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Medical News & Perspectives

## Kay Redfield Jamison, PhD

### From an Unquiet Mind to Rational Exuberance

Brian Vastag

JAMA. 2003;289:3071-3073.

Since this article does not have an abstract, we have provided the first 150 words of the **full text** and any section headings.

As her droopy-faced basset hound, Bubbles, snores on a chair, Kay Redfield Jamison, PhD, relates a favorite cartoon: a man in 19th-century garb smiles at a raven and says, "Hello, birdie." The caption? "Poe on Prozac."



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Kay Redfield Jamison, PhD (Photo credit:  
Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions)

That single frame captures reels of Jamison's life. The theme, of connections between art and mental health, is a favorite of Jamison's—the topic of her 1993 book *Touched With Fire* and a subsequent public television series she produced with her late husband, schizophrenia researcher Richard J. Wyatt, MD.

And, like Poe, she lives with manic-depressive illness, a term she interchanges with "bipolar disorder." Her 1990 textbook on the topic, *Manic-Depressive Illness*, cowritten with Frederick Goodwin, MD, established her as a top expert on the illness.

Jamison holds a full professorship and teaches one day a week at Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions . . . [[Full Text of this Article](#)]

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