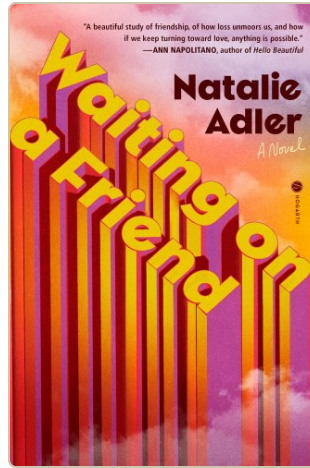


BOOK CLUB NIGHT KIT



Waiting on a Friend

Natalie Adler

🌙 COZY NIGHT

Natalie Adler's tender meditation on friendship, longing, and the quiet art of waiting is a gentle, heartfelt read that invites everyone to open up about the people who shape us. It is the kind of book that feels like a long, comforting talk with someone who gets you.

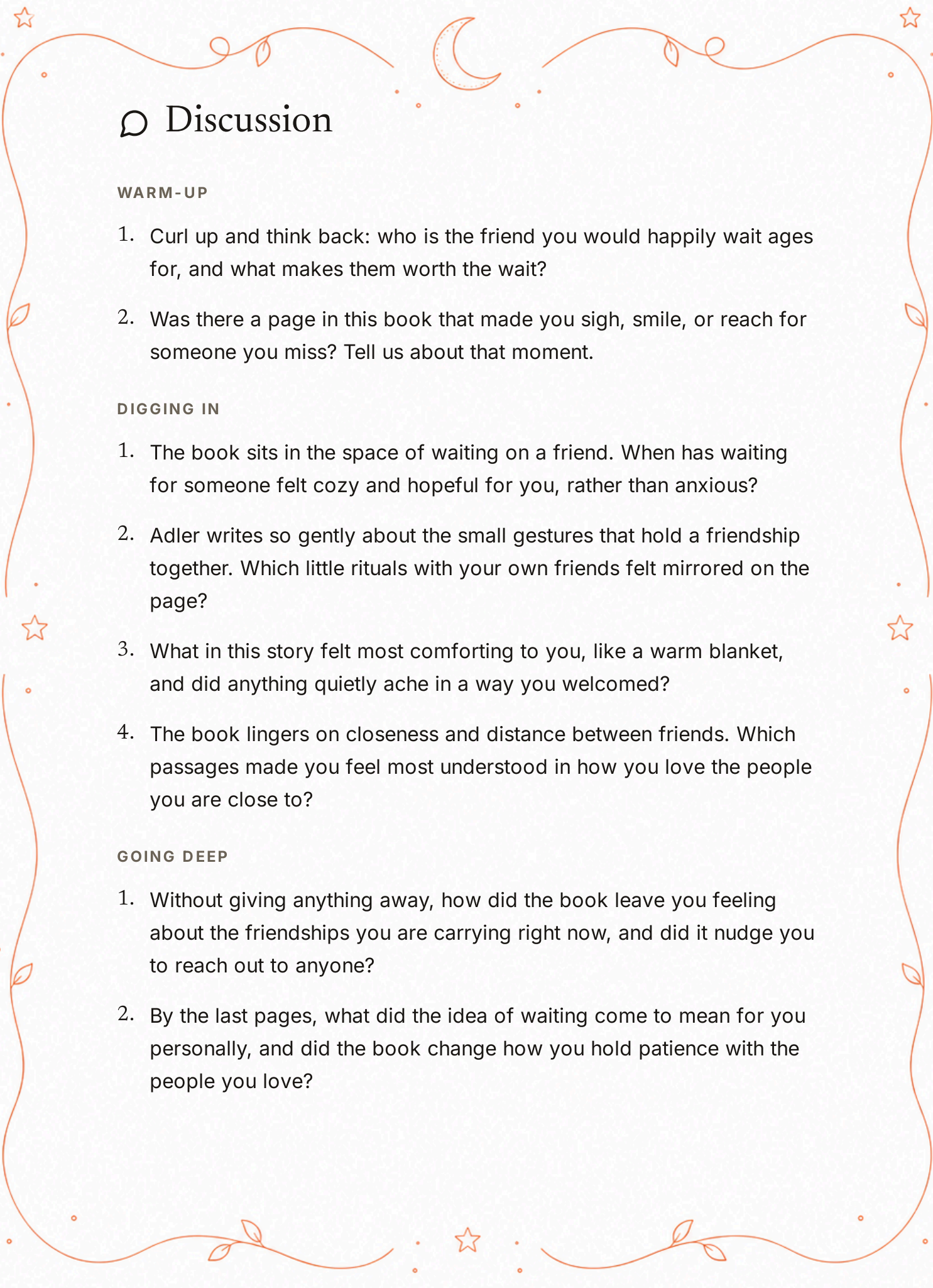
Come Wait Awhile With Us

Pull up a soft chair for a cozy evening of tomato soup, warm cider, and heartfelt talk about Natalie Adler's *Waiting on a Friend*. Bring your comfiest socks and your favorite friendship story.

Reading level: Easy

Best for: A close-knit club that loves heartfelt talks and reading between the lines together





Discussion

WARM-UP

1. Curl up and think back: who is the friend you would happily wait ages for, and what makes them worth the wait?
2. Was there a page in this book that made you sigh, smile, or reach for someone you miss? Tell us about that moment.

DIGGING IN

1. The book sits in the space of waiting on a friend. When has waiting for someone felt cozy and hopeful for you, rather than anxious?
2. Adler writes so gently about the small gestures that hold a friendship together. Which little rituals with your own friends felt mirrored on the page?
3. What in this story felt most comforting to you, like a warm blanket, and did anything quietly ache in a way you welcomed?
4. The book lingers on closeness and distance between friends. Which passages made you feel most understood in how you love the people you are close to?

GOING DEEP

