Of mice and man and the moon is downMidag Alley Love in the RainThe Thief and the DogAdrift on the NileArabian Nights and DaysRhodopis of NubiaCities of SaltThree Novels of Ancient EgyptKhufu’s Wisdom, Rhodopis of Nubia, Thebes at WarLove in CairoModern Children of GebelawiWedding SongThe Journey of Ibn FattoumaAutumnQuailNaguib Mahfouz at Sidi Gaber: reflections of a Nobel laureate: 1984–2001: conversations with Mohamed SalmawyThe Cairo TrilogyThe Journey of Ibn FattoumaThe Green BicycleCafé KaramakThe MirageHarvestGray StreetMiramarThe Time and the PlaceNight & Horses & The DesertThe Wiles of Men and Other StoriesThe Journey of Ibn FattoumaThe BeggarGlobal Perspectives on Orhan PamukConference of the BirdsThe Day the Leader Was KilledThe Beginning and the EndThe Journey of Ibn FattoumaIn the Time of LoveHeart of the Night

In this provocative and dreamy parable, a young man disillusioned by the corruption of his homeland sets out on a quest to find Gebel, the land of perfection, from which no one has ever returned. On his way, Ibn Fattouma passes through a series of very different lands—realms where the moon is worshipped, where marriage does not exist, where kings are treated as gods, and where freedom, tolerance, and justice are alternately held as the highest goods. All of these places, however, are inevitably marred by the specter of war, and Ibn Fattouma finds himself continually driven onward, ever seeking. Like the protagonists of A Pilgrim’s Progress and Gulliver’s Travels, Naguib Mahfouz’s hero travels not through any recognizable historical landscape, but through timeless aspects of human possibility.

From the winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature and author of the Cairo Trilogy, comes Akhenaten, a fascinating work of fiction about the most infamous pharaoh of ancient Egypt. In this beguiling novel, originally published in Arabic in 1985, Mahfouz tells with extraordinary insight the story of the “heretic pharaoh,” or “sun king,”—the first known monotheistic ruler—whose iconoclastic and controversial reign during the 18th Dynasty (1540–1307 B.C.) has uncanny resonance with modern sensibilities. Narrating the novel is a young man with a passion for the truth, who questions the pharaoh’s contemporaries after his horrible death—including Akhenaten’s closest friends, his most bitter enemies, and finally his enigmatic wife, Nefertiti—in an effort to discover what really happened in those strange, dark days at Akhenaten’s court. As our narrator and each of the subjects he interviews contribute their version of Akhenaten, “the truth” becomes increasingly evanescent. Akhenaten encompasses all of the contradictions his subjects see in him: at once cruel and empathic, feminine and barbaric, mad and divinely inspired, his character, as Mahfouz imagines him, is easily modern, and fascinatingly otherworldly. An ambitious and exceptionally lucid and accessible book, Akhenaten is a work only Mahfouz could render so elegantly, so irresistibly.

First written in the 12th century, Conference of the Birds is an allegory of extreme measures for extreme times—the story of birds seeking a king is the story of all of us seeking God. Like the birds, we may be excited for the journey, until we realize that we must give up our fears and hollow desires, that our journey will be long and hard. Like the duck, we may not wish to leave the water. Like the nightingale, we may want to stay close to our roses. Direct and to the point, Masani’s translation, made in the early part of the 19th century, is particularly apropos for our early 21st century times—both are periods of intense spiritual seeking.

A novel of loss and memory from the Egyptian Nobel laureate. On a school playground in the stylish Cairo suburb of Abbasiya, five young boys become friends for life, making a nearby café, Qushtumur, their favorite gathering spot forever. One is the narrator, who, looking back in his old age on their seven decades together, makes the other four the heroes of his tale, a Proustian (and classically Mahfouzian) quest in search of lost time and the memory of a much-changed place. In a seamless stream of personal triumphs and tragedies, their lives play out against the backdrop of two world wars, the 1952 Free Officers coup, the defeat of 1967 and the redemption of 1973, the assassination of a president, and the simmering uncertainties of the transitional 1980s. But as their nation grows and their neighborhood turns from the green, villa-studded paradise of their youth to a dense urban desert of looming towers, they still find refuge in the one enduring landmark in their ever-fading world: the humble coffeehouse called Qushtumur.

A powerful story of lust, greed and murder. Unflinching, tough, and dramatic, The Search was most certainly intended to be a harsh criticism of Post-Revolution morality, but, on its most elemental level, it is a lurid and compelling tale.

