

Suggested Reading List for Egypt

Books

Chronicle of a Last Summer (*Yasmine El Rashidi*)

A young Egyptian woman chronicles her personal and political coming of age in this debut novel. We meet her across three decades, from youth to adulthood: As a six-year old absorbing the world around her, filled with questions she can't ask; as a college student and aspiring filmmaker pre-occupied with love, language, and the repression that surrounds her.

No One Sleeps in Alexandria (*Ibrahim Abdel Meguid*)

Central to the novel is the story of a striking friendship between Sheikh Magd al-Din, a devout Muslim with peasant roots in northern Egypt, and Dimyan, a Copt with roots in southern Egypt, in their journey of survival and self-discovery. Throughout, the author captures the cadences of everyday life in the Alexandria of the early 1940s.

Films

The Night of Counting the Years (1969)

Arguably one of the greatest Egyptian movies to be ever made, *The Night of Counting the Years* is a story based on true events. When a government official discovers that mummies are being openly sold in Cairo, an investigation begins. The ancient Horbat tribe who are secretly raiding the legendary site of royal artifacts soon come head-to-head with the Egyptian law and the government.

The Yacoubian Building (2006)

Set in the 1990s at the time of the first Gulf War, *The Yacoubian Building* is a critical portrayal of modern Egyptian society and is reportedly the highest-budgeted feature in the history of Egyptian cinema. The story is centered on a 7-decades-old building that used to be home to folks from the elite circles.

Websites

<https://discoveringegypt.com/category/discovering-egypt-newsletter/>

<https://identity-mag.com/>