的猴子，把牠们跟打字机关在一起，任牠们不断狂敲键盘，经过很长很长一段时间之后，这些猴子终会誊写出一本完美的《哈姆雷特》副本，每一个句号、逗点、“誓言”几乎都会落在正确的位置上。不过， ...

进化意义

本书的中心议题是：人类对沉迷于故事毫无招架之力，也就是说，我们都是梦幻岛的居民。例如：神话，传说，歌曲，小说，电影，幻想，做梦，游戏，职业摔跤，历史，新闻等等故事化的活动，都是我们梦幻岛民喜爱的活动。
故事有着进化上的意义，吾人可以借助心灵实验，模...

雖說這是本科普書籍，作者引用許多生物學、心理學及神經科學的諸多觀點（這幾門學問也是我興趣所在），試圖去解釋人類其實是生活在故事中的生物，故事幾乎觸及生活中的所有層面；但作者是英文系教授，詮釋故事的內涵原就是其本行，而畢竟非科學家，其於書中所引述的科學論證並...

作者Jonathan开篇谈到infinite monkey theorem，谈到Amy Plowman做实验给猴子计算机来做实验，然后发现猴子只会搞破坏，说“show that the infinite monkey theory is flawed”。我从未见过如此愚蠢的zoologist，原定理只是用于表达随机性在无限时间下的威力，这个Amy竟然从字...

书名错了！

故事如何改變你的大腦？透過閱讀小說、觀看電影，大腦模擬未知情境的生存本能
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