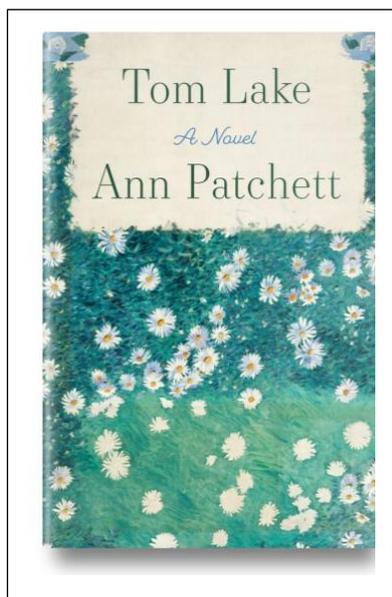


## Book Talk

### *Tom Lake*

By Ann Patchett

Number of pages: 318



Set on a cherry farm during the Covid 19 pandemic, *Tom Lake* takes place across two timeframes. In the present, Lara is telling her husband and children the story of how she knew a famous actor. In the past, we come to understand how Lara became an actress and ended up living on the cherry farm.

As Lara recalls the past, her daughters examine their own lives and relationship with their mother, and are forced to reconsider the world and everything they thought they knew. *Tom Lake* is a meditation on youthful love, married love, and the lives parents have led before their children were born.

We recommend this book if you enjoyed *Good Company* by Cynthia D'Aprix Sweeney, or *City of Girls* by Elizabeth Gilbert.

### Discussion Questions:

1. How does the pandemic bring the family closer together?
2. Does the story suggest that the characters give up on their dreams, or that they find new ones?
3. What is the significance of Lara's daughters' names?
4. What do you think happened to Pallace?
5. Why did the orchard mean so much to Duke?

*Thank you to our volunteer Erin for choosing this title and creating the resource.*