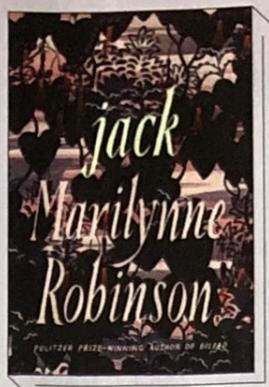


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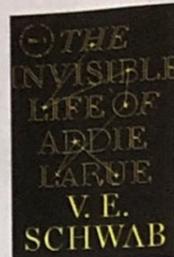
## MORE FABULOUS FALL READS

THE WORLD IS IN TURMOIL, BUT AT LEAST WE HAVE our books, right? As the global pandemic continues to shape pop culture in ways we couldn't have predicted all those months ago, the publishing industry has experienced its own disruptions in production—release-date delays have become the norm—but output has for the most part remained steady, much to readers' relief. For those with the mental wherewithal to escape into books, this fall brings both the return of literary stalwarts (Martin Amis, Marilynne Robinson) and buzzy follow-ups (Nic Stone, Bryan Washington), as well as plenty more for every mood—twisty thrillers, a love story or two, something for the currently unsatisfied film buffs. Most importantly, all the new books offer distraction of the highest caliber. —SEIJA RANKIN



**Jack**  
by Marilynne Robinson

Few living writers elicit the sort of mystic awe that accompanies Robinson, the revered author and essayist who, at 76, has produced only four—as of this fall, it will be five—novels over the last 40 years. Her deceptively modest tales of ordinary lives have been showered with prizes, including a Pulitzer and a National Humanities Medal; even ardent fan Barack Obama once famously requested an audience. In *Jack*, longtime readers will find the comfort of the familiar: a book entirely devoted to John “Jack” Ames Boughton, prodigal son of the *Gilead* series. A heavy drinker and habitual bum, he seems an unlikely object of devotion for Della, a Black bishop's daughter from Memphis. Still, their love story—one forbidden by the anti-miscegenation laws of circa-1950s St. Louis—becomes not just a meditation on faith and human suffering but a singular portrait of the divine. —LEAH GREENBLATT



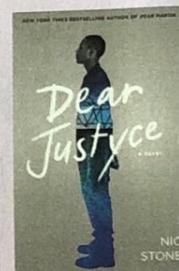
**The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue**  
by V.E. Schwab

In 18th-century France, Addie LaRue makes a deal with the devil to live forever, at the price of being forgotten by all—until she sees a man in a bookstore and something extraordinary happens: He remembers her name. —MAUREEN LEE LENKER



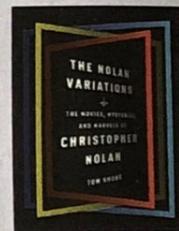
**Ready Player Two**  
by Ernest Cline

The long-awaited sequel to the pop-culture-stuffed 2011 best-seller that melded video-games, '80s nostalgia, and a dystopian future has a plot as secret as the location of James Halliday's Easter eggs. What can we confirm? It's a sequel. —JAMES HIBBERD



**Dear Justyce**  
by Nic Stone

Stone's searing sequel to her breakout *Dear Martin* interrogates systemic racism and the fate of too many young Black men. Quan tells his story in letters to old schoolmate Justyce (*Martin's* hero) while—perhaps wrongly—serving time in a youth detention facility. —DAVID CANFIELD



**The Nolan Variations**  
by Tom Shone

We can say with certainty that this book, unlike Christopher Nolan's film *Tenet*, will be available for everyone, pandemic or not. Written with Nolan's cooperation, it offers a highly informed look at the director's career and filmography, up to, and including, his latest movie. —CLARK COLLIS