THIRTY DAYS OF WONDER



A Challenge to Experience God More

I'VE SHARED MY JOURNEYS WITH YOU hoping to inspire you to experience God more for yourself. As followers of Jesus, we have the opportunity to live each day in wild amazement of God. If we pay attention, we can begin discovering the wonders all around us—those moments of spiritual awakening that spark our curiosity to know God more.

If the desire to encounter God's wonder has been stirred inside of you, consider picking up a copy of the *Wonderstruck Bible Study* (Lifeway) as a companion to this challenge so you can more fully experience the wonder alongside others.

Here's your challenge: Over the next month, find a friend who will commit to praying for wonder each day and then together live alert to the ways God answers. That means that over the next thirty days, you may sense the Holy Spirit leading you to do and say things you may have passed by before. You may find God nudging you to reach out to someone you've

never noticed. You may feel an urge that the person who is supposed to volunteer or get involved is *you*. Or you may sense the tug of the Holy Spirit to take more time diving into the Scriptures or taking time to pray. You may begin sensing God's presence in places and experiences that you never expected.

The great news is that you can share what you're discovering online. Beginning on the first day of each month, a new group of men and women from around the world are going to be praying for wonder. They're going to ask God to open their spiritual eyes to his goodness and presence in fresh ways, and you can join them! The conversation will take place on my Facebook page (facebook.com/margaretfeinberg) as well as on Twitter (@mafeinberg) and Pinterest (pinterest.com/mafeinberg). We're inviting you to post your experiences, your aha moments, and your photos that display what you're discovering along the way. With each post, simply use hashtag #livewonderstruck and look for others who are on the same journey with you.

To help guide you through this month, a different activity is provided for each day. Be sensitive to the Holy Spirit with each activity—you may find a few that you sense God nudging you to spend several days practicing and experiencing. Each night, you may find it helpful to preview the next day's activity so you wake up ready and expectant to discover the wonder.

Day 1: Reflection

The wonders of God surround you. Prayerfully spend some time reflecting on those things that prevent you from awakening to the wonder of God. Write them down, and then ask God to remove those obstacles that prevent you from experiencing him more. Ask God to make you supernaturally aware of the Spirit's presence and leading over the next thirty days. Consider sharing online some of the obstacles you wrestle with. (#livewonderstruck)

Day 2: Time

Reflect on the wondrous gift of time. Pull out a calendar or day planner and spend fifteen minutes considering all that's on your schedule for the upcoming two weeks. Consider marking which activities fill up your time versus those that fill you with life and provide opportunities to awaken to the wonder of God all around. Prayerfully consider what changes—including cuts and additions you need to make to your schedule—to awaken yourself to the wonder of rest and a healthy rhythm in your daily life. Make sure you have time built into each day for the remaining days of the challenge.

Day 3: Beauty

Look for wonder through a camera lens throughout the day. Carry a camera or your camera-equipped cell phone to snap photos of God's beauty, grace, love, peace, and joy all around you. Share these beautiful moments of wonder with others—online or in person. Upload and use the hashtag #livewonderstruck.

Day 4: Hope

Nothing awakens wonder inside us like breathing hope into the hopeless. This morning ask God to awaken you to someone who others have given up on. Prayerfully consider how God may want to use you to impart hope and encouragement in this person's life. As you drive down the block, consider each neighbor. As you pass through a downtown area, consider every person hustling to and from work. As you walk through a park, consider the single parents playing with their children. Ask God to rouse you to the needs of those around you and use you to bring the wonder of restoration to others.

Day 5: Creation

Creation beckons us to open our eyes to the wonders of God. Look for a place outside where all you can see is God's creation. If you're in an urban area, consider visiting a park and lying down under a tree where all you can see is its branches and slivers of sky above. Spend fifteen minutes simply sitting or resting in that place. Pay attention to the details—the textures, the colors, the intricate care with which God formed creation. Allow yourself to spontaneously respond to God in thanks and worship, celebrating the wonders of creation all around.

Day 6: Forgiveness

Unforgiveness holds us back from fully experiencing God's wonder. Sometimes the hardest person to forgive is yourself. Take fifteen minutes to prayerfully consider any things for which you've had a hard time forgiving yourself. Record them on a blank sheet of paper. Then take a few moments to forgive yourself for each one. After you forgive yourself, rip up the sheet of paper as a sign of keeping no record of wrongs. Allow yourself to celebrate the forgiveness God offers you through Jesus. You are a wondrous child of God! Spend some time thanking God for the way he created you and the redemptive work he's doing in your life, and walk in the wonder of forgiveness.

