



My Name Is Lucy Barton: A Novel

By *Elizabeth Strout*

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#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • LONGLISTED FOR THE MAN BOOKER PRIZE • A simple hospital visit becomes a portal to the tender relationship between mother and daughter in this extraordinary novel by the Pulitzer Prize–winning author of *Olive Kitteridge* and *The Burgess Boys*.

NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY *The Washington Post* • *The New York Times Book Review* • NPR • *BookPage* • *LibraryReads* • *Minneapolis Star Tribune* • *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*

Look for Elizabeth Strout’s highly anticipated new work of fiction, *Anything Is Possible*, which is available for pre-order now.

Lucy Barton is recovering slowly from what should have been a simple operation. Her mother, to whom she hasn’t spoken for many years, comes to see her. Gentle gossip about people from Lucy’s childhood in Amgash, Illinois, seems to reconnect them, but just below the surface lie the tension and longing that have informed every aspect of Lucy’s life: her escape from her troubled family, her desire to become a writer, her marriage, her love for her two daughters. Knitting this powerful narrative together is the brilliant storytelling voice of Lucy herself: keenly observant, deeply human, and truly unforgettable.

Praise for *My Name Is Lucy Barton*

“There is not a scintilla of sentimentality in this exquisite novel. Instead, in its careful words and vibrating silences, *My Name Is Lucy Barton* offers us a rare wealth of emotion, from darkest suffering to—‘I was so happy. Oh, I was happy’—simple joy.”—**Claire Messud, *The New York Times Book Review***

“Spectacular . . . Smart and cagey in every way. It is both a book of withholdings and a book of great openness and wisdom. . . . [Strout] is in supreme and magnificent command of this novel at all times.”—**Lily King, *The Washington Post***

“A short novel about love, particularly the complicated love between mothers and daughters, but also simpler, more sudden bonds . . . It evokes these connections in a style so spare, so pure and so profound the book almost seems to

be a kind of scripture or sutra, if a very down-to-earth and unpretentious one.”—**Marion Winik**, *Newsday*

“Potent with distilled emotion. Without a hint of self-pity, Strout captures the ache of loneliness we all feel sometimes.”—*Time*

“An aching, illuminating look at mother-daughter devotion.”—*People*

“A quiet, sublimely merciful contemporary novel about love, yearning, and resilience in a family damaged beyond words.”—*The Boston Globe*

“Sensitive, deceptively simple . . . It is Lucy’s gentle honesty, complex relationship with her husband, and nuanced response to her mother’s shortcomings that make this novel so subtly powerful. . . . [It’s] more complex than it first appears, and all the more emotionally persuasive for it.”—*San Francisco Chronicle*

“Strout maps the complex terrain of human relationships by focusing on that which is often unspoken and only implied. . . . A powerful addition to Strout’s body of work.”—*The Seattle Times*

“[Strout] reminds us of the power of our stories—and our ability to transcend our troubled narratives.”—*Miami Herald*

“Magnificent.”—**Ann Patchett**

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

An Amazon Best Book of January 2016: Do not be misled by the slimness of this volume, the quietness of its prose, the seeming simplicity of its story line: Elizabeth Strout's *My Name is Lucy Barton* is as powerful and disturbing as the best of Strout's work, including the Pulitzer Prizewinning *Olive Kitteridge*. In fact, it bears much resemblance to that novel-- and to Strout's debut *Amy and Isabelle*--in that it deals with small-town women, who are always more complicated than they seem and often less likable than many contemporary heroines. Here, Strout tells the story of a thirtysomething wife and mother who is in the hospital for longer than she expected, recovering from an operation. She's not dying, but her situation is serious enough that her mother-- whom she has not seen in many years-- arrives at her bedside. The two begin to talk. Their style is undramatic, gentle-- just the simple unspooling of memories between women not generally given to sharing them; still, the accumulation of detail and the repetitive themes of longing and lifelong missed connections add up to revelations that, in another writer's heavy hands, might be melodramatic. In Strout's they are anything but. Rarely has a book been louder in its silences, or more plainly and completely devastating. --Sara Nelson

Review

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"Sensitive, deceptively simple . . . Strout captures the pull between the ruthlessness required to write without restraint and the necessity of accepting others' flaws. It is Lucy's gentle honesty, complex relationship with her husband, and nuanced response to her mother's shortcomings that make this novel so subtly powerful. . . . *My Name Is Lucy Barton*—like all of Strout's fiction—is more complex than it first appears, and all the more emotionally persuasive for it."—**San Francisco Chronicle**

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Times

“Impressionistic and haunting . . . Much of the joy of reading *Lucy Barton* comes from piecing together the hints and half-revelations in Strout’s unsentimental but compelling prose, especially as you begin to grasp the nature of a bond in which everything important is left unsaid. . . . Strout paints an indelible, grueling portrait of poverty and abuse that’s all the more unnerving for her reticence. With *My Name Is Lucy Barton*, she reminds us of the power of our stories—and our ability to transcend our troubled narratives.”—**Miami Herald**

“Lovely and heartbreaking . . . a major work in minimalist form . . . In the character of Lucy, Strout has fashioned one of the great resilient modern heroines.”—**Portland Press-Herald**

“Strout has proven once again that she is a master of creating unforgettable characters. . . . Her stories open themselves to the reader in a way that is familiar and relatable, but then she delivers these zingers and we marvel at her talent.”—**The Post and Courier**

“Writing of this quality comes from a commitment to listening, from a perfect attunement to the human condition, from an attention to reality so exact that it goes beyond a skill and becomes a virtue.”—**Hilary Mantel**

“Magnificent.”—**Ann Patchett**

About the Author

Elizabeth Strout is the Pulitzer Prize–winning author of *Olive Kitteridge*, as well as *The Burgess Boys*, a *New York Times* bestseller; *Abide with Me*, a national bestseller and Book Sense pick; and *Amy and Isabelle*, which won the *Los Angeles Times* Art Seidenbaum Award for First Fiction and the *Chicago Tribune* Heartland Prize. She has also been a finalist for the PEN/Faulkner Award and the Orange Prize in England. Her short stories have been published in a number of magazines, including *The New Yorker* and *O: The Oprah Magazine*. Elizabeth Strout lives in New York City.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Martin Phair:

The book *My Name Is Lucy Barton: A Novel* make you feel enjoy for your spare time. You need to use to make your capable far more increase. Book can to become your best friend when you getting tension or having big problem along with your subject. If you can make examining a book *My Name Is Lucy Barton: A Novel* being your habit, you can get far more advantages, like add your capable, increase your knowledge about a number of or all subjects. You may know everything if you like start and read a guide *My Name Is Lucy Barton: A Novel*. Kinds of book are a lot of. It means that, science guide or encyclopedia or some others. So , how do you think about this guide?

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