# ICCJ BOOK CAFÉ

# JOIN US ON **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2021 @ 10:30 AM**WHEN WE WILL DISCUSS



## "Morningside Heights, A Novel" by Joshua Henkin

### The Book

When Ohio-born Pru Steiner arrives in New York in 1976, she follows in a long tradition of young people determined to take the city by storm. But when she falls in love with and marries Spence Robin, her hotshot young Shakespeare professor, her life takes a turn she couldn't have anticipated. Thirty years later, something is wrong with Spence. The Great Man can't concentrate; he falls asleep reading *The New York Review of Books*. With their daughter, Sarah, away at medical school, Pru must struggle on her own to care for him. One day, feeling especially isolated, Pru meets a man, and the possibility of new romance blooms. Meanwhile, Spence's estranged son from his first marriage has come back into their lives. Arlo, a wealthy entrepreneur who invests in biotech, may be his father's last, best hope.

Morningside Heights is a sweeping and compassionate novel about a marriage surviving hardship. It's about the love between women and men, and children and parents; about the things we give up in the face of adversity; and about how to survive when life turns out differently from what we thought we signed up for.

#### The Author

Henkin was born in New York, NY, the son of Louis Henkin, a human rights scholar. He holds a BA from Harvard University and an MFA from the University of Michigan. He began his career as a Fiction reader for a magazine in San Francisco, CA, during the late 1980's, then moved to Tikkun magazine as assistant editor, 1987-89. He taught independent creative writing classes and was a freelance writer. He joined the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, as instructor in creative writing, beginning 1997; Unterberg Poetry Center, instructor in fiction writing, 1999—; Sarah Lawrence College, Bronxville, NY, instructor in creative writing. Joshua Henkin is the author of the novels Matrimony, a New York Times Notable Book, and Swimming Across the Hudson, a Los Angeles Times Notable Book and The World Without You, winner of the 2012 Edward Lewis Wallant Award for Jewish American Fiction and a Finalist for the 2012 National Jewish Book Award. His short stories have been published widely, cited for distinction in Best American Short Stories, and broadcast on NPR's "Selected Shorts." He has received numerous literary awards. He currently lives in Brooklyn and has two children.

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