

Reading Matters

Vol. 40 No. 2

October 2025

PUBLICATIONS

• **Traci Brimhall**, "Amor Fati" (poem). *The Nature of Our Times Anthology*. Edited by Luisa A. Igloria, Aileen Cassinetto, and David Hassler. San Francisco: Paloma Press, 2025 p. 185.

"Thaw" (poem). *Sierra Magazine*. <https://www.sierraclub.org/sierra/2025-3-fall/poem/traci-brimhall-thaw-poem>

• **Phillip Nel**, "Being Banned Is Not an Award." *Bookbird* 63.3, Sept. 2025, pp. 76-79. <https://muse.jhu.edu/pub/1/article/969641>

PRESENTATIONS

• **Traci Brimhall**, reading from *Love Prodigal*, Prairiewood, Manhattan, KS. 28 Sept. 2025

Lindsborg Poetry Festival, The Red Barn, Lindsborg, KS. 27 Sept. 2025

"Finding Words for It" (Panelist), Kansas Book Festival, Topeka, KS. 20 Sept. 2025.

Reading from *Love Prodigal*, The Writers Center, Kansas City, MO. 19 Sept. 2025

Amelia Earhart's Lost Lyric Poems, Junction City Public Library, Junction City, KS. 14 Sept. 2025.

Food Poetry Reading, Kansas State Fair, Hutchinson, KS. 6 Sept. 2025.

AWARDS

• **Traci Brimhall**, in collaboration with colleagues from Art and other departments, has received a 2025 Applied Learning Experiences incentive grant to launch Spot Fire Press, a creative undergraduate student publishing initiative. Students from multiple disciplines

will work with editorial interns to self-publish their works in collaborative relationships with community partners: <https://www.k-state.edu/news/articles/2025/09/applied-learning-experiences-grant-awardees-announced.html>.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

• **Theresa Merrick**, has been appointed to be one of K-State's seven inaugural Presidential Engagement Fellows program. Presidential Engagement Fellows will bring university excellence directly to communities across the state: <https://www.k-state.edu/news/articles/2025/10/inaugural-presidential-engagement-fellows-cohort.html>

FEATURED IN MEDIA

• **Traci Brimhall**, *KANSAS MATTERS* interview on *Inspire!* KTWU. 24 Sept. 2025.

"On Recipes and Poems" for High Plains Public Radio. 3 Sept. 2025.

NEWS FROM ALUMNI

• **Colwill Brown**, a former graduate student, has won the 2025 BBC national short story award of £15,000 for "You Cannot Thread a Moving Needle." The award citation reads, "The brio of the dialect, the brilliance of both the second person narration and the handling of the passage of time, and above all the exploration of a life critically damaged in a moment, all made this our unanimous winner." Colwill Brown published their first novel, *We Pretty Pieces of Flesh* (Henry Holt), earlier this year to acclaim. (Known as Sarah Hannaway when at K-State, Brown was in the English MA Program 2013- 2014 with

a concentration in Creative Writing.) Read more at <https://www.theguardian.com/books/2025/sep/30/colwill-brown-wins-2025-bbc-national-short-story-award-you-cannot-thread-a-moving-needle-yorkshire-dialect>

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

• **Friday, 3 October** 3:30-5:00 p.m. Cultural Studies Mini-Seminar I

• **Wednesday, 22 October** 3:30-4:30 p.m. English Department Colloquium

• **Thursday, 23 October** 5:00-6:15 p.m. Spotlight on Faculty

• **Friday, 24 October** 3:30-4:30 p.m. Reading by poet Jennifer Knox

• **Wednesday, 29 October** 3:30-4:30 p.m. Doing DH: Mapping Literary Geographies

• **Friday, 31 October** 3:30-4:30 p.m. Lecture by Dr. Noah Heringman

• **Thursday, 6 November** 5:30-6:30 p.m. Sigma Tau Delta Induction

• **Friday, 7 November** 3:30-4:30 p.m. Alumni Connections

• **Friday, 14 November** 3:30-5:00 p.m. Cultural Studies Mini-Seminar II

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 Josh Allen. The deadline for the next issue of *Reading Matters* is **August 29, 2025** at 5 p.m. Central Time. Please send your news to Philip Nel via email at <philnel@ksu.edu>. Thank you.