

## The Ernest Hemingway Society at ALA 2023

### Paying Attention to Gender: Hemingway Studies in/and Transition

The critical and commercial success of *Detransition, Baby* by Torrey Peters (2021) indicated a paradigm shift in mainstream literary fiction—a sea change, if you will. Though allusions to Hemingway’s work are certainly not a requirement to win the PEN/Hemingway award for Debut Novel, Peters, who won the award in 2022, nevertheless indicated her familiarity with Hemingway with a number of overt and oblique references throughout her novel, and at the heart of the novel itself, as in Hemingway’s own de facto debut *The Sun Also Rises*, is the triangulation of queer (or queer-coded) desire. As Peters told journalist Steve Paul in an interview for the Hemingway Society’s newsletter, “If you’re somebody for whatever reason who is paying attention to gender, Hemingway is a great place to start.”

The Hemingway Society is hosting a panel at the American Literature Association’s 34th annual conference, which will meet at the Westin Copley Place in Boston, May 25-28, 2023. We are seeking papers that address representations of trans and nonbinary experience, influence, and applications in/to the work of Ernest Hemingway.

Potential paper topics might include: Reconsiderations of gender identity in work by Hemingway (*A Farewell to Arms*, *The Garden of Eden*, *The Sun Also Rises*, and others); intersections of race and gender in Hemingway’s African writings; Hemingway’s influence on contemporary literature (Torrey Peters and others); deadnaming in the field of life writing; *Esquire* magazine and/or pulp magazines and the formulation of the American masculine ethos; pedagogical approaches to teaching Hemingway in an inclusive classroom.

Please send your 250-350 word proposal and a short bio to Dr. Verna Kale ([vlk123@psu.edu](mailto:vlk123@psu.edu)). The deadline for proposals is January 14. To ensure time for Q&A and discussion, papers must be no longer than 15 minutes. Please direct any questions about this panel to [vlk123@psu.edu](mailto:vlk123@psu.edu). For further information about the conference in general, please consult the ALA website at [www.americanliteratureassociation.org](http://www.americanliteratureassociation.org).