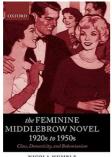
THE FEMININE MIDDLEBROW NOVEL, 1920S TO 1950S: CLASS, DOMESTICITY, AND BOHEMIANISM

"Middlebrow" has always been a dirty word, used disparagingly since its coinage in the mid-1920s for the sort of literature thought to be too easy, insular and smug. Aiming to rehabilitate the feminine middlebrow, Nicola Humble argues that the novels of writers such as Rosamund Lehmann, Elizabeth Taylor, Stella Gibbons, Nancy Mitford, played...



NICOLA HUMBLE

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Reader's Opinions

Several novels from my mothers shelves are discussed in this interesting study. I grew up reading Margery Allingham, Agatha Christie, Ngaio Marsh, Josephine Tey, and Dorothy Sayers but avoided Angela Thirkell even though we had four of her titles, and some of the pleasures of that reading are ones Nicola Humble both describes and evokes...