A vibrant novel of memorable characters who search for happiness and true love, cope with the bitterness that results from love’s betrayal, and embrace new beginnings. Set in Cairo in the aftermath of the Six-Day War of 1967, Love in the Rain introduces us to an assortment of characters who, each in his or her own way, experience the effects of this calamitous event. The war and its casualties, as well as people's foibles and the tragedies they create for themselves, raise existential questions that cannot easily be answered. In a frank, sensitive treatment of everything from patriotism to prostitution, homosexuality and lesbianism, Love in the Rain presents a struggle between “old” and “new” in the realm of moral values that leaves the future in doubt. Through the dilemmas and heartbreaks faced by his protagonists, Mahfouz exposes the hypocrisy of those who condemn any breach of sexual morality while turning a blind eye to violence, corruption, and oppression, double standards as applied to men’s and women’s sexuality, and the folly of an exclusive focus on sexual morals without reference to other aspects of human character.

Nobel laureate Naguib Mahfouz mines the riches of his homeland’s ancient past in Rhodopis of Nubia, an unforgettable love story set against the high politics of Egypt’s Sixth Dynasty. While the ravishing courtesan Rhadopis is bathing, a falcon lifts one of her golden sandals and drops it into the lap of the Pharaoh Merenra II. Upon hearing Rhadopis described as “beauty itself,” the young pharaoh decides to return Rhadopis’s sandal himself. When the two meet, they are immediately seized by a passion far stronger than their ability to resist. Thus begins a love affair that makes them the envy of Egyptian society. But blinded...
by their love and the extravagant attentions they lavish on each other, they ignore the growing resentment of
the world around them in this extraordinary tale of star-crossed love.

Master storyteller Naguib Mahfouz crowns his best-selling Cairo Trilogy with this final chronicle of the
Abdal-Jawad clan, climaxing the story begun in Palace Walk and continued in Palace Of Desire.

Thwarted in marriage, Ibn Fattouma sets out with a caravan to explore the world, and along the way he
marries, sires children, loses his family, is imprisoned for twenty years, and is involved in two civil wars.

In one of his regular columns in Al-Ahram Weekly, Naguib Mahfouz at the age of 89 wrote of his feeling of
having reached the penultimate station of his life, and noted how it reminded him of his annual journey from
Cairo to Alexandria: at Sidi Gaber Station he begins to prepare his luggage, ready to get off the train,
because the next station is the final one. This celebratory volume, published on the occasion of the Nobel
laureate's 90th birthday, brings together a selection of the more personal, reflective pieces that have
appeared over the past seven years. They reveal a writer concerned as always with the human condition, with
his own thought processes, and with the craft of writing, offering rare insights into the way a great writer
thinks and works. The range and quality of writing is even more remarkable when one remembers that since a
nearly fatal knife attack in 1994, the injuries Mahfouz sustained, combined with his failing eyesight, have
made it almost impossible for him to write. But as a man who has devoted his life to the written word,
Mahfouz now prepares his weekly articles through conversations with his friend Mohamed Salmawy, who has
selected and gathered the pieces in this collection. Mahfouz fans and anyone interested in learning more
about the life, times, and thoughts of one of the major figures of modern Arabic literature will find this
volume an essential addition to their bookshelf.

Two devastating short novels adapted for the stage by Steinbeck himself A Penguin Classic This Penguin
Classics edition celebrates Steinbeck's dramatic adaptations of his most powerful short novels, Of Mice and
Men and The Moon Is Down, featuring a foreword by award-winning actor James Earl Jones. Of Mice and Men
represents an experiment in form - as Steinbeck put it, "a kind of playable novel, written in novel form but
so scored and set that it can be played as it stands." A rarity in American letters, it achieved remarkable
success as a novel, a Broadway play, and three acclaimed films. Of Mice and Men received the New York Dram
Critics' Circle Award for Best Play in 1937-1938. A number of acclaimed actors have interpreted the iconic
roles of George and Lennie for stage and screen, including James Earl Jones, John Malkovich and Gary Sinise.
The Moon Is Down uncovers profound, often unsettling truths about war and human nature. It tells the story of
a peaceable town taken by enemy troops, and had an extraordinary impact as Allied propaganda in Nazi-occupied
Europe. This Penguin Classics edition of the theatrical adaptations of Steinbeck's two classic short novels
is essential to actors, playwrights, filmmakers and directors studying the dramatic work of the Nobel Prize
winning author of The Grapes of Wrath and East of Eden. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the
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Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and
disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by
distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning
translators.

