



Book Club in a Bag

Discussion Questions

Station Eleven by *Emily St. John Mandel*

1. Does the novel have a main character? Who would you consider it to be?
2. What is the metaphor of the *Station Eleven* comic books? How does the Undersea connect to the events of the novel?
3. In a letter to his childhood friend, Arthur writes that he's been thinking about the following quote from Yeats: "Love is like the lion's tooth" (page 158). What does this mean, and why is he thinking about it?
4. Arthur's death happens to coincide with the arrival of the Georgia Flu. If Jeevan had been able to save him, it wouldn't have prevented the apocalypse. But how might the trajectory of the novel been different?
5. What do you think happened during the year Kirsten can't remember?
6. Throughout the novel, those who were alive during the time before the flu remember specific things about those days: the ease of electricity, the taste of an orange. In their place, what do you think you'd remember most?
7. What do you imagine the Traveling Symphony will find when they reach the brightly lit town to the south?
8. The novel ends with Clark, remembering the dinner party and imagining that somewhere in the world, ships are sailing. Why did Mandel choose to end the novel with him?
9. Now that you've read the entire novel, go back and reread the passage by Czeslaw Milosz that serves as an epigraph. What does it mean? Why did Mandel choose it to introduce *Station Eleven*?

The above questions were adapted from <http://knopfdoubleday.com/guide/9780385353304/station-eleven/> to enhance your discussion of the book.

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