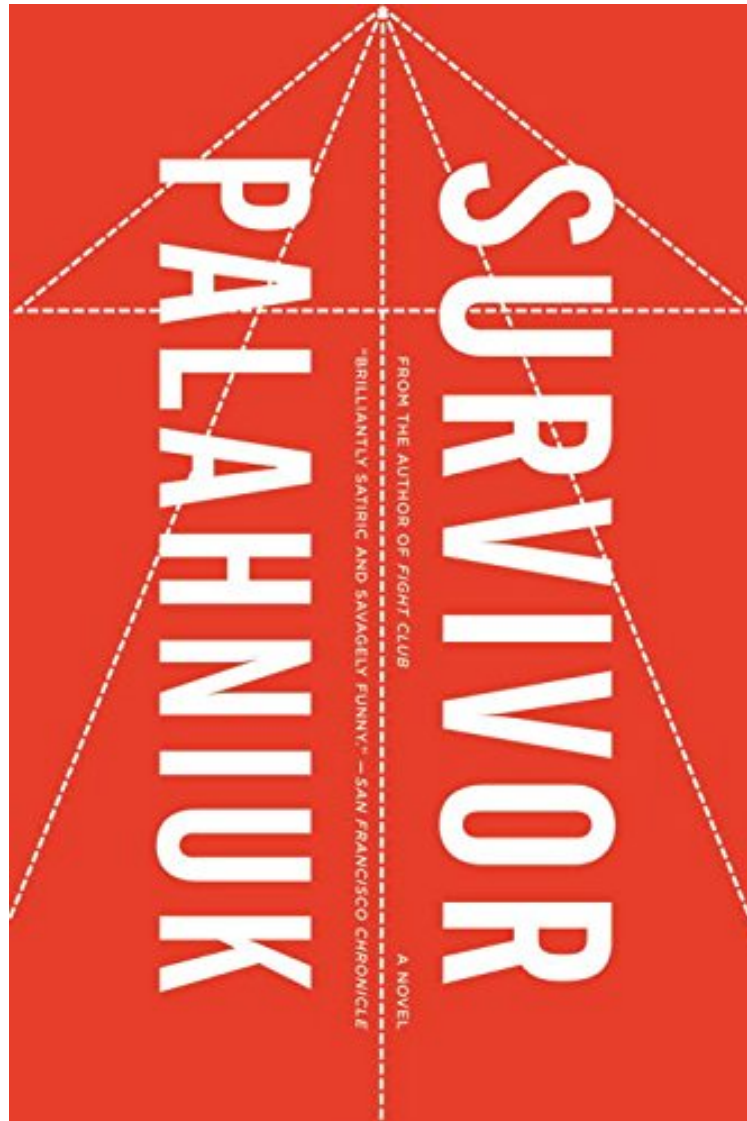


(Ebook free) Survivor: A Novel

Survivor: A Novel

Chuck Palahniuk

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#21005 in Books Chuck Palahniuk 2010-04-05Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.30 x .80 x 5.50l, .52
#File Name: 039333807X304 pagesSurvivor | File size: 65.Mb

Chuck Palahniuk : Survivor: A Novel before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Survivor: A Novel:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Love this author-great book!By Jgeorge7This is a really great book, and interestingly weird in a "I can't put this down even though I have work in 3 hours" way. I love this author, he has super random and interesting ideas, and his stories are filled with great, issue-riddled characters. This particular book, Survivor, stars the last remaining member of a Creedish cult. His name is Tender, and he begins the book by informing the reader that he has just hijacked a plane and will be reciting his life story into the black box, to ensure that it

survives an impending crash into the Australian Outback. It then takes you back in time to the beginning. Through a newspaper typo, he has acquired a suicide hotline, through which he indirectly meets a prophetic dreamer. They start a strange adventure together after someone begins offing the last remaining cult survivors. Tender suspects it to be his estranged twin brother. Definitely a fun read his books are always worth reading, especially if you appreciate dark humor. Chuck Palahniuk is hilarious and creative; definitely give him a try. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The Final Testament of an "Surviving" Cult Member Told in a Humorous Way. By Lionel S. Taylor This is the 4th or 5th Chuck Palahniuk story that I have read and I have to say that this is one of the better ones. This book has the usual group of weird cast of characters. In this case a surviving member of a religious death cult and a lady with the curious power to predict the future (after a fashion). The story is told from the 1st person perspective of the cult member, Tender Branson, and is told from the end of the story so that is an interesting twist. Like so many of Palahniuk's story this one is hard to describe without giving too much away but like so many of his stories it speeds to a fast paced unexpected ending that both reveals key facts while at the same time leave the reader scratching their head. If you are a fan of this author you will not be disappointed with this book. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Singular observations on the human condition By Alain C. Dewitt Ok, so Palahniuk has upped his record to 3-1 with me. I read 'Pygmy' a few months back and really thought it was a dud. 'Survivor' was much better. It didn't finish quite as strong as the first third of the book seemed to promise. It did contain the usual mix of equal parts hysterical and depressing observation about the human condition. People call Palahniuk a nihilist. Having read first 'Fight Club' and now 'Survivor' I wouldn't say that is inaccurate but it's also not entirely fair either. I would say that Palahniuk believes that life should be lived without regard to convention and without fear of the opinion and disapprobation of others. He believes in freedom and a life without fear because this is all there is and we should make the most of it. I did notice something curious about 'Survivor' that it had in common with 'Fight Club'. Palahniuk loads the book up with what I can only describe as Hints from Heloise. The protagonist is a domestic servant in the home of a rich couple in Portland and he is an expert at the cleaning and stain removal. I found this similar to the practical advice Tyler Durden gives to the narrator of 'Fight Club' about how to make soap and explosives. I wonder how accurate these tips are.