In this gripping and suspenseful novella from the Egyptian Nobel Prize-winner, three young friends survive
interrogation by the secret police, only to find their lives poisoned by suspicion, fear, and betrayal. At a
Cairo café in the 1960s, a legendary former belly dancer lovingly presides over a boisterous family of
regulars, including a group of idealistic university students. One day, amid reports of a wave of arrests,
three of the students disappear: the excitable Hilmi, his friend Ismail, and Ismail's beautiful girlfriend
Zaynab. When they return months later, they are apparently unharmed and yet subtly and profoundly changed. It
is only years later, after their lives have been further shattered, that the narrator pieces together the
young people's horrific stories and learns how the government used them against one another. In a riveting
final chapter, their torturer himself enters the Café and sits among his former victims, claiming a right to
join their society of the disillusioned. Now translated into English for the first time, Naguib Mahfouz's
novella, with its harrowing portrayal of the inhumanity of the Egyptian secret-police state in the midst of the
Cairo to Alexandria: at Sidi Gaber Station he begins to prepare his luggage, ready to get off the train,

selected and translated by the distinguished scholar Denys Johnson-Davies, these stories have all the
celebrated and distinctive characters and qualities found in Mahfouz's novels: The denizens of the dark
narrow alleys of Cairo, who struggle to survive the poverty; melancholy ruminations on death; experiments
with the supernatural; and witty excursions into Cairene middle-class life.

With a writing career spanning some seventy years, Naguib Mahfouz is one of the most recognized writers in
the world. His study of philosophy at what is now Cairo University greatly influenced his works, as did his
wide readings and his work in the government and in the Cinema Organization. Life's Wisdom is a unique
collection of quotations selected from the great author's works, offering philosophical insights on themes
such as childhood, youth, love, marriage, war, freedom, death, the supernatural, the afterlife, the soul,
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translators.

Set against the backdrop of the the theater, this novel is a taut psychological drama on and off the stage.
First published in 1981, this brilliant novel focuses on how time transforms people and their emotions.
Five masterly stories by the young Naguib Mahfouz, all inspired by the Egypt of the pharaohs.

A classic Mahfouz story exploring themes of marriage across class lines, spirituality, and the harsh realities of a precocious life. Jaafar Ibrahim Sayyed al-Rawi, the main character in this most recently translated Mahfouz novel, is guided by his motto, “let life be filled with holy madness to the last breath.” He narrates his life story to a friend during one long night in a café in old Cairo. Through a series of bad decisions, he has lost everything: his family, his position in society, and his fortune. A man driven by his passions, he married a beautiful Bedouin nomad for love, and as a consequence pays a punishingly high price. From a life of comfort with a promising future guaranteed by his wealthy grandfather, he descends to the squalid life of a pauper, after being dispossessed. Jaafar faces his tribulations with surprising stoicism and hope, sustained by his strong convictions, his spirituality, his sense of mission, and his deep desire to bring social justice to his people.

A complex tale of alienation and despair. Unable to achieve psychological renewal in the aftermath of M’asser’s revolution, a man sacrifices his work and family to a series of illicit love affairs that intensify his feelings of estrangement. A passionate outcry against irrelevance.

First published in 1956, this is a powerful portrayal of a middle-class Egyptian family confronted by material, moral, and spiritual problems during World War II.

In 1988 Naguib Mahfouz became the first Arab writer to receive the Nobel Prize in Literature. While Mahfouz is first and foremost a storyteller, he gives the reader an extra “baksheesh” by telling stories of persons from all walks of life. By doing so, Mahfouz accurately depicts the existential problems facing contemporary Egyptians. Gordon questioned Mahfouz directly in a series of personal interviews conducted over the past ten years, probing the existential themes in the characters, plots, and issues raised in Mahfouz’s stories. The result is an intimate and highly personal look at life in Egypt.

Widely acclaimed as Naguib Mahfouz’s best novel, Midaq Alley brings to life one of the bustling, teeming back alleys of Cairo in the 1940s. From Zaita the cripple-maker to Kirsha the hedonistic café owner, from Abbas the barber who mistakes greed for love to Hamida who sells her soul to escape the alley, from waiters and widows to politicians, pickpockets and poets, the inhabitants of Midaq Alley vividly evoke Egypt’s largest city as it teeters on the brink of change. Never has Nobel Prize-winner Mahfouz’s talent for rich and luxurious storytelling been more evident than here, in his portrait of one small street as a microcosm of the world on the threshold of modernity.

