



# BARRETT BOOKSTORE



*Holiday 2021*

*6 Corbin Drive, Darien, CT*

*www.barrettbookstore.com*

Dear Customers,

Another year has passed and regrettably we are still feeling the effects of the pandemic. Hopefully, we are at the beginning of the end, although it seems likely that there will be lasting changes in the way we work and do business. While technology has allowed us to connect with each other through screens, it is no substitute for meeting in person. Virtual events will continue to bring us authors who formerly would be inaccessible due to location or schedule. But, we just co-hosted a wonderful in-person evening with Elizabeth Strout and Dani Shapiro at the Darien Community Center, one of the many local organizations we partner with, and we are looking forward to welcoming more authors to Darien to speak about their books.



*Elizabeth Strout and Dani Shapiro at our recent event to launch Oh William!*

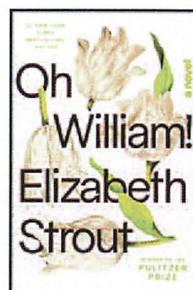
Supply issues are in the news, and they extend to the publishing world. We are trying hard to keep ahead of demand, but there are sure to be some titles that may be unavailable, even among the ones featured in the following pages. Shipping will also take longer. The word on the street is, "Shop Early!" We so appreciate your continued support and look forward to seeing you during the holiday season. Our shelves are well stocked with puzzles, games, calendars of all kinds and, of course, books for everyone on your list.

Construction has begun across the street on Phase One of the new Corbin District, the site of our future home! We are excited to see the progress. While curbside parking is no longer possible on Corbin Drive, there is plenty of parking in the lot next door. And, we will continue to offer back-of-store pick-up and scheduled home delivery for your convenience.

I am so blessed to have this wonderful place to come to every day, to be a part of such an extraordinary team, and to share the love of reading with all of you. We wish you peace, health and joy now and in the coming New Year.

*Sheila Daley*

## **Oh William!, Elizabeth Strout**

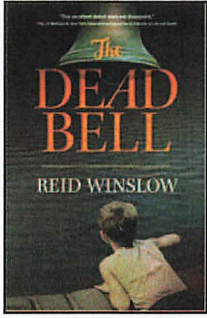


How wonderful to hear from Lucy Barton again in this stand alone novel from one of our favorite authors. We first met Lucy as the narrator in Strout's 2016 book, *My Name is Lucy Barton*. Now divorced from William, and recently widowed when her beloved David suddenly dies, she is unmoored by grief. As she reflects on her past, we learn that Lucy has always felt 'invisible,' lost in the world; and in William, she sensed a presence that she believed would make her feel secure. They marry, have two daughters and life goes on. However, there is an underlying withholding on both their parts. And when Lucy discovers William's serial cheating, she leaves.

As Lucy picks up her story in the present, she and William have somehow managed to become friends, and this goodwill remarkably extends to Estelle, his new wife, and their young daughter Bridget. Indeed, when through ancestry.com, he discovers he has a half-sister, it is Lucy whom he asks to come with him to find her. On their journey, she is astonished to find how little she really knows this person she was married to for twenty years, how mistaken she was in her perception of his 'authority,' his ability to keep her safe, and also how she misread his view of her. This is a deeply moving, beautifully written novel that explores the mystery at the heart of our relationships, the essential 'otherness' that remains, even in the closest of bonds. — **Sheila Daley**

# Mystery~Suspense

## *The Dead Bell*, Reid Winslow

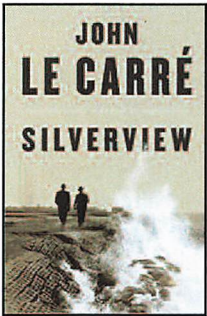


Faith Wesley, a wealthy socialite from exclusive Lake Forest, has been found brutally murdered. The crime scene has been compromised and the attack appears particularly personal and vicious. Given the victim's prominence and position, the case must be handled quickly, thoroughly, and with discretion. Tom Edison, a man struggling with his own demons, is called in to head the investigation. The complexities of this case will ultimately challenge Edison's concept of

justice and decency. While he works to untangle a web of deceit and subterfuge, Edison is dealing with a relationship in crisis and haunted by a traumatic event from his childhood.

