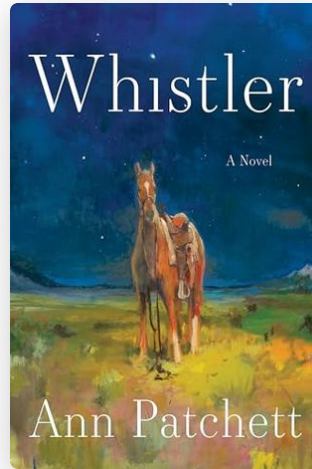


BOOK CLUB NIGHT KIT



Whistler

Ann Patchett

☾ COZY NIGHT

A quiet, tender reunion story about a woman and her stepfather revisiting the shape of their shared past. It rewards slow reading and warm conversation.

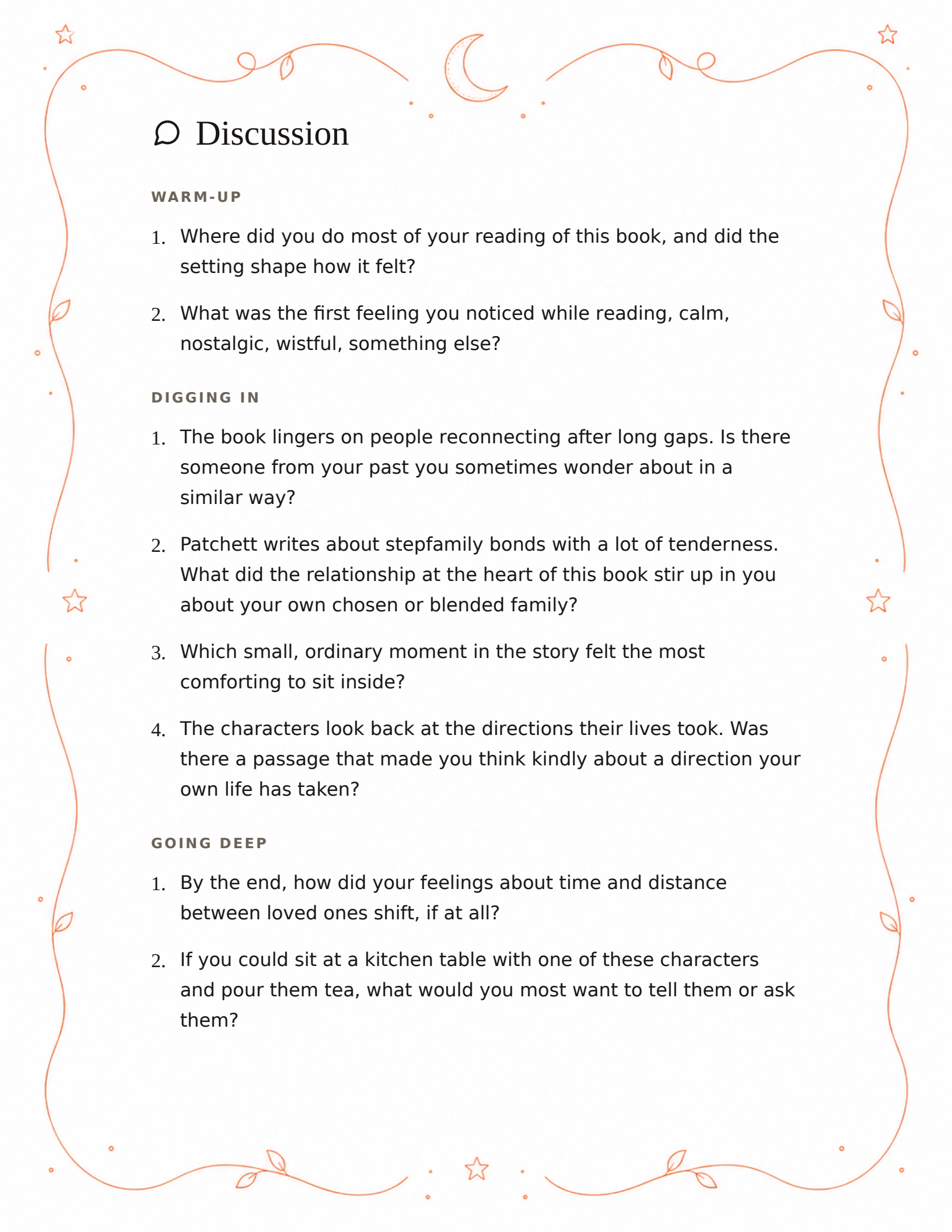
A Quiet Night In with Whistler

Bring your softest sweater and your reading heart. We are gathering for warm soup, warmer drinks, and a slow, gentle conversation about Ann Patchett's Whistler.

