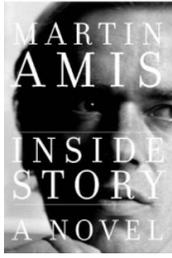
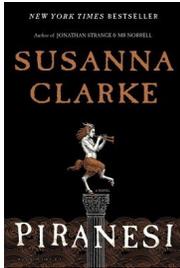


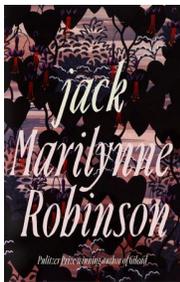
New York Times Book Reviews:



**INSIDE STORY**, by *Martin Amis*. In this “novelized autobiography” — an unstable and charismatic compound of fact and fiction — Martin Amis writes about three writers beloved to him: Philip Larkin, Saul Bellow and Christopher Hitchens. The book revisits stories he told in his memoir “Experience,” and some passages are familiar from his essays and speeches. But in his writing about Hitchens, Amis “moves into a fresh register,” our critic Parul Sehgal writes, and “accesses a depth of feeling and a plainness of language entirely new to his work.”

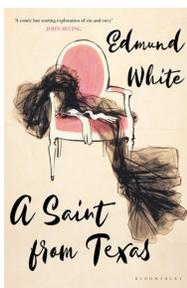


**PIRANESI**, by *Susanna Clarke*. Clarke’s long-awaited second novel is a haunting study of confinement and solitude. Piranesi lives in a house of many halls, filled with statues and flooded periodically by tides; within his meticulous journal entries lies the mystery of his strange and beautiful world, and of the curious figures who inhabit it. “That Clarke herself has wrestled for years with an elusive illness further illuminates the secluded world of ‘Piranesi,’ which so thoroughly captures the isolation of this moment,” Amal El-Mohtar writes in her latest science fiction and fantasy column. “But I don’t want to risk reducing the plenitude of this novel to allegory: It is rich, wondrous, full of aching joy and sweet sorrow.”

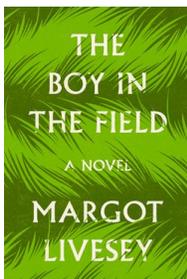


**JACK**, by *Marilynne Robinson*. This uplifting addition to Robinson’s Gilead series centers on an interracial romance in postwar St. Louis that was hinted at but not amplified in the three books that preceded it. The lovers, Jack and Della, find hope and truth in each other, even as the world conspires to keep them apart. “Robinson is acclaimed for her numinous accounts of faith, forgiveness and hope,” Elaine Showalter writes in her review, “but read in this electrifying year of national crisis, the Gilead books are unified as well by her unsparing indictment of the American history of racism and inequality, and Christianity’s uneven will to fight them. ... Loneliness and love, race and grace; the romance of

Jack and Della seems hopeful, courageous and moving.”



**A SAINT FROM TEXAS**, by *Edmund White*. Twin sisters from Texas set off on starkly different paths, one to an aristocratic life in Paris and the other to a convent in Colombia. White’s epic novel sparkles with his trademark wit and erudition. “Always an anthropologically acute observer of cultural footprints and foibles, White reserves his sharpest satirical barbs for the most deserving targets,” Sarah Bird writes in her review. By contrast, she adds, the nun’s world “is portrayed without the slightest prick of irony. In her, White crafts a pure-hearted, cleareyed seeker who struggles with doubt.”



**THE BOY IN THE FIELD**, by *Margot Livesey*. (*HarperCollins, \$26.99.*) In Livesey’s exquisite new novel, three siblings on their way home from school find a boy who has been attacked and left for dead in a field. This discovery leads to a mystery that will change the lives of all involved. “Livesey’s writing is quiet, observant and beautifully efficient — there’s not an extra word or scene in the entire book — and yet simultaneously so cinematic, you can hear the orchestral soundtrack as you tear through the pages,” Jenny Rosenstrach writes in her review.