Introduction: Cognitive Literary Studies and the Well-Lived Life
Nancy Easterlin, University of New Orleans 377

I. Reader Processing and Psychology

Neuroscience, Narrative, and Narratology
Paul B. Armstrong, Brown University 395

Personal Relevance in Story Reading: A Research Review
Anežka Kuzmičová, Department of Culture and Aesthetics, Stockholm University
Institute of Literature, Czech Academy of Sciences, and Katalin Bálint,
Department of Communication Sciences, VU University Amsterdam 429

How Does Leisure Reading Affect Social Cognitive Abilities?
Micah L. Mumper and Richard J. Gerrig, Stony Brook University 453

II. Empathy and Literary Ethics

“Some Powerful Rankling Passion”: An Interdisciplinary Exploration of Emotion Regulation Strategies in Joanna Baillie’s Passion Plays
M. Soledad Caballero and Aimee Knupsky, Allegheny College 475

Adaptive Affective Cognition in Literature and Its Impact on Legal Reason and Social Practice
Marshall Alcorn and Michael O’Neill, George Washington University 499

Mark Bracher, Kent State University 519
On Punishment and Why We Enjoy It in Fiction: Lisbeth Salander of the Millennium Trilogy and Eli in *Let the Right One In* as Scandinavian Avengers
*Margrethe Bruun Vaage, University of Kent* 543

*III. Healing Planet, Species, and Self*

Why We Care about (Non)fictional Places: Empathy, Character, and Narrative Environment
*Alexa Weik von Mossner, University of Klagenfurt* 559

Nonhuman Fictional Characters and the Empathy-Altruism Hypothesis
*Erin James, University of Idaho* 579

The Poetry and Practice of Meditation
*Elizabeth Bradburn, Western Michigan University* 597

*Notes on Contributors* 615