

The
VOGUE
25

PEOPLE
ARE
TALKING
ABOUT



20 HIGH-TONED HOLLYWOOD

As filmmakers turn prestigious works into prize-worthy movies, John Powers gives out an early report card.

MOVIE	SOURCE	SELLING POINT	PREDICTED GRADE
<i>Revolutionary Road</i>	Richard Yates's novel of the disillusioned 1950s	The reunion of Kate Winslet and Leonardo DiCaprio	B
<i>Elegy</i>	Philip Roth's <i>The Dying Animal</i>	Penélope Cruz as a doomed beauty	C+
<i>Where the Wild Things Are</i>	Maurice Sendak's children's classic	Ultracool director Spike Jonze	A-
<i>Blindness</i>	Jose Saramago's allegory about society losing its sight	Julianne Moore's character can see!	B-
<i>The Curious Case of Benjamin Button</i>	F. Scott Fitzgerald story about a guy who ages backward	Brad Pitt, Cate Blanchett	A
<i>The Lovely Bones</i>	Alice Sebold's best-seller about a murdered girl	Peter Jackson, Rachel Weisz, Mark Wahlberg	B+

THE
GOLDEN
DOOR
MOROCCO'S
OLDEST
CITY HAS
BECOME ITS
HOTTEST NEW
DESTINATION.

21 SOMETHING MOOR

Fez has always had charm—now it has the hotels to match. Housed within an old palace, Riad Laaroussa's seven luxurious rooms are furnished with Moroccan antiques; riad-laaroussa.com. Riad Ibn Battouta has a handsome hammam and seven suites, their decor inspired by the legendary fourteenth-century traveler; riadibnbattouta.com. Edging a famed copperware souk, Dar Seffarine boasts six starkly elegant rooms; darseffarine.com. Dar Roumana offers spectacular accommodations and views; darroumana.com. And in early June, musicians from all over the globe fill Fez's famed medina for the World Sacred Music Festival.—R.A.

22 masters at work

Judging by the appalling vigor of Edward Albee, 80 is the new 30. The playwright celebrates his ninth decade with a trifecta: the world premiere of *Me, Myself & I*, a comedy about twins named Otto; the world premiere of *Occupant*, a portrait of Louise Nevelson; and a revival of the 1960s one-acts *The American Dream* and *The Sandbox*, which, for good measure, he will also direct. Albee's younger, comparatively indolent colleague David Mamet returns to Broadway with his new play, *November*, an election-year satire starring Nathan Lane as a beleaguered American president. Then, just in time for Hillary, comes the Broadway premiere of Caryl Churchill's brilliant Thatcher-era play *Top Girls*, a time-bending examination of the costs of being a powerful woman.—A.G.

23 maidens in love

A preview of PBS's splendid **THE COMPLETE JANE AUSTEN:** **PERSUASION:** Anne Elliot (Sally Hawkins) pines for the once penniless Captain Wentworth, who returns, rich.

NORTHANGER ABBEY: Catherine Morland (Felicity Jones) imagines the worst when she's invited to stay at the Gothic abbey.

MANSFIELD PARK: Fanny Price (Billie Piper) goes to live with the Bertrams and falls in love with her cousin Edmund.

AUSTEN'S MORAL CODE: Country people are good, city sophisticates are bad, biding your time wins true love.

—JOAN JULIET BUCK



24 SUPER FLY

Barkley Hendricks's first traveling retrospective, at Duke University's Nasher Museum in February, showcases the majestic oil portraits he's been making since the 1960s, marrying Pop Art, photorealism, black nationalism, and Renaissance portraiture. He views his project as not all that different from Rembrandt's. "After all, with these pictures you're looking at human beings, and there's a persona there," he says. "If you handle it right, that can be timeless."—L.C.

25 just remember this

The season's most powerful books are deeply personal. Eleanor Coppola's *Notes of a Life* (Nan A. Talese/Doubleday) is an intimate dispatch from one of Hollywood's most respected matriarchs; Augusten Burroughs recalls his estranged father in his uncharacteristically earnest *A Wolf at the Table* (St. Martin's Press); and Julie Klam grows up in her witty *Please Excuse My Daughter* (Riverhead). Making a comeback is the thinly disguised autobiographical novel: British comedienne Alison Larkin's *The English American* (Simon & Schuster) follows a young woman meeting her colorful birth parents; Sophie Dahl's *Playing with the Grownups* (Nan A. Talese/Doubleday) recounts a schoolgirl's coming-of-age with a beautiful, fragile mother; and Philippe Grimbert's French best-seller *Memory* (Simon & Schuster) uncovers a family secret as long held as it is shattering.—M.O.