

Reading Matters

Vol. 39, No. 8

April 2024

PUBLICATIONS

• **Traci Brimhall**, "The Road to Quivira" (poem), *KANSAS Magazine*, vol. 80, issue 2, 2024, p. 64.

"Genealogy," "Speculative Elegy" and "Unknown Etiology" (poems), *NELLE*, issue 7, 2024, pp. 6-9.

"Totality" (essay). *Terrain.org* 3 April 2024. <https://www.terrain.org/2024/nonfiction/totality/>

• **Hunter Scott**, "Facing Sameness: Reconsidering the Radicality of Tom of Finland." *InVisible Culture: A Journal of Visual Culture*, vol. 36, (March 2004). <https://www.invisibleculturejournal.com/pub/7vwsuc18/release/1?readingCollection=3393f8b7..>

PRESENTATIONS

• **Traci Brimhall**, "Why Can't the Heart Stop Asking?" (laureate talk). Minerva Club, Topeka, KS. 1 April 2024.

Dusty Bookshelf Open Mic Night (emcee). Manhattan, KS. 21 Mar. 2024.

"Understory" (commissioned poem and reading). Merriam Public Library Opening, Merriam, KS. 20 Mar. 2024

• **Zoey Dutcher** (MA '25), "How Did Hozier Become a Sapphic Icon? A Study in Recoding by Queer Fandoms." *Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association National*

Conference. Chicago, IL. 30 Mar. 2024.

• **Gregory Eiselein**, "The Many Versions of Little Women" (invited talk). Clemson University, Clemson, SC. 7 Mar. 2024.

• **Elizabeth Elliott** (MA '25), "The Utopia of Awaeké Emezi's *Pet: A Home for Jam*." *Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association National Conference*. Chicago, IL. 29 Mar. 2024.

• **Rob Hilferty** (MA '24), "Horrorify Her: Navigating the Engrossment and Patriarchal Spaces Within the Bluebeard's Bride RPG." *Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association National Conference*. Chicago, IL. 27 Mar. 2024.

• **Mary Kohn**, "Sociolinguistic variation in the Free State: Perceptions and spread of the Low Back Merger System" (invited lecture). University of Kansas Linguistics Department. Lawrence, KS. 28 Mar. 2024.

• **Sierra Knipe** (MA '25), "Meta-Conversation of Representation in *The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo*: Bisexuality, Womanhood, and Agency." *Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association National Conference*. Chicago, IL. 30 Mar. 2024.

• **Eli Long** (MA '24), "Good to be Bad: Theorizing Camp and Abjection in Slumber Party Massacre." *Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association National Conference*. Chicago, IL. 29 Mar. 2024.

• **Margo Losier** (MA '25), "'Can we cut the gay shit?': Bottoms and Deconstructing Heteronormative Nostalgia in Teen Film." *Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association National Conference*. Chicago, IL. 28 Mar. 2024.

• **Fereshteh Majdi** (MA '24), "Individual and Collective Determination: Anarchism and Utopianism in *V for Vendetta*." *Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association National Conference*. Chicago, IL. 28 Mar. 2024.

• **Theresa Merrick**, "'That Doesn't Sound Like Me': Experiments with Professional Voice and GenAI in the Writing Classroom." *College English Association Annual Conference*. Atlanta, GA. 22 Mar. 2020.

• **Sarah Morgan** (MA '24), "Community Support and Collective Action: #MeToo Themes Reflected in *Women Talking*." *Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association National Conference*. Chicago, IL. 29 Mar. 2024.

• **Philip Nel**, "Banning Children's Books" (panelist, via Zoom). *Maurice Sendak at 50 Years*, University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, ND.

• **Cosette O'Brien** (MA '25), "The Damsel in Distress a Position of Power in Your Turn to Die -Death Game by Majority." *Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association National Conference*. Chicago, IL. 29 Mar. 2024.

