Reads to Get You in a New York State of Mind

  A NYC real estate tycoon and his mysterious, corrupt family become the subjects of an aspiring filmmaker's project before revelations of their criminal past activities give way to the rise of a mad presidential candidate.

- **Standard Deviation** by Katherine Heiny (2017)
  Follows the marriage between Graham Cavanaugh and his spontaneous but exhausting second wife, a relationship that is further shaped by their son with Asperger's and an effort to be friends with Graham's very different first wife.

- **The Address** by Fiona Davis (2017)
  Interior designer Bailey Camden leaps at a chance to renovate her heiress cousin's lavish apartment at The Dakota, and learns the scandalous history of a distant ancestor's connection to the murder of the building's architect a century earlier.

- **Behold the Dreamers** by Imbolo Mbue (2016)
  An immigrant working class couple from Cameroon and the upper class American family for whom they work find their lives and marriages shaped by financial circumstances, infidelities, secrets and the 2008 recession.

- **The Assistants** by Camille Perri (2016)
  When a technical error at a multi-national media conglomerate gives a financially strapped NYC executive assistant a chance to pay off her student loans in ways the company will never notice, she embarks on a downward spiral involving other employees with crushing debts and fewer scruples.

- **Nine Women, One Dress** by Jane Rosen (2016)
  Nine unrelated women whose circumstances are shaped by unrequited love, infidelity and fame find their lives touched by the same little black dress and its seemingly magical properties.

- **The Nest** by Cynthia D'Aprix Sweeney (2016)
  Gathering to confront their older brother, who has recently been released from rehab after a drunk driving accident, the Plumb siblings watch as the trust fund left by their father rises and falls according to self-inflicted problems.
Swans of Fifth Avenue by Melanie Benjamin (2016)
Steeped in the glamour and smoky atmosphere of NY’s high society, this juicy novel follows Babe Paley, known for her high-profile marriage to CBS founder William Paley, and her scandalous, headline-making friendship with Truman Capote.

The Three-Martini Lunch by Suzanne Rindell (2016)
In 1958 Greenwich Village, three ambitious young people—Cliff, the son of a successful book editor; Eden, who dreams of being an editor; and Miles, a talented black writer from Harlem—will do anything to succeed in the competitive world of book publishing.

A Little Life by Hanya Yanagihara (2016)
Moving to New York City to pursue creative ambitions, four former classmates share decades marked by love, loss, addiction and haunting elements from a brutal childhood.

The Dollhouse by Fiona Davis (2016)
A novel about the lush world of NYC’s glamorous Barbizon Hotel for Women, where a generation of aspiring models, secretaries and editors lived side-by-side while attempting to claw their way to fairy-tale success in the 1950’s, and where a present-day journalist becomes consumed with uncovering a dark secret buried deep within the Barbizon’s glitzy past.

Rules of Civility by Amor Towles (2011)
A chance encounter with a handsome banker in a jazz bar on New Year’s Eve 1938 catapults Wall Street secretary Katey Kontent into the upper echelons of NY society, where she befriends a shy multi-millionaire, an Upper East Side ne’er-do-well and a single-minded widow.

Vaclav and Lena by Haley Tanner (2011)
Bonded by their shared status as children of Russian émigrés living in Brighton Beach, Vaclav and Lena team up as aspiring magicians when Lena’s abusive domestic situation prompts her rescue by Vaclav’s mother.

The Heirs by Susan Rieger (2017)
After the death of family patriarch Rupert Falkes, the five adult Falkes brothers and their grieving mother are thrown into turmoil when an unknown woman sues the estate, claiming that her two sons were fathered by Rupert.

My Notorious Life by Kate Manning (2013)
A tale based on the life of a controversial Victorian New York City midwife features plucky orphan Axie Muldoon, who recounts her apprenticeship and establishment of a thriving practice that is threatened by a censorious zealot.

The Emperor’s Children by Claire Messud (2006)
Three friends on the verge of their thirties—beautiful, sophisticated Marina Thwaite; Danielle, a quiet TV producer; and Julius, a freelance writer—make their way through New York City, until Marina’s idealistic cousin, Bootie, arrives to complicate their lives.

The Alienist by Caleb Carr (1994)
When a madman begins stalking victims on the streets of 1896 New York, a team of investigators is forced to apply radical and untested techniques that include fingerprinting and the controversial science of psychology.