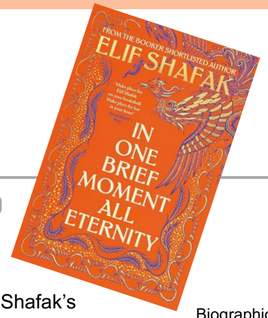
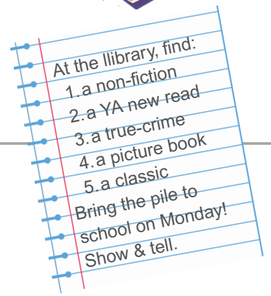
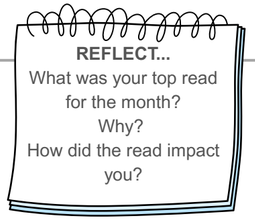
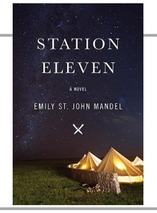
November *is reading as hope.* 2026

Writer Elif Shafak suggests that reading is a *radical* act, one of hope and of empathy. Reading is 'un-selfing'.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
						1  **Make a list:** What will you read this month?
2 Be inspired by Viktor Frankel's ***Man's Search for Meaning*** A will to meaning is a will to survive. First published in 1946.	3  Elif Shafak's new release. Biographical, historical fiction.	4 **Dublin Book Festival begins.** Read an Irish author: Kevin Barry Claire Keegan Louise Kennedy.	5 *New Read* 	6 Kennedy's novel, ***Stations*** (2026). Disaffected youth in an economically depressed, 1980s Ireland. The plight of the 'lost' Irish boys.	7 	8 Find ***A Star Called Henry*** (Roddy Doyle, 1999) The evolution of modern Ireland. First book of a trilogy.
9 Read: ***Love in the Time of Cholera*** Gabriel Garcia Marquez The enduring power of true love. Published in 1985.	10	11 The plight of a French woman: ***Madame Bovary*** Gustave Flaubert's gripping tragedy. 1857	12 Feel loss with a family in grief: *London Falling: a mysterious death in a gilded city* Patrick Radden Keefe, 2026	13 A masterclass in perspective: ***A Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*** Mark Haddon, 2003	14	15 There is hope. Find a copy of Maya Angelou's poem, **"Still I Rise"**
16 ***"Hope" is the thing with feathers -*** *That perches in the soul - And sings the tune without the words - And never stops - at all -* **Emily Dickinson**	17 	18 In search of peace? find Amy Tan's ***Backyard Bird Chronicles***, 2025	19 **INTERNATIONAL MEN'S DAY** Meet Claire Keegan's good man, Bill Furlong, in ***Small Things Like These,*** 2021	20 Visit trauma through the eyes of a child. Nurture empathy. ***Room*** Emma Donoghue, 2010	21 Beauty can endure, even in the face of devastation: Read Emily St John Mandel's ***Station 11*** (2014).	22  **REFLECT...** What was your top read for the month? Why? How did the read impact you?
23 	24 Read a story of friendship and redemption: ***The Kite Runner*** Khaled Hosseini, 2003	25	26 Family, community and belonging: ***The Night Circus*** Erin Morgenstern, 2011	27 **Australian Short Story Festival** begins. Perth, WA.	28 	29
30 **Get ready for your literary Advent calendar next month!** 		"But in reading great literature I become a thousand men and yet remain myself. Like the night sky in the Greek poem, I see with a myriad eyes, but it is still I who see. – C.S.Lewis *An Experiment in Criticism, 1961.*			ETAQ	The English Teachers Association of Queensland Inc. Providing professional support and advocacy for English teachers