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The Storied Life of A. J. Fikry: A Novel

By Gabrielle Zevin



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The Storied Life of A. J. Fikry: A Novel By Gabrielle Zevin

“Funny, tender, and moving, *The Storied Life of A. J. Fikry* reminds us all exactly why we read and why we love.”*

A. J. Fikry’s life is not at all what he expected it to be. He lives alone, his bookstore is experiencing the worst sales in its history, and now his prized possession, a rare collection of Poe poems, has been stolen. But when a mysterious package appears at the bookstore, its unexpected arrival gives Fikry the chance to make his life over--and see everything anew.

“This novel has humor, romance, a touch of suspense, but most of all love--love of books and bookish people and, really, all of humanity in its imperfect glory.”
—Eowyn Ivey, author of *The Snow Child*

“Marvelously optimistic about the future of books and bookstores and the people who love both.” —*The Washington Post*

“You won’t want it to end.” —*Family Circle*

“A natural for book groups.” —*Richmond Times-Dispatch*

“A reader’s paradise of the first order.” —*The Buffalo News*

“A fun, page-turning delight.” —*Minneapolis Star Tribune*

“Captures the joy of connecting people and books . . . Irresistible.” —*Booklist*

“A wonderful, moving, endearing story of redemption and transformation that will sing in your heart for a very, very long time.” —Garth Stein, author of *The Art of Racing in the Rain*

“Readers who delighted in *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*, *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry*, and *Letters from Skye* will be equally captivated by this novel.” —**Library Journal*, starred review



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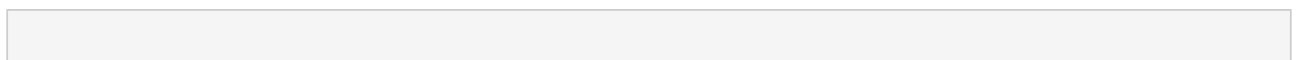
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Editorial Review

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In this sweet, uplifting homage to bookstores, Zevin perfectly captures the joy of connecting people and books. A. J. Fikry, the cantankerous owner of Island Books, is despondent after losing his beloved wife and witnessing the ever-declining number of sales at his small, quirky bookstore. In short order, he loses all patience with the new Knightly Press sales rep, his prized rare edition of Tamerlane is stolen, and someone leaves a baby at his store. That baby immediately steals A. J.'s heart and unleashes a dramatic transformation. Suddenly, the picture-book section is overflowing with new titles, and the bookstore becomes home to a burgeoning number of book clubs. With business on the uptick and love in his heart, A. J. finds himself becoming an essential new part of his longtime community, going so far as to woo the aforementioned sales rep (who loves drinking Queequeg cocktails at the Pequod Restaurant). Filled with interesting characters, a deep knowledge of bookselling, wonderful critiques of classic titles, and very funny depictions of book clubs and author events, this will prove irresistible to book lovers everywhere. --Joanne Wilkinson

Review

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"A love letter to the joys of reading."
—NPR

(NPR)

Users Review

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Samantha Campbell:

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Jeffrey Martinez:

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Frances Coffey:

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