Winslow's debut is not only a gripping, suspenseful mystery, but also a story of resilience and perseverance. He weaves his tale of murder and deceit with rich prose and imagery. His character development and descriptive language drive the plot and move the reader through the intriguing twists and turns of this engrossing look at class, corruption, and human frailty. I eagerly await his next book, *No Safe Level*. – **Libby Stowell**

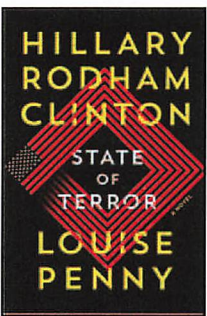
## *Silverview*, John Le Carré



Julian Lawndesley has renounced his high-flying job in the city for a simpler life running a bookshop in a small English seaside town. But only a couple of months into his new career, Julian's evening is disrupted by a visitor. Edward, a Polish émigré living in Silverview, the big house on the edge of town, seems to know a lot about Julian's family. And when a letter turns up at the door of a spy chief in London warning him of a dangerous leak, the investigations lead him to this quiet

town by the sea. In this final story, the great chronicler of the secret world of espionage seeks to answer the question of what we truly owe to the people we love.

## *State of Terror*, Hillary Clinton & Louise Penny



After a tumultuous period in American politics, a new administration has just been sworn in, and to everyone's surprise the president chooses a political enemy for the vital position of secretary of state. But it's a canny move because with this appointment, he silences one of his harshest critics. And when a series of apparent terrorist attacks is revealed to be the beginning of an international chess game involving the volatile and Byzantine politics of Pakistan,

Afghanistan, and Iran, it will take the skills of everyone pulling together to avoid disaster. Former Secretary of State Clinton and best selling mystery author Louise Penny have teamed up to write a compelling international thriller.

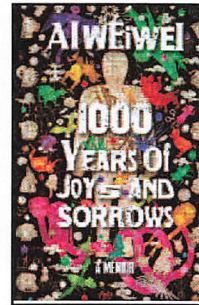
# Memoir

## *Taste: My Life Through Food*, Stanley Tucci



Written with Tucci's signature wry humor, *Taste* is a reflection on the intersection of food and life. With anecdotes about growing up in Westchester, New York, falling in love over dinner, and teaming up with his wife to create meals for a multitude of children, each morsel of this gastronomic journey through good times and bad, five-star meals and burned dishes, is as heartfelt and delicious as the last.

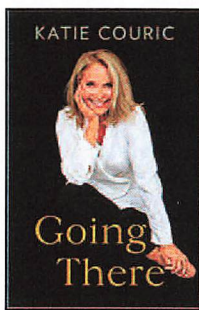
## *1,000 Years of Joys and Sorrows*, Ai Weiwei



In this extraordinary memoir, Chinese artist Ai Weiwei tells the sweeping saga of a life begun during the Cultural Revolution as the son of China's most revered poet, Ai Qing. A childhood lived in exile led to artistic adventures in America and an eventual return to China, creating art under a totalitarian regime, despite barriers that seemed impossible to surmount, Ai Weiwei rose

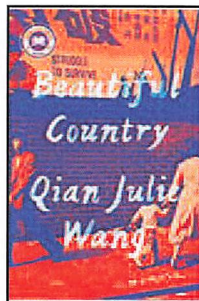
to become not only one of the most treasured contemporary artists but also a fierce advocate for human rights. This glimpse into both his personal history and artistic process will please contemporary art fans and dedicated readers of history and memoir. – **Page Berger**

## *Going There*, Katie Couric



For more than forty years, Katie Couric has been an iconic presence in the media world. In her new memoir, at once hilarious and heartbreaking, she shares what was going on behind the scenes of her sometimes tumultuous personal and professional life. Of the medium she loves, the one that made her a household name, she says, "Television can put you in a box; the flat-screen can flatten. On TV, you are larger than life but smaller, too. It is not the whole story, and it is not the whole me. This book is."

## *Beautiful Country*, Qian Julie Wang



Inhabiting her childhood perspective with exquisite lyric clarity and unforgettable charm and strength, Qian Julie Wang has penned an essential American story about a family fracturing under the weight of invisibility, and a girl coming of age in the shadows, who never stops seeking the light. In China, Qian's parents were professors; in America, her family is "illegal" and it will require all the determination and small joys they can

muster to survive.