• **Gabriell Padua** (MA '25), "American Empire, Exile, and Existentialism: Bienvenido N. Santos' 'The Day the Dancers Came.'" *Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association National Conference*. Chicago, IL. 29 Mar. 2024.

• **Tom Sarmiento**, "Formations of the Midwest" (invited panel discussant). *APIDA/A (Asian Pacific Islander Desi American/Asian) Crossroads: 180 Years of Inclusion, Exclusion, and (In)Visibility, Asian Pacific American Studies Symposium*. Michigan State University. Lansing, MI. 23 March 2024.

• **Kinsley Searles** (MA '24), "Wii Fit when We ('re) Fat: A Rhetorical Analysis of Fatphobic Rhetorics in Nintendo's Wii Fit." *Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association National Conference*. Chicago, IL. 28 Mar. 2024.

• **Maggie Steuer** (MA '24), "Enola, Alone -- The Girl Detective Archetype Without Masculine Interference." *Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association National Conference*. Chicago, IL. 27 Mar. 2024.

• **D. K. Smith**, reading of his new novel *No Art Without Sin*. Oak Street Salon. Kansas City, MO. 6 Mar. 2024.

• **Delaney Sullivan**, "American Monarchies, Adolescent Fiction, and Anti-Democratic Feminism: Reevaluating the Royal Romance," *Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association National Conference*. Chicago, IL. 28 Mar. 2024.

AWARDS

• **Adolfo Blanco** (BA '24, News and Sports Media; Film Studies Certificate) received three 2024 Kansas Association of Broadcasters Awards: Best Episodic

Entertainment Program (Audio) First Place, "Dungeons & Dragons Radio Show"; Best Podcast (Audio) First Place, "Dungeons and Dragons: Blasphemer of the Night"; and Best General News Story (Audio) Second Place, "Audio Back 9 Development.

• **Delaney Sullivan** (MA '24) has received a Midwestern Association of Graduate Schools Excellence in Teaching Award.

• **Shirley Tung** has received a 2024 Teaching Prize from the British Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies for her course "The Cult of Celebrity: From the Eighteenth Century to the Present Day."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

• **Cassidy Hartig** (BA '24) was one of four undergraduate K-State students selected to present her undergraduate research at the Kansas Capitol on March 1. Lisa Tatonetti served as mentor for Cassidy's project on "The Middle of Everywhere: One Kansas Effigy's Storied Past and Present."

NEWS FROM ALUMNX/AE/I

• **Achilles Seastrom** (MA '23) has just joined the editorial staff of Terrain.org as an assistant nonfiction editor. He is currently a Hogrefe Fellow at Iowa State University, where he is pursuing his MFA.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

• **Friday, April 5, 4:00-5:00** Older and Wiser Writing Project Meeting

• **Saturday, April 6, 9:00-3:00** All-University Open House

• **Friday, April 12, 5:00-6:00** Sigma Tau Delta Induction

• **Wednesday, April 17, 3:30-4:30** Department Colloquium — Lit Track Grad Symposium

• **Tuesday, April 23, 3:30-5:00** Treaties, Teaching, and First-Gen

Land Grant Responsibilities presentation by Lisa Tatonetti

• **Wednesday, April 24, 4:00-5:00** University Retiree Recognition Ceremony

• **Thursday, April 25, 4:00-5:00** Lecture by Jacob Goodson

• **Thursday, April 25, 5:30-7:00** Memento Mori: Prints and Poetry

• **Saturday, April 27, 9:00-1:00** 9th Biennial ChALC Conference

Reading Matters is a monthly publication of the Department of English, ECS Building, 1612 Steam Place, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS 66506-6501. Editors: Philip Nel, Karin Westman, and Marisa Lang. The deadline for the next issue of *Reading Matters* is **May 3, 2024** at 5 p.m. Central Time. Please send your news to Philip Nel via email at <philnel@ksu.edu>. Thank you.