

The New Criterion

Fiction Chronicle November 2016

The kids those days

by Joseph Rago

On The Girls by Emma Cline, The Nix by Nathan Hill, Prodigals by Greg Jackson, and The Underground Railroad by Colson Whitehead.

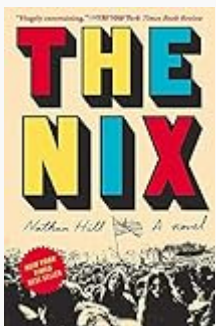
BOOKS IN THIS ARTICLE



Emma Cline

The Girls: A Novel (Random House Large Print)

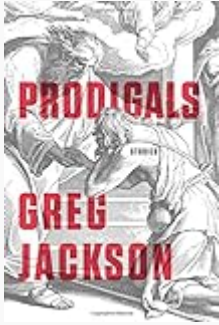
Random House Large Print, 384 pages, \$27.00



Nathan Hill

The Nix: A novel

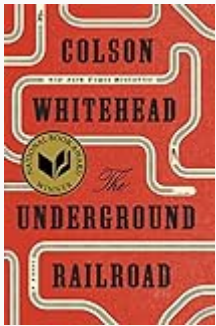
Knopf, 640 pages, \$27.95



Greg Jackson

Prodigals: Stories

Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 240 pages, \$25.00



Colson Whitehead

The Underground Railroad (Pulitzer Prize Winner) (National Book Award Winner)
(Oprah's Book Club): A Novel

Doubleday, 320 pages, \$26.95

Though someone would now pay a social price for referring to hostesses, coeds, or members of the steno pool as “girls” — that’s “women” — the noun is enjoying a literary revival. Following the success of *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*, *Gone Girl*, and *The Girl on the Train*, recent or upcoming titles include *Girl About Town*, *Beware That Girl*, *The Second Girl*, *The Lost Girls*, *The Girl in the Ice*, *Nowhere Girl*, *Sarong Party Girls*, *Girl in the Shadows*, and *Girls on Fire*; as well as *Good Girl*, *Good Girls*, and *The* rest of this article is locked. Please make sure you are logged in to view the full article.

Joseph Rago was a member of *The Wall Street Journal* editorial board.

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