Reading level: Easy

Best for: clubs that love quiet, character-forward stories and unhurried conversation





🕒 Discussion

WARM-UP

1. Where did you do most of your reading of this book, and did the setting shape how it felt?
2. What was the first feeling you noticed while reading, calm, nostalgic, wistful, something else?

DIGGING IN

1. The book lingers on people reconnecting after long gaps. Is there someone from your past you sometimes wonder about in a similar way?
2. Patchett writes about stepfamily bonds with a lot of tenderness. What did the relationship at the heart of this book stir up in you about your own chosen or blended family?
3. Which small, ordinary moment in the story felt the most comforting to sit inside?
4. The characters look back at the directions their lives took. Was there a passage that made you think kindly about a direction your own life has taken?

GOING DEEP

1. By the end, how did your feelings about time and distance between loved ones shift, if at all?
2. If you could sit at a kitchen table with one of these characters and pour them tea, what would you most want to tell them or ask them?

☕ On the table & to sip

TO EAT

🍲 **Slow-simmered tomato soup with grilled cheese soldiers**

Comfort-food shorthand for the warm, homey mood of a Patchett reunion.

🥞 **Warm apple crumble with vanilla ice cream**

Nostalgic and a little indulgent, like flipping through old photographs.

🥖 **Buttered rosemary dinner rolls in a shared basket**

Something to pass around while people ease into conversation.

TO SIP

☕ **Honey chamomile tea with lemon (no alcohol)**

Gentle, soothing, and perfect for a slow evening of talking.

☕ **Hot spiced apple cider (no alcohol)**

Warms the hands and sets a hearth-side mood.

🍷 **Mulled red wine with orange and clove**

Cozy, fragrant, and easy to sip during a long chat.



Run of show

7:00

Soft landing

Greet guests with tea or cider, low lamps, playlist on low volume.

7:15

Nibbles and warm-ups

Ladle soup, pass rolls, ease in with the two warm-up questions.

7:35

Into the story

Move through the theme questions, letting silences breathe.

8:05

Crumble break

Serve dessert and refill drinks, chit-chat about favorite passages.

8:25

Deeper waters

Take the two deep questions slowly, one at a time.

