

Although these books differ in significant ways, together they elucidate paradoxes found at the intersection of age and status in the lives of female African Americans in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and how they experienced—or were told to experience—girlhood. A dearth of personal records is most acute before the 1920s, and thus Field and Nazira Sadiq Wright rework well-mined material from prominent figures. It is fortunate for us that they both excel in interpreting these works within fresh frameworks. Marcia Chatelain and Simmons, by contrast, have both the luxury and the challenge of forging new narratives from untapped twentieth-century sources. As Simmons vividly comments, “In the archives I became a miner, looking for any usable and even seemingly unusable scrap. The ‘imagination’ part of the puzzle requires new ways of looking and using sources and scraps that might otherwise be discarded by historians” (10–11).

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Renée M. Sentilles, “Arrived: The History of Black Girls and Girlhood”

Review of:

Corinne T. Field, *The Struggle for Equal Adulthood: Gender, Race, Age, and the Fight for Citizenship in Antebellum America*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2014. xiii +243 pp.; ill. ISBN 978-1-4696-1814-2 (pb); 978-1-4696-1815-9 (epub).

Marcia Chatelain, *South Side Girls: Growing Up in the Great Migration*. Durham: Duke University Press, 2015. xx-240 pp.; ill. ISBN 978-0-8223-5840-0 (cl); 978-0-8223-5854-1 (pb).

LaKisha Simmons, *Crescent City Girls: The Lives of Young Black Women in Segregated New Orleans*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2015. xiii- 266 pp.; ill. ISBN 978-1-4696-2280-4 (pb); 978-1-4696-2281-1 (epub).

Nazera Sadiq Wright, *Black Girlhood in the Nineteenth Century*. Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 2016. xii-240 pp.; ill. ISBN 978-0-2520-4057-3 (cl); 978-0-2520-8204-7 (pb); 978-0-2520-9901-4 (epub).