

NOVEL

Continued from Page 1F

cranking out adaptations of literary works and ones about troubled, notable authors. This year, there's "Sylvia," based on the life of the late poet Sylvia Plath, "Master and Commander," from a popular historical-fiction series, and the upcoming "Cold Mountain," starring Nicole Kidman and Jude Law.

So to add one more item to your already overloaded life: There's a list of books, mostly classic works, you should read before you die. And depending on whom you ask, any list of must-read literature probably will include works by James Joyce, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Virginia Woolf, William Faulkner, Fyodor Dostoevsky, Gabriel Garcia Marquez and Norman Mailer.

For Lennon, though, the must-read author who has been a truly dominant literary force in the 20th century is Mailer, 80, who has interviewed the likes of Muhammad Ali and Madonna in his writing career in addition to penning dozens of novels and nonfiction accounts. This year, Mailer published a book called "Why Are We At War?" — a critical look at George W. Bush and war.

Lennon, who has been at Wilkes for 12 years, says Mailer is to the second part of the 20th century what Ernest Hemingway — another must-read author — was to the first.

Therefore, when it comes to Mailer's books, Lennon, president of the newly formed Norman Mailer Society, has two

USEFUL TO YOU

If you like the writings of Pulitzer Prize winner Norman Mailer, here's your chance to join fans and scholars who meet to discuss the author's works.

To become a member of The Norman Mailer Society, send a check payable to The Norman Mailer Society in care of David H. Light, 75 Jennings Lane, Windham, CT 06280. Include your name, address, e-mail address and telephone number. Fees are \$20 for individual membership, \$25 for couples, \$10 for students and \$250 for lifetime membership.

Next year, society members will meet in Provincetown, R.I., where Mailer has a home.

For more information, visit the Web site www.normanmailersociety.org.

selections on his list of 31 books you need to read before you die: "The Naked and the Dead" and "The Executioner's Song."

"He has tremendous longevity," says Lennon, who wrote his doctoral dissertation on Mailer and now gathers all of Mailer's written works, which are stored locally. After all, he says, a new Mailer piece appears in the 50th-anniversary issue of Playboy. "Mailer is interested in everything."

Now, here comes your assignment. If the names Justin Timberlake, Missy Elliott, Eminem, Jennifer Lopez and Tom Cruise ring a bell more than the names of literary figures such as George Eliot, Emily Brontë, Ralph Ellison, Stendhal and Toni Morrison, then you might consider skipping the downloading for a few

weeks so you can get yourself to a bookstore or library.

Lennon, who says he liked contemporary books such as Charles Frazier's "Cold Mountain" and the Aubrey-Maturin series by Patrick O'Brian, offered his list of must reads.

While it's a fairly diverse list of classics, Lennon says he realizes his picks don't include the works of female authors other than Virginia Woolf, who was the basis for the award-winning novel and movie "The Hours." (Don't worry. He would have included Morrison's Pulitzer Prize-winning "Beloved.")

He also thinks the order of his picks could switch on any given day. Ultimately, he says, these books hit him in the stomach and "moved me and changed me in deep and profound ways." Now, see for yourself:

1. "A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man" and "Ulysses" by James Joyce
2. "Moby-Dick" by Herman Melville
3. "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" by Mark Twain
4. "Anna Karenina" by Leo Tolstoy
5. "The Portrait of a Lady" by Henry James
6. "Madame Bovary" by Gustave Flaubert
7. "Middlemarch" by George Eliot
8. "Crime and Punishment" by Fyodor Dostoevsky
9. "The Naked and the Dead" by Norman Mailer
10. "One Hundred Years of Solitude" by Gabriel Garcia
11. "The Great Gatsby" by F. Scott Fitzgerald
12. "The Scarlet Letter" by Nathaniel Hawthorne
13. "Mrs. Dalloway" by Virginia Woolf
14. "U.S.A." (trilogy) by John Dos Passos
15. "The Sun Also Rises" by Ernest Hemingway
16. "Light in August" by William Faulkner
17. "The Red and the Black" by Stendhal
18. "Invisible Man" by Ralph Ellison
19. "The Mayor of Casterbridge" by Thomas Hardy
20. "The Ambassadors" by Henry James
21. "Heart of Darkness" by Joseph Conrad
22. "On the Road" by Jack Kerouac
23. "From Here to Eternity" by James Jones
24. "The Executioner's Song" by Norman Mailer
25. "Robinson Crusoe" by Daniel Defoe
26. "Don Quixote" by Miguel de Cervantes
27. "Sister Carrie" by Theodore Dreiser
28. "Passage to India" by E.M. Forster
29. "The Brothers Karamazov" by Fyodor Dostoevsky
30. "The Charterhouse of Parma" by Stendhal

Marquez

WINTER

Continued from Page 1F

The hat is the most visible — and for some women, the most troublesome — element of the winter accessories wardrobe. Finding something that's functional as well as stylish can be a challenge.

But hats needn't be daunting, says Wyandotte, Mich., milliner Gena Conti. Her favorite hats for winter are the cloche, which pulls down over the ears for a '20s look, and a feminine version of the fedora. The movie "Chicago," with its femme fatales and dapper gents, is the inspiration for those hats, she says.

Fall's mod trend has made its way into winter hats, in color-block styles and newsboy caps with a Swinging London look. And there are hats made

solely to amaze, soaring creations with wide brims, crowns and ravishing trim.

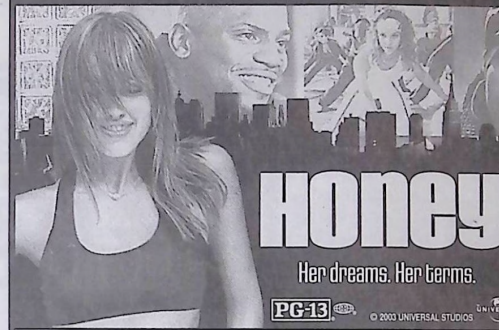
If warmth is most important, look for hats made of fur, felt, velvet, chenille or cashmere. Don't expect leather or suede hat to be especially warm, Conti warns, unless it's lined with something plush.

The same applies to gloves. Look for linings made of cashmere or Thinsulate, a man-made material that retains heat. But it's hard to tell about warmth when you're entranced by a pair of plush leather gloves trimmed with tiny buttons or a pristine white pair edged with black stitching.

This year, gloves are taking a key role in winter accessories, the last piece in a puzzle of a polished presentation.

"The Feel Good Film Of The Year"

David Sheehan, CBS-TV



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