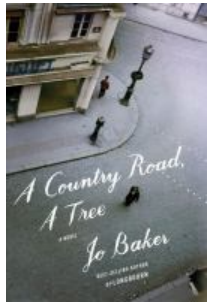


April 13 *The Bostonians* by Henry James

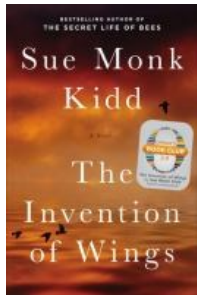
Henry James's celebrated novel about a passionate New England feminist, her reactionary Southern gentleman cousin, and a charismatic young woman whose loyalty they both wish to possess goes so directly to the heart of sexual politics that it speaks to us with a voice as fresh and vital as when the book was first published in 1886. Riveting in its narrative drama, rich and sym-

pathetic in its ironies, *The Bostonians* is the work of a master psychologist at the top of his form.



May 11 *A Country Road, a Tree* by Jo Baker

When war breaks out in Europe in 1939, a young, unknown writer journeys from his home in neutral Ireland to conflict-ridden Paris and is drawn into the maelstrom. Through it all, we are witness to workings of a uniquely brilliant mind struggling to create a language that will express his experience of this shattered world. Here is a remarkable story of survival and determination, and a portrait of the extremes of human experience alchemized into timeless art.



June 8 *The Invention of Wings*
by Sue Monk Kidd

Writing at the height of her narrative and imaginative gifts, Sue Monk Kidd presents a masterpiece of hope, daring, the quest for freedom, and the desire to have a voice in the world. Kidd goes beyond the record to flesh out the rich interior lives of all of her characters, both real and invented. This exquisitely

written novel is a triumph of storytelling that looks with unswerving eyes at a devastating wound in American history, through women whose struggles for liberation, empowerment, and expression will leave no reader unmoved.

Noon Book Group

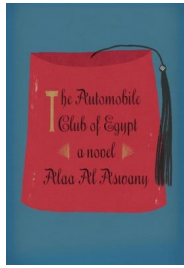


For details, contact Andy Moore, Assistant Director

amoore@minlib.net

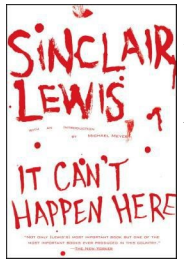
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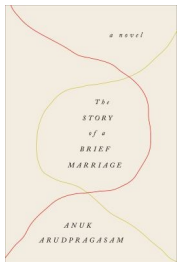
October 13 *The Automobile Club of Egypt*
by Alaa al Aswany

From the most popular Egyptian novelist of his generation, a rollicking, exuberant and powerfully moving story of a family swept up by social unrest in post-World War II Cairo. Full of absorbing incident and marvelously drawn characters, Alaa Al Aswany's novel gives us Egypt on the brink of changes that resonate to this day. It is an irresistible confirmation of Al Aswany's reputation as one of the Middle East's most beguiling storytellers and insightful interpreters of the human spirit.



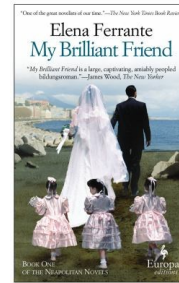
November 17 *It Can't Happen Here*
by Sinclair Lewis

A cautionary tale about the fragility of democracy, *It Can't Happen Here* is an alarming, eerily timeless look at how fascism could take hold in America. Written during the Great Depression, when the country was largely oblivious to Hitler's aggression, it juxtaposes sharp political satire with the chillingly realistic rise of a president who becomes a dictator to save the nation from welfare cheats, sex, crime, and a liberal press. This is a shockingly prescient novel that remains as fresh and contemporary as today's news.



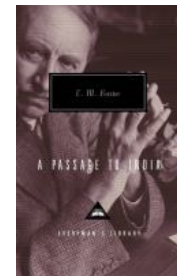
December 8 *The Story of a Brief Marriage*
by Anuk Arudpragasam

In the last months of the Sri Lankan Civil War, Dinesh's world has contracted to an evacuee camp, where he measures his days by shells that fall like clockwork. Alienated from language, home, and family, he is brought back to life by an unexpected proposal from an old man in the camp: that he marry his daughter, Ganga. In the hours they spend together, Dinesh and Ganga attempt to awaken to one another, to reclaim their humanity. Anuk Arudpragasam's novel is a feat of stunning imaginative empathy, a meditation on the bare elements of human existence that give life its pulse and purpose, even in the face of atrocity.



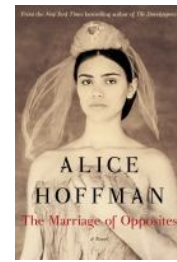
January 12 *My Brilliant Friend*
by Elena Ferrante

A modern masterpiece from one of Italy's most acclaimed authors, *My Brilliant Friend* is a rich, intense and generous-hearted story about two friends, Elena and Lila. Ferrante's inimitable style lends itself perfectly to a meticulous portrait of these two women that is also the story of a nation and a touching meditation on the nature of friendship.



February 9 *A Passage to India* by E.M. Forster

Among the greatest novels of the twentieth century, *A Passage to India* unravels the growing racial tension between Indians, uneasy at best with colonial power, and the British, largely ignorant and dismissive of the society they're infiltrating. Centering on an ambiguous incident between a young Englishwoman of uncertain stability and an Indian doctor eager to know his conquerors better, Forster's book explores, with unexampled profundity, both the historical chasm between races and the eternal one between individuals struggling to ease their isolation and make sense of their humanity.



March 9 *The Marriage of Opposites*
by Alice Hoffman

From the New York Times bestselling author of *The Dovekeepers* and *The Museum of Extraordinary Things*: a forbidden love story set on the tropical island of St. Thomas about the extraordinary woman who gave birth to painter Camille Pissarro—the Father of Impressionism. Set in a world of almost unimaginable beauty, *The Marriage of Opposites* showcases the beloved Alice Hoffman at the height of her considerable powers. Once forgotten to history, the marriage of Rachel and Frédéric is a story that is as unforgettable as it is remarkable.