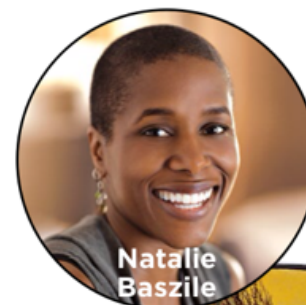


# TRUTH IN FICTION

Three southern tales blend heroines and history with winning results

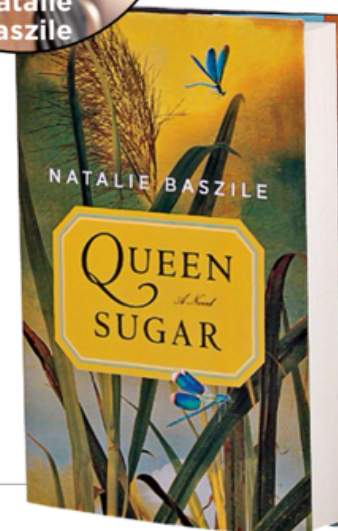
## LOUISIANA

Natalie Baszile should clear her mantel. **Queen Sugar** (Pamela Dorman, \$27.95), her debut novel, will certainly sweep several literary awards. You'll really like the character Charley Bordelon, a young Los Angeles widow who inherits 800 acres of sugarcane land in Louisiana and finds herself and love too.



Natalie Baszile

TAP HERE TO SHOP!



## MISSISSIPPI

Deborah Johnson's **The Secret of Magic** (Amy Einhorn/Putnam, \$26.95) features plucky fictitious Harlem attorney Regina Robichard as she tackles the racially charged case of a murdered World War II soldier in Mississippi. Be prepared for a tangled web of secrets and lies, segregation and miscegenation.

## SOUTH CAROLINA

Sue Monk Kidd's *The Secret Life of Bees* is already a contemporary classic. **The Invention of Wings** (Viking, \$27.95), the best-selling author's third fictional offering, is a total revelation. Set against the backdrop of pre-Civil War Charleston, South Carolina, the book is balanced by two extraordinary women: real-life abolitionist and feminist Sarah Grimké and the imagined handmaiden Handful, who nearly leaps off every page. —P.H.B. □

