

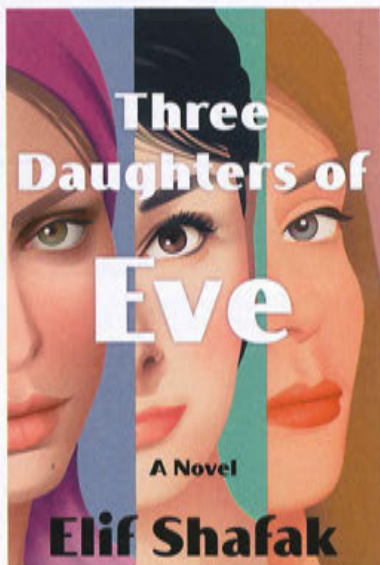


TRAVEL

ISLA DE LA RENTA

ABOVE: ROBERTS MINED THE DE LA RENTAS' PUNTA CANA HOME (PICTURED HERE) FOR DESIGN INSPIRATION. BACKGROUND: UPHOLSTERY FABRIC FROM LEE JOFA.

Ten years ago, Frank Rainieri of Punta Cana's **Tortuga Bay Hotel** asked the Dominican Republic's ultimate tastemaker, Oscar de la Renta, to lend his easy elegance to the hotel's interior spaces. Not surprisingly, it became *the* place to wear Oscar de la Renta resort. When, a decade later, the time came for a refresh, Annette de la Renta wanted to keep it in the family and suggested interior decorator Markham Roberts for the job. "I knew Oscar and Annette as my friend's parents," explained Roberts, who grew up with Annette's daughter. The revamp heeds de la Renta's legacy: Leafy upholstery splashed on dining chairs is a de la Renta-designed fabric for Lee Jofa; a mahogany console in the reception room is a version of one that sits in the de la Rentas' Connecticut estate; and the tropical painting greeting guests at check-in is inspired by an antique wallpaper at the de la Rentas' Manhattan home. Although Roberts's enhancements were scrupulous, he wants them to go unnoticed when Tortuga Bay's doors reopen. "When somebody gets a nice facelift, you can't really tell that it was done," he says. "I'm hoping that's the case here." —LILAH RAMZI



BOOKS YOUNG TURKS

Turkey's best-known female novelist, Elif Shafak, has been building a body of work that needles her country's historical amnesia. Like her countryman Orhan Pamuk, she has faced charges in court of "insulting Turkishness"—in Shafak's case, for daring to have a character refer to the Armenian genocide. The ways in which an unresolved past can fuel present-day tensions is the subject of Shafak's vivid and timely eighth novel in English, **Three Daughters of Eve** (Bloomsbury). Set at an opulent dinner party in contemporary Istanbul, it follows the thoughts of an elite Turkish woman, Peri, as she casts

back to her college years at Oxford and her memories of two classmates, one devout and serious, one free-spirited and secular. Alternating chapters move between the present-day upheaval—as the dinner party progresses, terrorist attacks are carried out across the city—to her memories of the three friends' arguments about faith and feminism, stoked by a charismatic theology professor. Not unlike the novel itself, Peri's elegant exterior belies something fierce and intriguingly ambivalent, asking larger questions about how much has changed for women in the Muslim world. —MEGAN O'GRADY

TRAVEL: FRANÇOIS HILARD; PATTERN: COURTESY OF LEE JOFA; BOOKS: COURTESY OF BLOOMSBURY USA.