

Acclaimed author Mary Morris returns to her Chicago roots in this sweeping novel that brilliantly captures the dynamic atmosphere and the dazzling music of the Jazz Age. In the midst of boomtown Chicago, two Jewish families have suffered terrible blows. The Lehrmans, who run a small hat factory, lost their beloved son Harold in a blizzard. The Chimbrovass, who run a saloon, lost three of their boys on the SS Eastland when it sank in 1915. Each family holds out hope that one of their remaining children will rise to carry on the family business. But Benny Lehrman has no interest in making hats. His true passion is piano—especially jazz. At night he sneaks down to the South Side, slipping into predominantly black clubs to hear jazz groups play. Along the way he meets a black trumpeter, a man named Napoleon who becomes Benny's close friend and musical collaborator. Their adventures together take Benny far from the life he knew as a delivery boy. Pearl Chimbrova recognizes their talent and invites them to start playing at her family's saloon, which Napoleon dubs "The Jazz Palace." Even as the novel charts the story of its characters, it also tells the tale of the city where they live. It is a world of gangsters, musicians, and clubs, in which black musicians are no freer than they were before the Civil War, white youths head down to the South Side to "slum," and Al Capone and Louis Armstrong become legends. As *The Jazz Palace* steams through the 1920s, Benny, Pearl, and Napoleon forge a bond that is as memorable as it is lasting.

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Morris's first novel since puts her many gifts to use in a story of creativity, music, resilience, and love in Prohibition-era Chicago. In *About The Jazz Palace*. Winner of the Anisfield-Wolf Book Award Boomtown Chicago, "a world of gangsters, musicians, and clubs. Young Benny.

If that sounds like jazz blues and jazz it ought to. Mary Morris's eighth novel, "The Jazz Palace," encompasses the seismic shifts of. The introduction, discussion questions, and suggested reading that follow are designed to enhance your group's discussion of *The Jazz Palace*, a novel. Part historical novel, part mystery, and *The Jazz Palace* by Mary Morris is filled with cultural heritage. Morris writes how poverty, race relations, romance. Pearl Chimbrova recognizes their talent and invites them to start playing at her family's saloon, which Napoleon dubs "The Jazz Palace." Even as the novel. Acclaimed author Mary Morris returns to her Chicago roots in this sweeping novel that brilliantly captures the dynamic atmosphere and the dazzling music of the. Mary Morris was born in Chicago in , and although she left to study at Tufts University and settled in the east, her hometown tie remained. Now a professor.

Last there is Napoleon Hill, a black jazz trumpeter whose struggles and defiance are part of the novel's emphasis on racial injustice. All three. Mary Morris, a Highland Park native, discusses her new novel, *The Jazz Palace*, which follows three individuals in Jazz Age Chicago. The *Jazz Palace* brings the s to life, entering Prohibition-era EC: How and why did you bring Jewish cultural heritage into the novel?. Winner of the Anisfield-Wolf Book Award Boomtown Chicago, "a world of They are asked to play at a saloon Napoleon has christened *The Jazz Palace*. *The Jazz Palace* by Mary Morris is part historical novel, part mystery, and is filled with cultural heritage. She writes how poverty, race relations.

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