



### Discussion Questions: *Station Eleven*

“Words, Words, Words” Book Club—August 2020

1. What are your first impressions of the novel?
2. The Traveling Symphony specializes in Shakespeare because, “people want what was best about the world.” Why do you think Shakespeare was the thing to save for this new civilization? Would we make those choices now? Should he continue to be saved, passed on and retold? What might you save instead?
3. Of all the Shakespearean canon, why do you think the author chose *King Lear* and *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* as the two plays to focus on, quote, and explore in this story? What other plays might you include?
4. Given that we move forward and backward in time from the perspective of many different characters, who do you see as the main character of this novel? Whose story struck you the most?
5. If you were going to program a performance of some kind in a post-apocalyptic world, what would it be?
6. Throughout the novel, we see many instances of characters connecting to specific **objects**—the comic books, paperweight, and most notably, the artifacts in the “Museum of Civilization.” Why do you think the characters are attached to this ephemera as a link to the past—rather than fine art or historical documents? What do you think that offers to future generations? Where do we see examples of that in our world? (hint: the Folger collection!)
7. If you were building your own “Museum of Civilization” about this current moment, what would you include?
8. Does anyone have a particular line or passage they’d like to share?