Anything Is Possible
By Elizabeth Strout
"Anything Is Possible merges the interlocking story form of Strout's Olive Kitteridge with the characters from My Name Is Lucy Barton. No one captures both the decency and cruelty of small towns the way Strout does—the kindness of a school janitor, the merciless taunts an impoverished child must endure. The story of Mississippi Mary, about a woman visiting her mother in Italy, just might break your heart. Every story in this amazing collection is about the events that can make or break us—war, abuse, poverty, illness—and how we respond. I loved this marvelous book, and you should absolutely read it."
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By Stephen P. Kiernan
"Emma is an apprentice baker in a small Normandy village during the Nazi occupation whose quiet determination to keep her friends and grandmother alive is heroic and heart-wrenching. Forced to bake ten loaves of bread for the Kommandant each day, Emma stretches her supplies to make extra loaves to help feed the starving villagers. While she refuses to think she is part of the resistance and has lost hope of the Allies arriving, Emma epitomizes the French spirit of survival. What a beautiful book to recommend to book groups and customers seeking a well-written story."
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By Weike Wang
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**Girl in Snow: A Novel**
By Danya Kukafka

“Perfectly paced and completely compelling, Girl in Snow by newcomer Danya Kukafka immerses you in a chilling small-town tale in which star high-school student Lucinda Hayes is found dead on a school playground. Most clues point to Cameron, an obsessed, window-peeping classmate who often lives in an ‘alternate’ state of mind. Conflicting clues come from the backstories of classmate Jade, the questionably motivated policeman Russ, and Cameron himself. Readers will be spellbound and remain puzzled as the characters expose the town’s secrets. This is a not-to-be-missed story!”
—Nancy Simpson-Brice, Book Vault, Oskaloosa, IA

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**Hourglass: Time, Memory, Marriage**
By Dani Shapiro

“As I consider the themes of memory and marriage in my own life, I realize that Dani Shapiro has reached across time to touch me with her insight and candor, and this is how Hourglass will touch all its readers. What a particular and original voice she has shared, reflecting on questions like, how are relationships formed? How does love burn and transform you? How does marriage, that age-old subject, play out between creators in the race against time? Through fragments, touching bits of memory, and poetic flights of fancy, this memoir honors the genre and elevates the form.”
—Cristina Nosti, Books & Books, Coral Gables, FL

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Miss You: A Novel
By Kate Eberlen
“Tess and Gus first cross paths in Florence as 18-year-olds with their futures stretching ahead of them. Back in England, they live their lives oblivious to all the near-misses and chances they have to encounter one another again. The meandering way their lives circle each other is charming rather than frustrating, but the heart of this book lies in the choices Tess and Gus make as their lives unfold in ways neither anticipated. Exceptionally poignant and filled with relatable and deeply human characters, this is a thoughtful story about how you can never quite guess what life has in store for you—and maybe that’s for the best.”
—Kelly O’Sullivan, R.J. Julia Booksellers, Madison, CT

Rise & Shine, Benedict Stone: A Novel
By Phaedra Patrick
“The novels of Phaedra Patrick are good for what ails you! Rise and Shine, Benedict Stone is a charming novel about a dull British jeweler who finds new light in his life when his American niece springs a surprise visit on him. Gemma may only be 16 years old, but she is a catalyst for some much-needed change in Benedict’s life and for the entire village. Readers would need a heart of stone to miss the joys of this delightful, feel-good novel. Book clubs are going to be taking a ‘shine’ to Benedict Stone.”
—Pamela Klinger-Horn, Excelsior Bay Books, Excelsior, MN

The Shadow Land: A Novel
By Elizabeth Kostova
“This is one of the most engrossing novels that I’ve read in a while. It is ultimately a road trip through the beautiful haunted land of Bulgaria. An American woman arrives to teach English and inadvertently picks up the wrong bag while getting into a taxi. The bag holds a beautiful wooden box containing human remains. Her helpful, enigmatic taxi driver takes her into Bulgaria’s unsettled present in search of the family that surely wants the urn back. This novel about self-discovery and historical reconciliation is thrilling, introspective, and very well paced.”
—Dianne Patrick, Snowbound Books, Marquette, MI

The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane: A Novel
By Lisa See
“This captivating story is set in a remote Yunnan village where, for many years, the Akha people have followed the rituals and cycles of harvesting tea leaves. Slowly, the changes going on in the rest of China begin to reach the area. Li-yan, one of the few educated girls in the village, acts as translator for a stranger seeking a rare tea from Yunnan. When Li-yan gives birth to a baby out of wedlock, she leaves her in a city where she will be taken to an orphanage. Over the years, mother and daughter dream of finding one another again. Brew yourself a cup of tea and settle down with The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane.”
—Elizabeth Merritt, Titcomb’s Bookshop, East Sandwich, MA