As in her powerful debut, *Amy and Isabelle*, Elizabeth Strout’s new novel, *My Name is Lucy Barton*, mines the complex relationships between mothers and daughters, exploring the cracks and crevices where unconditional love can hide. Readers who can’t get enough perspective on these complex relationships will enjoy these moving explorations.

**AND NOW YOU CAN GO** by Vendela Vida  
F VID

Within three months of moving to New York City for graduate school, 21-year-old Ellis is accosted at gunpoint. Rather than succumb to her assailant’s wishes, Ellis tries to talk him out of hurting her. Without thinking, she reels off a litany of calming poems by Phillip Larkin, Ezra Pound, William Carlos Williams, and William Butler Yeats, among others. Suddenly, her would-be attacker flees, and Ellis is alone. Almost immediately, both friends and strangers begin congratulating her for her pluck. But was it pluck that propelled her? Richly drawn, unpredictable, and wryly funny, Vida’s debut is dazzling. – Library Journal

**BAY OF ANGELS** by Anita Brookner  
F BRO

The daughter of a self-contained widow, Zoë is pleased when her mother agrees to marry elderly, wealthy and generous Simon Gould, who carries his new wife off to his villa in the south of France. When, after a few months, Simon dies suddenly, surprising events unfold. Brookner’s economical prose moves gracefully and flawlessly, and her story acquires a mesmerizing intensity rooted in the reality of the events she describes with consummate skill. – Publishers Weekly

**BELOVED** by Toni Morrison  
F MOR, LARGE PRINT, OVERDRIVE EBOOK, OVERDRIVE AUDIOBOOK

Set in rural Ohio several years after the Civil War, this haunting chronicle of slavery and its aftermath traces the life of a young woman, Sethe, who has kept a terrible memory at bay only by shutting down part of her mind. Juxtaposed with searing descriptions of brutality, gradually revealed in flashbacks, are equally harrowing scenes in which fantasy takes flesh, a device Morrison handles with consummate skill. As a record of white brutality mitigated by rare acts of decency and compassion, and as a testament to the courageous lives of a tormented people, this novel is a milestone in the chronicling of the black experience in America. – Publishers Weekly
BREATH, EYES, MEMORY by Edwidge Danticat
F DAN
Told from the viewpoint of a young Haitian American, this novel concentrates on relationships between generations of women, both in Haiti and in the United States. Sophie’s mother leaves Haiti to find work in the States, and Sophie soon follows, growing up troubled in New York until she exorcises her demons in a Santeria ceremony. – Library Journal

GIRL IN TRANSLATION by Jean Kwok
F KWO, CD AUDIOBOOK, OVERDRIVE AUDIOBOOK
Living in squalor among rats and roaches in a virtually abandoned unheated apartment building in Brooklyn, NY, 11-year-old Kimberly Chang narrates how, after recently immigrating from Hong Kong, she and her mother strive to eke out a life together working in an illegally run sweat shop. Drawing on her own experiences as an immigrant from Hong Kong, Kwok adeptly captures the hardships of the immigrant experience and the strength of the human spirit to survive and even excel despite the odds. – Library Journal

THE GLASS CASTLE by Jeannette Walls
B WALLS, CD AUDIOBOOK, OVERDRIVE EBOOK, HOOPLA EBOOK, BOOK CLUB TO GO
An account of growing up nomadic, starry-eyed, and dirt poor in the '60s and '70s, by gossip journalist Walls. From her first memory, of catching fire while boiling hotdogs by herself in the trailer park her family was passing through, to her last glimpse of her mother, picking through a New York City Dumpster, Walls's detached, direct, and unflinching account of her rags-to-riches life proves a troubling ride. A pull-yourself-up-by-the-bootstraps, thoroughly American story. – Kirkus Reviews

THE JOY LUCK CLUB by Amy Tan
F TAN
Encompassing two generations and a rich blend of Chinese and American history, the story of four struggling, strong women also reveals their daughters' memories and feelings. – Publisher’s description
THE PATRON SAINT OF LIARS by Ann Patchett
F PAT
Unanticipated pregnancy makes liars out of young women, this thoughtful first novel shows, as they try to rationalize, explain, and accept what is happening to them. When she arrives at St. Elizabeth’s, a home for pregnant girls in Habit, Kentucky, Rose Clinton seems as evasive and deceptive as the other unwed mothers. But Rose is different: she has a husband whom she has deserted. Unlike most St. Elizabeth’s visitors, she neither gives up her baby nor leaves the home, staying on as cook while her daughter grows up among expectant mothers fantasizing that they, too, might keep their infants. The reader learns from Rose how she came to St. Elizabeth’s, but it is her doting husband and rebellious daughter who reveal her motives and helpless need for freedom. Together, the three create a complex character study of a woman driven by forces she can neither understand nor control. – Library Journal

SIGHTS UNSEEN by Kaye Gibbons
F GIB
A daughter’s memoir of her manic-depressive mother written without rancor or bitterness, but with much painful honesty and affection. A tale of exasperation and juvenile confusion mixed with unquestioning love and Gibbons finds the perfect voice: manic behavior captured in beautifully modulated, tranquil prose. – Kirkus Reviews

TERMS OF ENDEARMENT by Larry McMurtry
LARGE PRINT F MCM
Fiercely independent and idiosyncratic, Aurora Greenway is used to the world revolving around her, but her daughter’s hasty marriage and subsequent struggle with cancer cause Aurora to rethink her life. – Publisher’s description

THE YEAR OF MAGICAL THINKING by Joan Didion
B DIDION, OVERDRIVE EBOOK, HOOPLA AUDIOBOOK
E, novelist, journalist, and screenwriter Didion chronicles the grief she suffered at her husband’s passing. John Gregory Dunne’s unexpected death of cardiac arrest in the winter of 2003 ended a marriage of nearly 40 years, and Didion examines her complicated responses to that loss, which included subtle forms of denial, illogical guilt, and a drive to get the facts of his passing absolutely straight. Her grieving process was interrupted and magnified by her daughter’s concurrent struggle with a life-threatening illness. This book was started nine months after John’s death and after their daughter’s recovery, but before Didion was able to move past these traumatic events and continue with her own life. Consequently, the predominant atmosphere is one of authentic suspense that makes for a remarkable page-turner. – Library Journal

Compiled by Booklist 2016