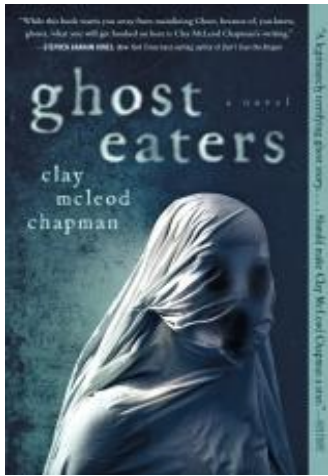


# Ghost Eaters

by Clay McLeod Chapman

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## About the Book

**One of *Vulture's* Best Horror Novels of 2022, this terrifying supernatural page-turner will make you think twice about opening doors to the unknown.**

**One of the Best Horror Novels of 2022 at *Vulture*, *Paste*, *Book Riot* and *CrimeReads***

**September 2022 LibraryReads Pick**

**October 2022 Indie Next Pick**

Erin hasn't been able to set a single boundary with her charismatic but reckless college ex-boyfriend, Silas. When he asks her to bail him out of rehab --- again --- she knows she needs to cut him off. But days after he gets out, Silas turns up dead of an overdose in their hometown of Richmond, Virginia, and Erin's world falls apart.

Then a friend tells her about Ghost, a new drug that allows users to see the dead. *Wanna get haunted?* he asks. Grieving and desperate for closure with Silas, Erin agrees to a pill-popping ?séance.? But the drug has unfathomable side effects --- and once you take it, you can never go back.

## Discussion Guide

1. At the beginning of the book, readers are introduced to college friends Silas, Erin, Amara and Tobias in a cemetery. What were your first impressions of the group? And how does it foreshadow future events?
2. After losing Silas to an overdose, Erin is dealing with both guilt and grief. Which emotion do you think drives her to take a drug like Ghost?

3. The pill-popping séance that Erin, Amara and Tobias have occurs in an unfinished and abandoned housing development. Why do you think the author chose this setting?
4. Erin experiences unfathomable side effects under the influence of ghost. Which side effect stuck with you the most? And why do you think she kept going back for more?
5. Would you take a pill like Ghost for the opportunity to be reunited with a loved one?
6. The aftermath of addiction is horrifying. Did you find how addiction is depicted in this book relatable?
7. How do you think the use of the supernatural captured the real-life horrors of addiction and America's sordid history?
8. What do you imagine happens to Erin after the book ends?

## Author Bio

Clay McLeod Chapman is the author of *BODIES OF WORK*, *WAKE UP AND OPEN YOUR EYES*, *KILL YOUR DARLING*, *STAY ON THE LINE*, *WHAT KIND OF MOTHER*, *GHOST EATERS*, *WHISPER DOWN THE LANE*, *THE REMAKING* and *MISS CORPUS*, the story collections *ACQUIRED TASTE*, *NOTHING UNTOWARD*, *COMMENCEMENT* and *REST AREA*, as well as *The Tribe* middle-grade series: *HOMEROOM HEADHUNTERS*, *CAMP CANNIBAL* and *ACADEMIC ASSASSINS*.

He was been nominated for the Bram Stoker and Shirley Jackson Award.

"Quiet Part Loud," a 12-part horror podcast from Jordan Peele/Monkeypaw Productions, written by Chapman and Mac Rogers, is available on Spotify.

In comics, Chapman is the writer of the Marvel series *Scream: Curse of Carnage*. He is the creator of the graphic novels *Seance in the Asylum*, *Self Storage* and *Lazaretto*.

Chapman is the creator of the rigorous storytelling session "The Pumpkin Pie Show." In the 20 years of its existence, it has performed internationally at the Romanian Theatre Festival of Sibiu, Edinburgh Fringe Festival, New York International Fringe Festival, Winnipeg Fringe Festival, Edmonton Fringe Festival, Minnesota Fringe Festival, Dublin-based thisisnotashop art space, IGNITE Festival, Women Center Stage Festival, and Impact Theatre Festival.

## Critical Praise

?Shades of *Flatliners* and addiction drama pepper this tale about a woman who learns her college sweetheart died of an overdose --- from a drug that allows folks to see the dead.?

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# **Ghost Eaters**

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