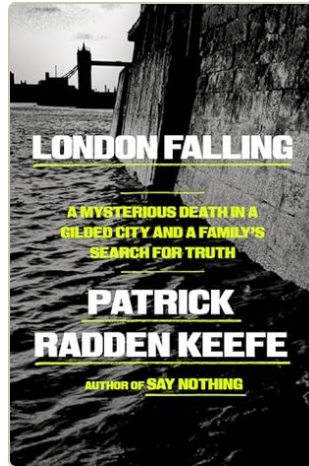


BOOK CLUB NIGHT KIT



London Falling

Patrick Radden Keefe

🌙 COZY NIGHT

A tender, gripping true story of two parents refusing to let their son become a mystery, told by a master of narrative nonfiction. It reads like sitting close to someone as they tell you the hardest, most human story of their life.

Come in from the cold, the kettle is on

Join us for a cozy, tender night with *London Falling*, comfort food, warm drinks, and gentle conversation. Wear your softest jumper and bring your open heart.

Reading level: Easy

Best for: A close-knit club that likes true stories and cozy, heartfelt conversation over comfort food





Discussion

WARM-UP

1. Get comfy with your warm drink and tell us: where were you when you did most of your reading, and did this one keep you up past bedtime?
2. Was there a small moment, a gesture from the parents or a quiet detail, that made you put the book down and just feel something?

DIGGING IN

1. The book turns on the gap between the son a family thinks they know and his secret life. Was there ever a time you learned something surprising about someone you loved, and how did you hold that tenderness?
2. So much of this story is parents refusing to give up. Who in your own life would go to the ends of the earth for you, and did reading this make you want to call them?
3. London itself feels like a character here, all its lit windows and hidden corners. What city or place do you carry that feeling about, one that holds both comfort and mystery for you?
4. Keefe writes with such gentle closeness to real grief. Did any part of the book comfort you or make you feel less alone in something you have carried?

GOING DEEP

1. Without giving anything away, how did the way this story unfolds sit with your heart by the end, and did it change how you think about needing the whole truth versus finding peace?
2. Looking back on the parents' journey as a whole, what do you think you would want someone to remember or keep searching for about you, and why did this book bring that up?

On the table & to sip

TO EAT

Shepherd's pie in little ramekins

A warm, homey British classic that suits the London setting and feels like a hug on a plate

Buttered crumpets with jam and honey

Cozy teatime staple, easy to set out and endlessly comforting for a tender night of talk

Sticky toffee pudding

A nurturing, indulgent English dessert to soften a bittersweet, emotional read

TO SIP

A proper pot of English breakfast tea (no alcohol)

The ultimate comfort drink and pure London, poured warm and shared slowly (non-alcoholic)

Hot spiced apple cider (no alcohol)

Gentle warmth for a low-pressure evening, good for wrapping cold hands around

Mulled red wine

Softly spiced and warming, an easy indulgence to sip during heartfelt conversation



Run of show

7:00

Warm welcome

Greet everyone with tea or cider already steeping and blankets within reach

7:15

Settle in and nibble

Serve shepherd's pie and crumpets while people find their comfy spots

7:35

Gentle warm-ups

Ease in with the two warm-up questions, no pressure to go deep yet

7:55

Heart of the talk

Move through the theme questions, letting silences and feelings breathe

8:35

Pudding and deeper talk

Bring out sticky toffee pudding as you touch the two deep questions

9:05

Trivia and wind-down

Close with cozy trivia, scorecards, and a slow last cup of tea

HOST TIPS

- Keep the lighting low and warm (lamps and candles, not overheads) so people feel safe to open up
- This is an emotional true story, so let people pass on any question without explaining themselves
- Have tissues and refills quietly on hand, and never rush a pause in the conversation



🎵 Playlist

Hushed, warm, and quietly emotional, like rain on a London window with the kettle on