Autumn Quail is a tale of moral responsibility, alienation, and political downfall featuring a corrupt young bureaucrat, Isa ad-Dabbagh, who is one of the early victims of the purge after the 1952 Revolution in Egypt. The conflict between his emotional instincts and his gradual intellectual acceptance of the Revolution forms the framework for a remarkable portrait of the clash between past and present, a portrait that is ultimately an optimistic one in which the two will peacefully coexist.

The Nobel Prize-winning Egyptian writer Naguib Mahfouf renews the classic tales of Scheherazade into a novel written in his own imaginative, spellbinding style. Here are genies and flying carpets, Aladdin and Sinbad, Ali Baba, and many other familiar stories from the tradition of The One Thousand and One Nights, made new by the magical pen of the acknowledged dean of Arabic letters, who plumbs their depths for timeless truths.

One of the Nobel laureate’s most intriguing novels, translated for the first time into English.

“Here, finally, is some writing with a genuine purchase on things of worth. The collection of pithy short stories, filled with a sad wonder, tells of contemporary Egyptians . . . timorously rebelling against the conformation of life along the Nile.” —Observer “... Bakr emerges as a fine observer of her country’s times, with a vision which remains, for all its engagement, quirky and distinctively personal.” —Times Literary Supplement Set among the poor of contemporary Cairo, these thirteen stories and one short novella tell of women struggling to provide themselves with the basic necessities of life. They explore the limits of self-awareness, the pressures to conform, and some of the strange paths that women resort to in a conservative society shot through with social and sexual prejudice and preconceptions.

In the vein of Year of the Dog and The Higher Power of Lucky, this Middle Eastern coming-of-age story is told...
with warmth, spirit, and a mischievous sense of humor Spunky eleven-year-old Wadja lives in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia with her parents. She desperately wants a bicycle so that she can race her friend Abdullah, even though it is considered improper for girls to ride bikes. Wadja earns money for her dream bike by selling homemade bracelets and mixtapes of banned music to her classmates. But after she's caught, she's forced to turn over a new leaf (sort of), or risk expulsion from school. Still, Wadja keeps scheming, and with the bike so closely in her sights, she will stop at nothing to get what she wants. Set against the shifting social attitudes of the Middle East, The Green Bicycle explores gender roles, conformity, and the importance of family, all with wit and irresistible heart.

Explores existential and political themes in Orhan Pamuk's work and investigates the apparent contradictions in an arena where Islam and democracy are often seen as opposing and irreconcilable terms. Existential themes delve into literary nuances in Pamuk that discuss love, happiness, suffering, memory and death.

This highly charged fable set in Alexandria, Egypt, in the late 1960s, centers on the guests of the Pension Miramar as they compete for the attention of the young servant Zohra. Zohra is a beautiful peasant girl who fled her family to escape an arranged marriage. She becomes the focus of jealousies and conflicts among the Miramar's residents, who include an assortment of radicals and aristocrats floundering in the wake of the Egyptian revolution. It becomes clear that the uneducated but strong-willed Zohra is the only one among them who knows what she wants. As the situation spirals toward violence and tragedy, the same sequence of events is retold from the perspective of four different residents, in the manner of Akira Kurosawa's Rashomon, weaving a nuanced portrait of the intricacies of post-revolutionary Egyptian life.

Spanning the fifth to the sixteenth centuries, from Afghanistan to Spain, Night & Horses & The Desert includes translated extracts from all the major classics in an invaluable introduction to the subject. Robert Irwin has selected a wide range of Arabic poetry and prose in translation, from the most important and translated texts to the very obscure. Alongside the extracts, Irwin's copious commentary and notes provide an explanatory history of Arabic literature. What were the various genres and to what extent were they constrained by rules? What were the canons of traditional Arabic literary criticism? How were Arabic prose and poetry recited and written down? Irwin explores the literary environments of the desert, salon, mosque, and bookshop and provides brief biographies of the caliphs, princesses, warriors, scribes, dandies, and mystics who created such a rich and diverse literary culture. Night & Horses & The Desert gives western readers a unique taste of the sheer vitality and depth of the medieval Arab past.

