

Creative Writing, Level 9 (W233439)

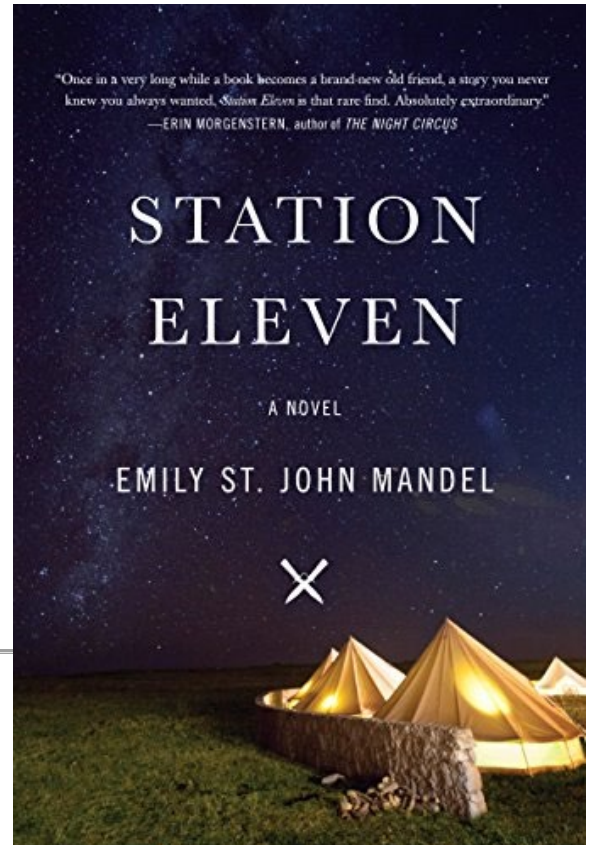
Station Eleven by Emily St. John Mandel

ISBN-13: 978-0804172448

Welcome to Creative Writing!

Creative Writing will begin with a discussion of *Station Eleven* by award-winning author Emily St. John Mandel. This post-apocalyptic novel features an America ravaged by a pandemic (oddly enough, written and published before COVID-19). The novel jumps between a pre-pandemic and post-pandemic world, with a central focus on a Shakespearean acting troupe that brings art and drama to a nearly destroyed world. As the novel jumps between time settings and various locations, surprising connections emerge among the characters' lives.

As you read, **annotate the text** for key themes related to writing, creativity, and the value of art. While your annotations will not be collected for a grade, we recommend that you read actively based on the strategies you've learned in your years as an English student.



Summer Reading Response*

Before the first class, respond to TWO of the following prompts in 2-3 paragraphs (total). You will submit your responses to Canvas on the first full day of class. You should also be prepared to share what you've written.

1. Choose one character and investigate their development in the novel. Why was this character introduced at a particular time? How does the author deepen our knowledge of this character? Most importantly, how does this character impact the central plot?
2. Analyze the structure of this novel. How do you imagine the author planned out this story? What work would be involved? If you were to write this novel, would you choose a different structure & why?
3. Optional: Watch the HBO film adaptation of this novel! Write a paragraph or two comparing the book and film. Which medium did you like best? Which parts of the story were lost in the film? Which elements are better in visual form?

*For all prompts, use 1-2 direct quotations from the text to support your response.