01 Skinny Love - Bon Iver

02 To Build a Home - The Cinematic Orchestra

03 The Night We Met - Lord Huron

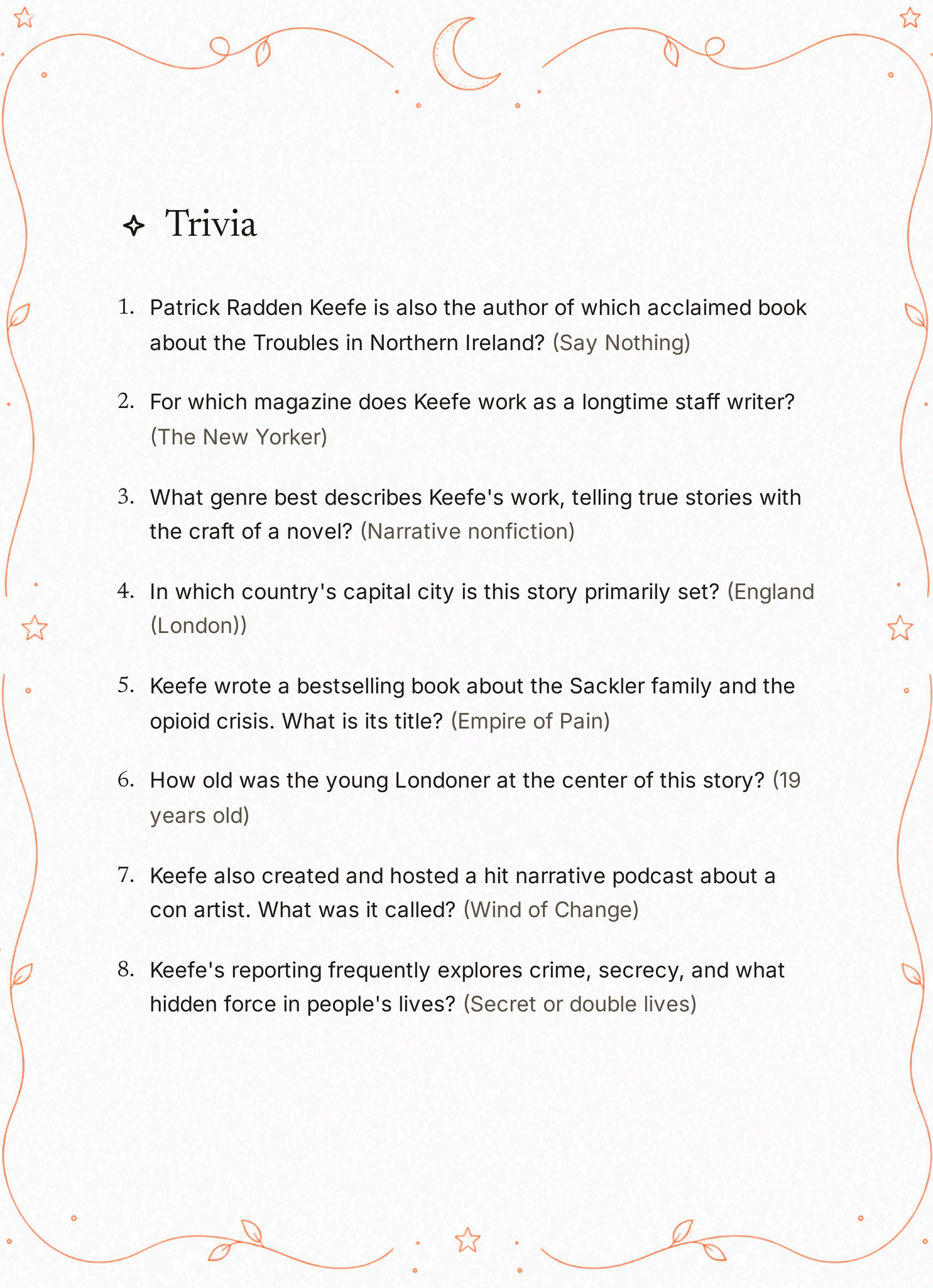
04 Holocene - Bon Iver

05 Fake Plastic Trees - Radiohead

06 Song for Zula - Phosphorescent

07 Postcards from Italy - Beirut

08 River - Joni Mitchell



✧ Trivia

1. Patrick Radden Keefe is also the author of which acclaimed book about the Troubles in Northern Ireland? (Say Nothing)
2. For which magazine does Keefe work as a longtime staff writer? (The New Yorker)
3. What genre best describes Keefe's work, telling true stories with the craft of a novel? (Narrative nonfiction)
4. In which country's capital city is this story primarily set? (England (London))
5. Keefe wrote a bestselling book about the Sackler family and the opioid crisis. What is its title? (Empire of Pain)
6. How old was the young Londoner at the center of this story? (19 years old)
7. Keefe also created and hosted a hit narrative podcast about a con artist. What was it called? (Wind of Change)
8. Keefe's reporting frequently explores crime, secrecy, and what hidden force in people's lives? (Secret or double lives)

📖 Bookmarks

Print, cut, and tuck one at every seat, a small keepsake from the night.



☆ Rate the book

Warmth of storytelling ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

How much it moved me ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

Coziness of the read ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

Stayed with me after ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

Would gift to a friend ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

One word for how this book left me feeling: _____

The moment I want to remember: _____

Who I thought about while reading: _____

THAT'S A WRAP

Thank you for coming

We hope the company was good and the conversation even better. Until the next chapter.



Plan your own book club night

Scan the code or visit **bookclubnight.com**

Book Club Night