"A wild amphetamine ride through the vagaries of fame and the nature of belief."? San Francisco Chronicle Tender Branson? last surviving member of the Creedish Death Cult? is dictating his life story into Flight 2039's recorder. He is all alone in the airplane, which will crash shortly into the vast Australian outback. But before it does, he will unfold the tale of his journey from an obedient Creedish child to an ultra-buffed, steroid- and collagen-packed media messiah. Unpredictable and unforgettable, Survivor is Chuck Palahniuk at his deadpan peak: a mesmerizing, unnerving, and hilarious satire on the wages of fame and the bedrock lunacy of the modern world.

.com Some say that the apocalypse swiftly approacheth, but that simply ain't so according to Chuck Palahniuk. Oh no. It's already here, living in the head of the guy who just crossed the street in front of you, or maybe even closer than that. We saw these possibilities get played out in the author's bloodsporting-anarchist-yuppie shocker of a first novel, Fight Club. Now, in Survivor, his second and newest, the concern is more for the origin of the malaise. Starting at chapter 47 and screaming toward ground zero, Palahniuk hurls the reader back to the beginning in a breathless search for where it all went wrong. This time out, the author's protagonist is self-made, self-ruined mogul-messiah Tender Branson, the sole passenger of a jet moments away from slamming first into the Australian outback and then into oblivion. All that will be left, Branson assures us with a tone bordering on relief, is his life story, from its Amish-on-acid cult beginnings to its televangelist-huckster end. All of this courtesy of the plane's flight recorder. Speaking of little black boxes, Skinnerians would have a field day with the presenting behavior of the folks who make up Palahniuk's world. They pretend they're suicide hotline operators for fun. They eat lobster before it's quite... done. They dance in morgues. The Cleavers they are not. Scary as they might be, these characters are ultimately more scared of themselves than you are, and that's what makes them so fascinating. In the wee hours and on lonely highways, they exist in a perpetual twilight, caught between the horror of the present and the dread of the unknown. With only two novels under his belt, Chuck Palahniuk is well on his way to becoming an expert at shining a light on these shadowy creatures. --Bob Michaels From Publishers Weekly The rise and fall of a media-made messiah is the subject of Palahniuk's impressive second novel (after the well-received Fight Club), a wryly mannered commentary on the excesses of pop culture that tracks the 15 minutes of fame of the lone living member of a suicide cult. Tender Branson, aged 33, has commandeered a Boeing 747, emptied of passengers, in order to tell his story to the "black box" while flying randomly until the plane runs out of gas and crashes. Branson relates in his long flashback the vicissitudes of his life: a member of the repressive Creedish Death Cult, supposedly founded by a splinter group of Millerites in 1860, he is hired out as a domestic servant who must dedicate his earnings to the cult. Despite his humble beginnings, Branson finds himself on the edge of fame and fortune when the cult members begin their suicide binge, and he keeps himself on the media radar by using the psychic dreams of his potential romantic interest, Fertility Hollis, in which the girl accurately predicts a series of strange disasters. After a brief period at the top of the freak-show heap, Branson

succumbs to the excesses of his trade when his agent mysteriously dies at the Super Bowl as Branson predicts the outcome of the game at half-time, simultaneously triggering a riot and turning him into a murder suspect. Branson's spookily matter of fact account of his bizarre experiences does not excite tension until the narrative is well under way, but the novel picks up momentum during the homestretch when Branson goes on the lam with Fertility and his murderous brother Adam, and the story steamrolls toward its nightmarish climax. Palahniuk's DeLilloesque cultural witticisms and his satirical take on the culture of instant celebrity invest the narrative with a dark humor that does not quite overcome its lack of a coherent plot. Agent, Edward Hibbert. (Feb.) FYI: Fight Club is being filmed by David Fincher. Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Kirkus sA morbidly fascinating black fantasy about a young cult members rise to fame and his fall from grace, written by West Coast novelist Palahniuk (Fight Club, 1996). When an airliner goes down, the first thing the authorities look for amid the wreckage is the black box that contains a recording of the pilots last words, which are usually grim but fairly restrained almost always because the pilot doesnt expect (almost always) to die. Tender Bransons situation is unusual: the last survivor of an obscure American religion known as the Creedish Death Cult, he is dictating his confession into the black box of a 747 that he knows will soon crash somewhere over the Australian outback. What youve found, he declares, is the story of what went wrong. Thats putting it softly. Like all Creedalists, Branson, raised for a life of obscure service to strangers, chose to hire himself out as an unpaid domestic while still in his teens. Probably he would have spent his life keeping house for the yuppie vulgarians who took him in, but an FBI raid on the Creedish Church compound in Nebraska resulted in a mass suicide within the cult. Since then, surviving Creedalists living in the field have been killing themselves on a regular basis, so that Branson is soon the only Creedalist left. As such, he becomes a genuine celebrity, complete with an agent who gets him book contracts, movie deals and with a good lawyer intent on winning him uncontested title to all Creedish Church properties. A marriage is arranged for him . . . and televised live from the Super Bowl during halftime. But things turn sour when evidence mounts that many of the suicides were, in fact, murders and that Bransons brother Adam may still be alive. Is Branson a serial killer? Or Adam? Can they ever lead a normal life again? Brilliant, engrossing, substantial, and fun: Palahniuk carves out credible, moving dramas from situations that seemed simply outlandish and sad on the evening news. (Author tour) -- Copyright ©1998, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.