



# 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***

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“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***

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“Magnificent.”—**Ann Patchett**

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### **My Name Is Lucy Barton: A Novel By Elizabeth Strout Bibliography**

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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

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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***

"Strout maps the complex terrain of human relationships by focusing on that which is often unspoken and only implied. . . . [*My Name Is Lucy Barton* is] a powerful addition to Strout's body of work."—***The Seattle***

**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:**

**Melvin Bragg:**

As people who live in the modest era should be revise about what going on or details even knowledge to make these individuals keep up with the era which is always change and move ahead. Some of you maybe will certainly update themselves by looking at books. It is a good choice for yourself but the problems coming to you is you don't know which you should start with. This *My Name Is Lucy Barton: A Novel* is our recommendation to make you keep up with the world. Why, because book serves what you want and need in this era.

**James Hall:**

The book untitled *My Name Is Lucy Barton: A Novel* contain a lot of information on this. The writer explains the woman idea with easy approach. The language is very straightforward all the people, so do definitely not worry, you can easy to read the item. The book was authored by famous author. The author brings you in the new time of literary works. You can easily read this book because you can continue reading

your smart phone, or model, so you can read the book with anywhere and anytime. If you want to buy the e-book, you can wide open their official web-site along with order it. Have a nice study.

**Kathy Norvell:**

With this era which is the greater particular person or who has ability in doing something more are more precious than other. Do you want to become considered one of it? It is just simple strategy to have that. What you should do is just spending your time almost no but quite enough to have a look at some books. On the list of books in the top list in your reading list is usually My Name Is Lucy Barton: A Novel. This book that is qualified as The Hungry Hillside can get you closer in growing to be precious person. By looking up and review this guide you can get many advantages.

**Randy Caldera:**

As we know that book is important thing to add our know-how for everything. By a publication we can know everything we want. A book is a range of written, printed, illustrated or even blank sheet. Every year ended up being exactly added. This publication My Name Is Lucy Barton: A Novel was filled concerning science. Spend your free time to add your knowledge about your technology competence. Some people has different feel when they reading a book. If you know how big selling point of a book, you can really feel enjoy to read a book. In the modern era like currently, many ways to get book that you just wanted.

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