

BOOK CLUB KIT

# WAKE UP AND



# OPEN YOUR EYES

FROM THE AUTHOR OF *GHOST EATERS* AND *WHAT KIND OF MOTHER*  
**CLAY McLEOD CHAPMAN**

## DEAR READER . . .

We sure are living in some scary times, aren't we? I don't know about you, but there are days when I have to fight against my own despair. What I see on the news, what I see on my social media feed, what's out my own window . . . Some days, all I want to do is scream.

I wrote this book as an existential wail. It's a scream that started on page one and just continued to howl for hundreds and hundreds of pages. I needed to shout. Get it all out. Who knows? Maybe you need to scream, too . . . Maybe you have a family member who doesn't feel like family anymore. Maybe you feel alone, somehow separate from the world you physically live in, siloed by social media. Maybe you simply feel scared . . . I know I do.

Look, the world can be a frightening place. For me, it feels really frightening right now. Books have always been a place of solace, regardless of the genre—an escape into a different world. This is not that book. There is no escape.

What I have discovered in writing *Wake Up and Open Your Eyes* is that when I let go of that scream, releasing it on the page, there are other readers screaming right alongside me. We're howling from the same fears. That makes the world feel just a little less frightening . . . I'm connecting to a community yoked together by sharing our common fears and anxieties.

Maybe we're not so alone after all . . . So go ahead. Scream if you need to. Right into the book, even. I'll be right there, howling alongside you.

**CLAY McCLEOD CHAPMAN**

# FAMILY NIGHT MENU

The Fairchilds are serving dinner and hope you'll visit for an eclectic home-cooked meal

Thanksgiving leftovers

Lo mein

Assorted smoothies

Peanut butter sandwiches (preferably crustless)

Classic pepperoni pizza

Gluten-free avocado brownies

# PLAYLIST

Listen to the *Wake Up and Open Your Eyes* playlist, curated by Clay McLeod Chapman, at <https://open.spotify.com/user/quirkbooks> or use these tracks as a starting point for your own playlist!

“Baby Ghost” by The Kiboomers

“Idioteque” by Radiohead

“The Apocalypse Song” by St. Vincent

“Road to Nowhere” by Talking Heads

“The Man Comes Around” by Johnny Cash

“We Will Become Silhouettes” by The Postal Service

“Land of Confusion” by Genesis

“End Times” by Eels

“Earth Died Screaming” by Tom Waits

“Everybody Knows” by Leonard Cohen

“Possession” by Sarah McLachlan

“Drown” by The Smashing Pumpkins

# #WAKEUPCHALLENGE

Take this quiz to find out which member of the Fairchild Four you are and your weapon of choice once the Great Reawakening begins.

**1. In your free time, you enjoy:**

- A. Watching TV
- B. Practicing yoga and concocting healthy recipes for your loved ones
- C. Staying inside
- D. Playing your favorite song on repeat

**2. Your guilty pleasure is:**

- A. Lounging in your La-Z-Boy
- B. Scrolling through Instagram
- C. Tweeting
- D. Scrolling on the iPad

**3. You get most of your news from:**

- A. Paul Tammany at the Fax News desk
- B. My friend from yoga class
- C. Whatever's trending
- D. My parents

**4. If you could save one thing from a house fire, you'd save:**

- A. Your fishing gear
- B. Your favorite kitchen appliance
- C. Your laptop or phone
- D. Your pet

**5. Which motto resonates most with you?**

- A. See it to believe.
- B. Weed your garden so that it luxuriates in nothing but inner beauty.
- C. I want to be someone who matters.
- D. Be brave. Be strong.

**Answer Key**

**Mostly A's:** You are Asher. Your weapon of choice is a pair of scissors.

**Mostly B's:** You are Devon. You've mastered your new blender just in time to use it as a weapon.

**Mostly C's:** You are Caleb. Your understanding of the internet and determination to go viral will take you far.

**Mostly D's:** You are Marcus. Your cuteness and ability to sing "Baby Ghost" from memory is your best weapon.