Naguib Mahfouz’s magnificent epic trilogy of colonial Egypt appears here in one volume for the first time. The Nobel Prize-winning writer’s masterwork is the engrossing story of a Muslim family in Cairo during Britain’s occupation of Egypt in the early decades of the twentieth century. The novels of The Cairo Trilogy trace three generations of the family of tyrannical patriarch Al-Sayyid Ahmad Abd al-Jawad, who rules his household with a strict hand while living a secret life of self-indulgence. Palace Walk introduces us to his gentle, oppressed wife, Amina, his cloistered daughters, Aisha and Khadija, and his three sons—the tragic and idealistic Fahmy, the dissolute hedonist Yasin, and the soul-searching intellectual Kamal. Al-Sayyid Ahmad’s rebellious children struggle to move beyond his domination in Palace of Desire, as the world around them opens to the currents of modernity and political and domestic turmoil brought by the 1920s. Sugar Street brings Mahfouz's vivid tapestry of an evolving Egypt to a dramatic climax as the aging patriarch sees one grandson become a Communist, one a Muslim fundamentalist, and one the lover of a powerful politician. Throughout the trilogy, the family’s trials mirror those of their turbulent country during the years spanning the two World Wars, as change comes to a society that has resisted it for centuries. Filled with compelling drama, earthy humor, and remarkable insight, The Cairo Trilogy is the achievement of a master storyteller.

First published in 1966, Naguib Mahfouz’s Adrift on the Nile is an atmospheric novel that dramatizes the rootlessness of Egypt’s cosmopolitan middle class. Anis Zani is a bored and drug-addicted civil servant who is barely holding on to his job. Every evening he hosts a gathering on a houseboat on the Nile, where he and a motley group of cynical and aimless friends share a water pipe full of kif, a mixture of tobacco and marijuana. When Anis’s young fiancée, Sawsan, becomes overbearingly possessive and protective toward her young son, he has long been isolated emotionally and physically. Now in his twenties, Kamil seeks to escape her posthumous grasp. Finding and successfully courting the woman of his dreams seems to promise salvation, until his ignorance of mature love and his fear and jealousy lead to tragedy.

Naguib Mahfouz’s haunting novella of post-revolutionary Egypt combines a vivid psychological portrait of an anguished man with the suspense and rapid pace of a detective story. After four years in prison, the skilled young thief Said Mahran emerges bent on revenge. He finds a world that has changed in more ways than one. Egypt has undergone a revolution and, on a more personal level, his beloved wife and his trusted henchman, who conspired to betray him to the police, are now married to each other and are keeping his six-year-old daughter from him. But in the midst of betrayal, his mentor, Raum Zlwan, once a firebrand revolutionary who convinced Said that stealing from the rich in a unjust society is an act of justice, is now himself a rich man, a respected newspaper editor who wants nothing to do with the disgraced Said. As Said’s wild attempts to achieve his idea of justice badly misfire, he becomes a hunted man so driven by hatred that he can only recognize too late his last chance at redemption.

A stunning example of Nobel Prize-winning Egyptian author Naguib Mahfouz’s psychological portraiture, The Mirage is the story of an intense young man who has been so dominated by his mother that her death sets him dangerously adrift in a world he cannot manage alone. Kamil Ru‘ba is a tortured soul who hopes that writing the story of his life will help him gain control of it. Raised by a mother who fled her abusive husband and became overbearingly possessive and protective toward her young son, he has long been isolated emotionally and physically. Now in his twenties, Kamil seeks to escape her posthumous grasp. Finding and successfully courting the woman of his dreams seems to promise salvation, until his ignorance of mature love and his fear and jealousy lead to tragedy.

In Naguib Mahfouz’s suspenseful novel a bitter and ambitious nihilist, a beautiful and impoverished student, and a corrupt official engage in a doomed ménage à trois. Cairo of the 1930s is a place of vast social and economic inequities. It is also a time of change, when the universities have just opened to women and heady new philosophies imported from Europe are stirring up debates among the young. Mahgub is a fiercely proud student who is determined to keep both his poverty and his lack of principles secret from his idealistic
friends. When he finds that there are no jobs for those without connections, out of desperation he agrees to participate in an elaborate deception. But what begins as a mere strategy for survival soon becomes much more for both Mahgub and his partner in crime, an equally desperate young woman named Ihsan. As they make their way through Cairo's lavish high society their precarious charade begins to unravel and the terrible price of Mahgub's Faustian bargain becomes clear. Translated by William M. Hutches

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