

ORIGINAL DOCUMENT: **My Wake Up Call**

I was laying in bed next to my wife of 7 years in our brand new custom built home. It was pitch black outside and I was wide awake. I just wanted to go to sleep and get up and go to work like I always did. But something was different....I could feel it.

We had moved into our dream home just two months earlier. The year was 1999 and the stock market was rocketing upward as was my income. By all outward appearances, everything should have been great.

It was 1am in the morning and both of us were awake, unable to sleep. Our three children were asleep in the new wing we built. By now my eyes had adjusted to the dark. What I was having difficulty with was the silence. So I asked the question, “ Is something bothering you honey?”.

My dad always told never ask a question unless you are ready for the answer. Plenty of things were bothering her, namely me and like that our marriage, my life as I knew it, was about to change. I was totally clue less to any signs. The underlying answer I received to my question was not what I was looking for. And it forever changed my life as well as those of my three children and former wife.

In later discussions my former wife shared with me that numerous times she attempted to get my attention and let me know things between us weren't good. Finally, when she couldn't handle it (or me anymore) she said “I needed to drop a Volkswagen on your head to get your attention!” Boy did she get my attention but it was too late. This was my wake up call as a man whether I liked it or not.

I was not ready to wake up. Not only did she did share her discontent about our marriage but she also didn't love me anymore and didn't have a clue as to what to do. Ten months later, I moved out. Two months after that we were in the process of going through a divorce. How I answered my wake up call and the personal journey I have been on ever since is the inspiration behind this book.

This book is about how you can answer your wake up call and what you can make of your life as a good man in your roles as husband, father, leader, businessman, and friend.

You could hit the snooze button and go back to sleep. Maybe the Volkswagen hasn't been dropped on your head. Maybe it already has and that's why you are here. Regardless, I invite you on your own men's journey to be the man you want to see.