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Built in 1934 by an Italian firm for an Armenian millionaire, the Yacoubian Building, "ten lofty stories in the high European style", is a metaphor for wider historical upheavals.

The Yacoubian Building, by Alaa Al Aswany, trans Humphrey ...

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But in *The Yacoubian Building*, an apartment complex on a downtown street tells the story of a whole nation. This ten-story structure, I found, has a lot to say. The building doesn't talk, of course, but it shelters the many people whose lives the book recounts.

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The actual namesake Yacoubian building, constructed in the Art Deco style, still stands in downtown Cairo at the address given in the novel: 34 Talaat Harb Street (referred to by its old name, Suleiman Basha Street, by both native Cairenes and the novel's characters).

The Yacoubian Building (film) - Wikipedia

The Yacoubian building itself is a once-handsome art deco block on the boulevard known now as Talaat Harb, but here called by its old name of Suleiman Basha Street. Built in 1934 for an Armenian...

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Further reading. Kostyal, Karen, "Alaa Al Aswany: Voice of Reason" (interview with the author), National Geographic Interactive, nd. Mishra, Pankaj. "Where Alaa Al Aswany Is Writing From", *New York Times Magazine*, 27 April 2008. Salama, Vivian, "A Tale of Some Egyptian: As Yacoubian Building Heads West, the Author Discusses the Story's Message", *Daily Star Egypt*, 8 December 2005.

Alaa Al Aswany - Wikipedia

The Yacoubian building itself is a once-handsome art deco block on the boulevard known now as Talaat Harb, but here called by its old name of Suleiman Basha Street. Built in 1934 for an Armenian millionaire, its fall from grace is just one aspect of Egypt's general dilapidation.

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All live in the Yacoubian Building, a once-elegant temple of Art Deco splendor slowly decaying in the smog and hubbub of downtown Cairo, Egypt. In the course of this unforgettable novel, these disparate lives converge, careening inexorably toward an explosive conclusion.

The Yacoubian Building – HarperCollins

Alaa Al Aswany is the internationally bestselling author of The Yacoubian Building and Chicago. A journalist who writes a controversial opposition column, Al Aswany makes his living as a dentist in...

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One prominent writer, still publishing engaging and slightly controversial material, however, is Alaa Al Aswany. A dentist turned writer, the Egyptian author is most well-known for best-selling novels The Yacoubian Building and Chicago among other pieces of non-fiction and fiction works which have been translated into 37 languages.

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