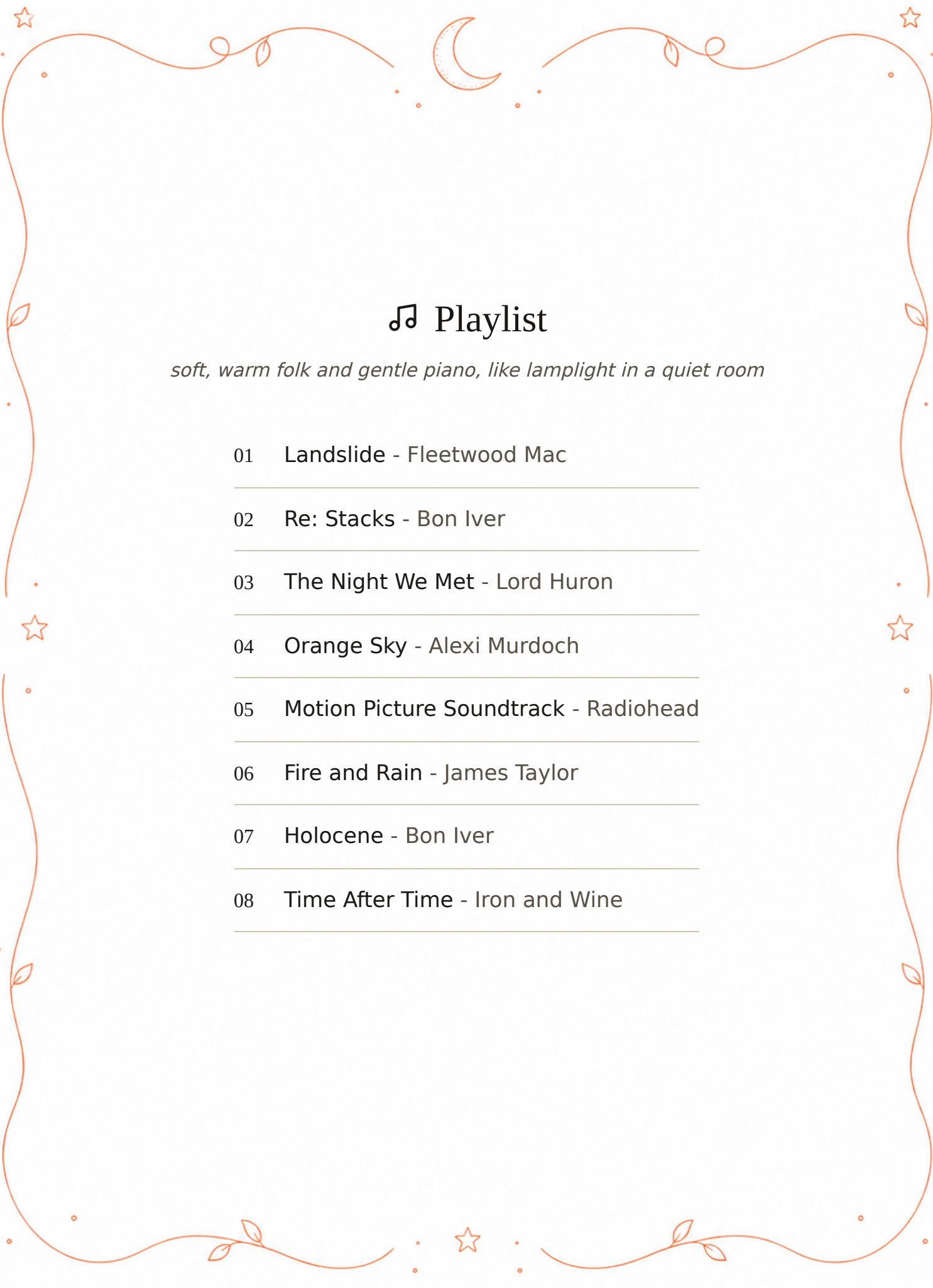
8:50

Scorecards and goodbyes

Fill out scorecards together, share bookmarks, send folks off warm.

HOST TIPS

- Dim the overheads and use lamps or candles to keep the mood hushed and gentle.
- Give a soft prompt like 'no wrong answers tonight' so quieter readers feel welcome.
- Have blankets on the couch and let people curl up, this is a slippers-on kind of night.