1. Without giving anything away, how did the book leave you feeling about the friendships you are carrying right now, and did it nudge you to reach out to anyone?
2. By the last pages, what did the idea of waiting come to mean for you personally, and did the book change how you hold patience with the people you love?

On the table & to sip

TO EAT

Slow-simmered tomato soup with grilled cheese soldiers

The ultimate comfort pairing for a book about patience and quiet companionship, easy to make ahead and share from one warm pot

Cinnamon-spiced apple crumble

Honey and a little indulgent, the kind of dessert you linger over while conversation drifts, echoing the book's tender, unhurried mood

Buttery shortbread and a cheese-and-fruit board

Low-effort, grazeable, and inviting, so guests can nibble and open up slowly like an afternoon spent waiting on a dear friend

TO SIP

Honey-vanilla chamomile tea (no alcohol)

A soothing, caffeine-free hug in a mug that matches the book's gentle warmth and keeps the night relaxed

Spiced mulled cider (no alcohol)

Cozy and fragrant, perfect for cradling in both hands during heartfelt talk (make a non-alcoholic pot and an optional spiked one)

Mulled red wine with orange and clove

Warm, unhurried, and comforting for a slow evening of memories and friendship



Run of show

7:00

Warm welcome

Greet guests with tea or cider at the door and let them settle into the coziest seats

7:15

Comfort feast

Ladle the soup and gather around the crumble while everyone eases in with small talk

7:35

Warm-up circle

Open with the two gentle warm-up questions so everyone shares before the deeper talk

7:55

Heart of the conversation

Move through the theme questions at a relaxed pace, letting quiet moments breathe