🎵 Playlist

soft, warm folk and gentle piano, like lamplight in a quiet room

- 01 Landslide - Fleetwood Mac

- 02 Re: Stacks - Bon Iver

- 03 The Night We Met - Lord Huron

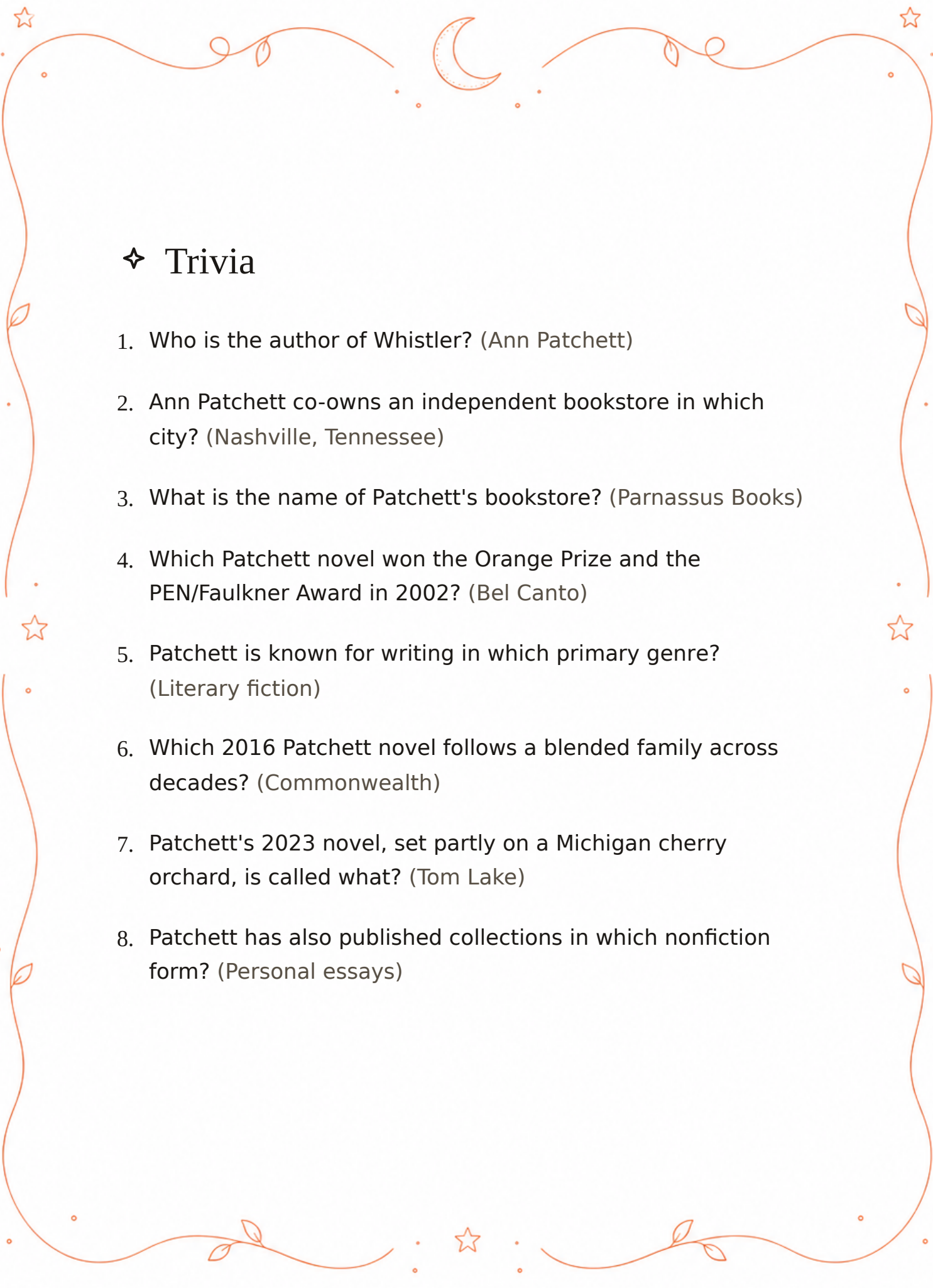
- 04 Orange Sky - Alexi Murdoch

- 05 Motion Picture Soundtrack - Radiohead

- 06 Fire and Rain - James Taylor

- 07 Holocene - Bon Iver

- 08 Time After Time - Iron and Wine

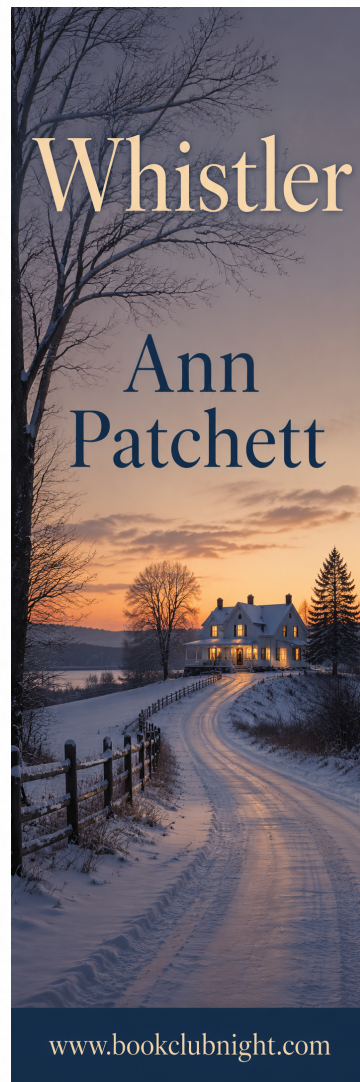
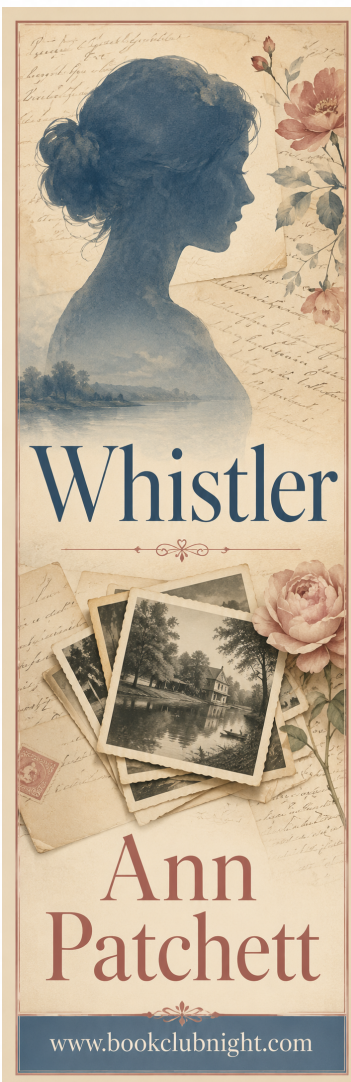


✧ Trivia

1. Who is the author of Whistler? (Ann Patchett)
2. Ann Patchett co-owns an independent bookstore in which city? (Nashville, Tennessee)
3. What is the name of Patchett's bookstore? (Parnassus Books)
4. Which Patchett novel won the Orange Prize and the PEN/Faulkner Award in 2002? (Bel Canto)
5. Patchett is known for writing in which primary genre? (Literary fiction)
6. Which 2016 Patchett novel follows a blended family across decades? (Commonwealth)
7. Patchett's 2023 novel, set partly on a Michigan cherry orchard, is called what? (Tom Lake)
8. Patchett has also published collections in which nonfiction form? (Personal essays)

📖 Bookmarks

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



☆ Rate the book

Coziness

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

Emotional Warmth

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

Characters You'd Hug

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

Sentences to Reread

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

Lingering Feeling

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

One word for how this book made me feel: _____

A moment I want to remember: _____

Who I want to call after finishing this: _____

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