8:30

Deeper reflection

Ease into the two deep questions once the room feels open and trusting

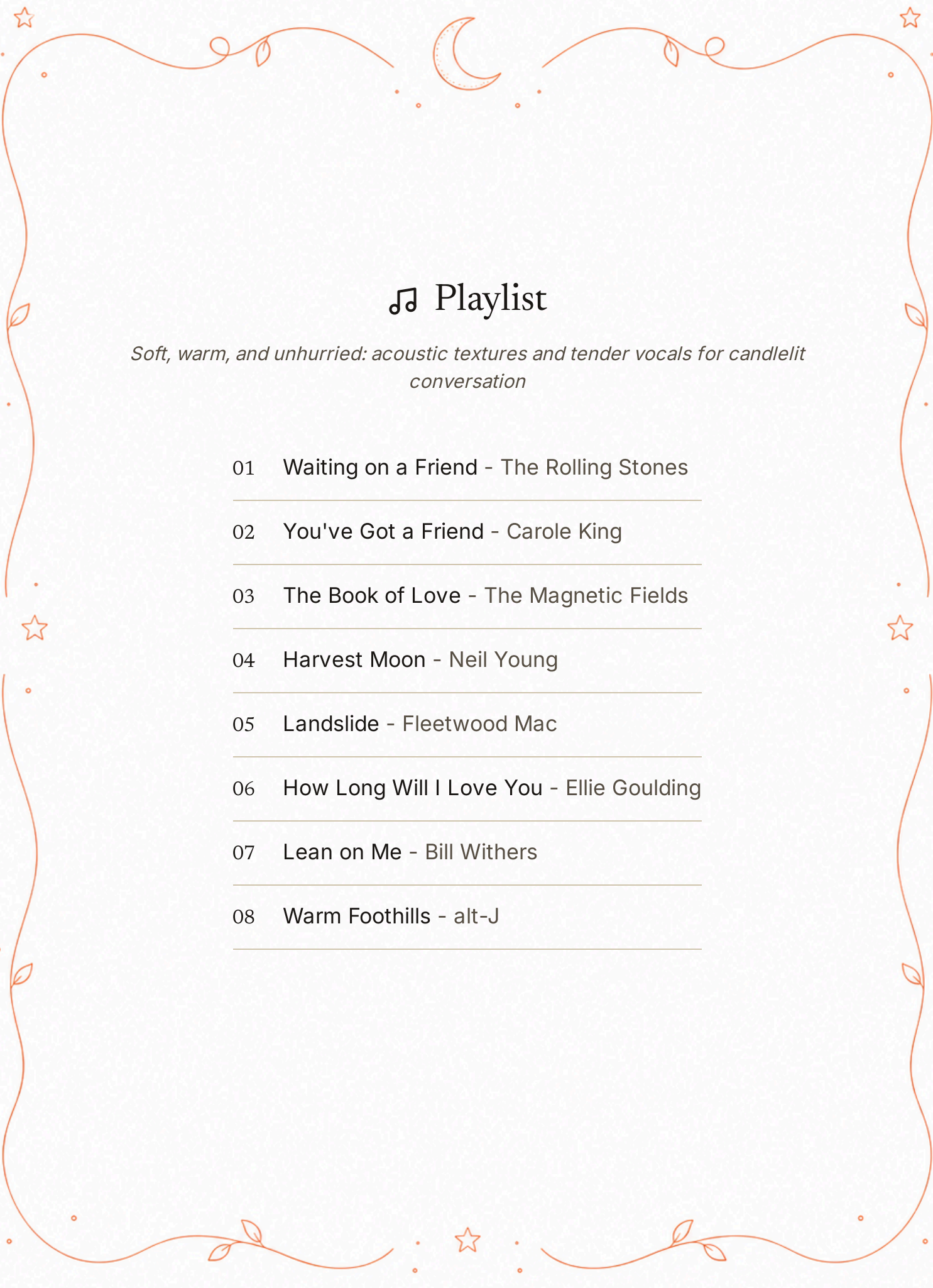
8:55

Trivia, scorecards, and goodbyes

Wrap with light trivia and scorecards over dessert seconds, then send guests off with a bookmark

HOST TIPS

- Keep the lighting low and warm with candles or lamps so people feel safe to open up
- Let silences sit; in a cozy night, the pauses often invite the most honest sharing
- Reassure anyone who did not finish that they are still welcome; there are no wrong answers here



🎵 Playlist

Soft, warm, and unhurried: acoustic textures and tender vocals for candlelit conversation

01 Waiting on a Friend - The Rolling Stones

02 You've Got a Friend - Carole King

03 The Book of Love - The Magnetic Fields

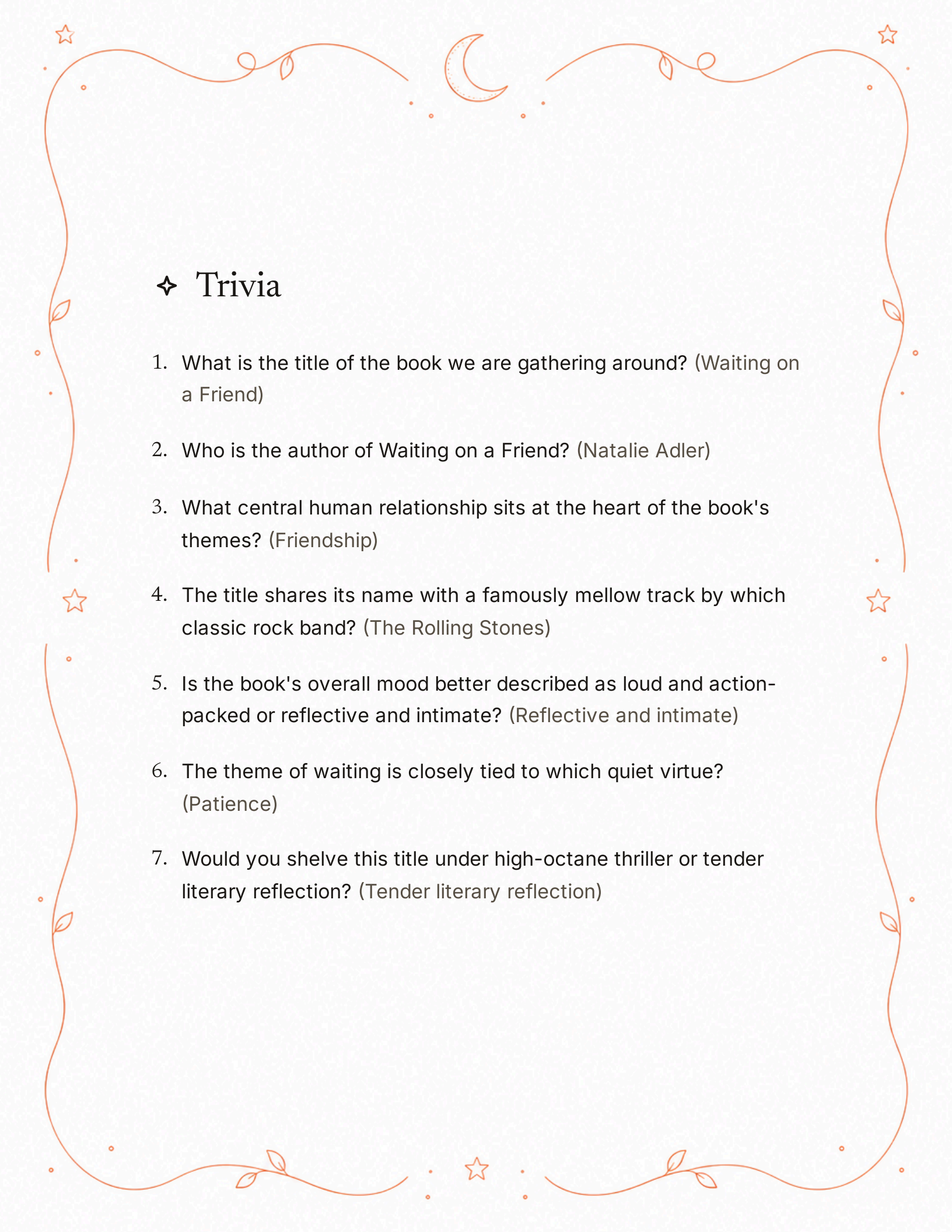
04 Harvest Moon - Neil Young

05 Landslide - Fleetwood Mac

06 How Long Will I Love You - Ellie Goulding

07 Lean on Me - Bill Withers

08 Warm Foothills - alt-J

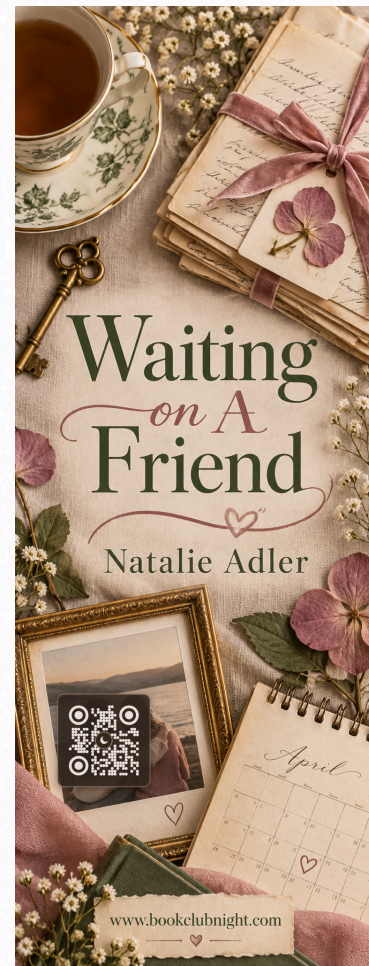
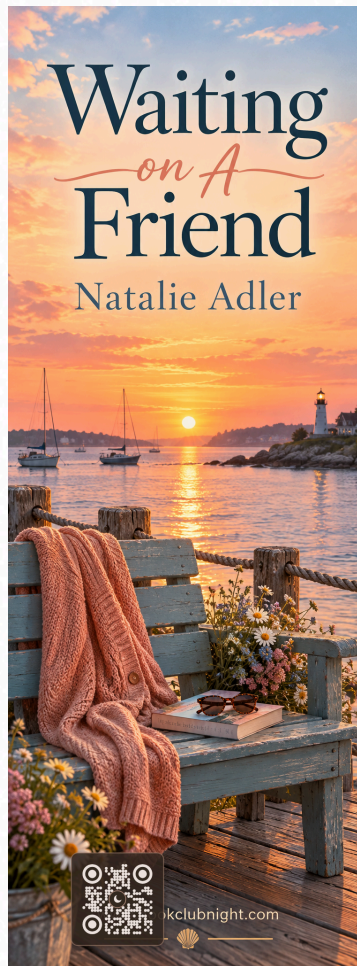
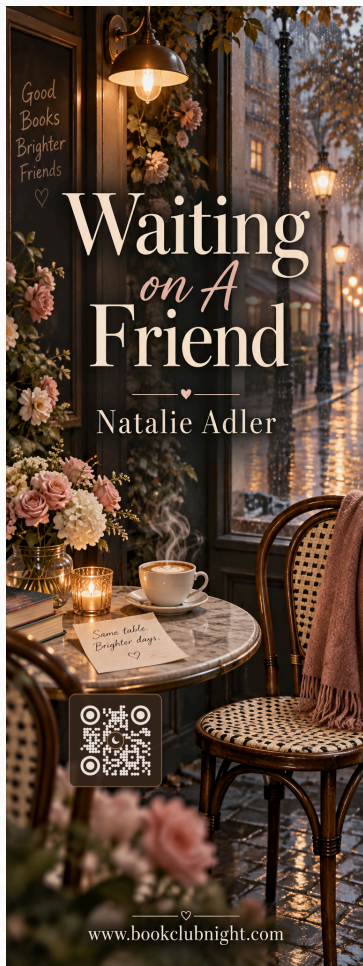


✧ Trivia

1. What is the title of the book we are gathering around? (Waiting on a Friend)
2. Who is the author of Waiting on a Friend? (Natalie Adler)
3. What central human relationship sits at the heart of the book's themes? (Friendship)
4. The title shares its name with a famously mellow track by which classic rock band? (The Rolling Stones)
5. Is the book's overall mood better described as loud and action-packed or reflective and intimate? (Reflective and intimate)
6. The theme of waiting is closely tied to which quiet virtue? (Patience)
7. Would you shelve this title under high-octane thriller or tender literary reflection? (Tender literary reflection)

❏ Bookmarks

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



☆ Rate the book

Coziness Factor ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

How It Made Me Feel ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

Comfort-Read Appeal ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

Tenderness ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

Would Re-read on a Rainy Day ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

One warm word for this book: _____

The friend it made me think of: _____

A page I want to reread by candlelight: _____

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