Day 7: Silence

God often chooses to reveal the wonder of himself in quiet moments. Sit in silence for twenty unbroken minutes. Set an alarm, if need be, so you know how much time has passed. Keep

paper and pen nearby to write down any fluttering thoughts. Embrace the silence then invite God to speak. Reflect on what you hear in this posture of listening. Pray that God reminds you of people for whom you can pray. Ask God to bring scriptures to mind that he wants you to consider. Enjoy the wondrous silence of just being in God's presence.

Day 8: Relationship

In choosing to be fully present with someone, we can experience many wonders. Spend a few moments reflecting on your schedule for the day. Who could you spend a half-hour or hour with and be fully present, fully yourself? Maybe you have a coworker you could invite to lunch. Or one of your children whom you haven't been able to give full attention to lately. Find a place and a time—whether it's in your dining room or living room or a park or coffee shop—where you can be fully yourself and warm your soul in the glow of both knowing and being known.

Day 9: Sky

God's sanctuary in the sky awaits us all. Take fifteen minutes to look, *really look*, at all the lights in the sky—the disc that is the moon, the Milky Way, the stars, even the planes that shoot across night's canopy. Even if there's light pollution, take note of the shadows and the textures above. As you observe the lights—

those created by God and others crafted by humankind—reflect on the promise God made to Abraham thousands of years ago that his descendants would be more numerous than all the stars in the sky (Genesis 15:5). Consider God's faithfulness in your own life and journey.

Day 10: Stillness

Wonders await in the stillness. Depending on the time of year, prepare a cup of hot peppermint tea or pour a glass of sweet tea. Fill a mug with dark hot chocolate and marshmallows or open a can of Cheerwine—whatever your favorite beverage may be. Then find a quiet room, a comfortable chair, and sit still for twenty minutes. Your only movement should be nestling into the chair and occasionally sipping your beverage. Allow yourself to be fully present in the moment—aware of your hands, your feet, your spine, every aspect of your body's position. In this place of pausing, talk to God. Tell him what's really on your heart and mind. Share with him things you've been afraid to say aloud. Give yourself wholly and fully to God in prayer and experience the wonder.

Day 11: Dream

Some of God's greatest wonders await us when we allow ourselves to dream. Spend twenty minutes today creating a list of

things you'd like to see God do in your life and the lives of those around you. Write down things you'd do, places you'd visit, and situations you'd encounter if anything were possible. Ask God to lift the lid off your prayer life and begin believing him for things you previously thought impossible. Walk boldly in the wonder of divine expectation.

Day 12: Prayer

Wonder awaits us in our prayer lives. Set aside twenty minutes today to talk to God, but instead of conversing with God as you normally do, consider limiting prayers to three words each. Take note of the challenges and joys you experience. Reflect on what it means to be intentional with each word as you lift your praises and petitions to God and rediscover the wonder of prayer.

Day 13: Letter

Gratitude provides the opportunity to celebrate the breadth and depth of God's wonder. Take twenty minutes today to write a letter to God—maybe even a love letter. Express your affections to God. Thank him for all that he's done for you and all that he has yet to do. Thank him for those big and little and long forgotten things and allow your soul to dance in the wonders of gratitude.

Day 14: You

Life is one of God's greatest wonders. Much of your life is spent giving, serving, and working. But today the challenge is to do something that makes you—just you—feel rejuvenated, refreshed, and brings you joy. A high-energy sports activity. A meal at your favorite bistro. An hour of knitting or enjoying your favorite craft. A coffee date with a friend. A great novel. Spend at least thirty minutes—but preferably one hour—doing something today that makes you grateful to be alive and rediscover the abundant life that awaits you each and every day.

Day 15: Sunrise

God's wonder meets all of humanity at dawn, but we often sleep through it unaware. This morning set your alarm to awake before sunrise. You can check online to find out what time the sun will poke its head above the horizon where you live. Before you nod off to sleep, ask God to reveal himself to you in a meaningful way in the morning. As you awake and watch, pay attention to the first shafts of light. Observe the softness of dawn, the hues of the sun's first rays, the illumination and beauty all around you. Lamentations 3:22–23 says the Sunrise Maker's loving-kindness "is new every morning." Spend some time reflecting on how God has displayed this truth not just in the sunrise but throughout your life. Let the wonder of God's creation break through

your soul like the morning's first rays. And don't forget to thank God for meeting you this morning.

Day 16: Rest

Apart from rest, we can sleep through the wonders of God. Though your schedule may be full, consider what you can do today to imbibe rest as one of God's greatest gifts. Perhaps you can sneak in a catnap. Or allow your eyes to rest midafternoon. Or climb into bed an hour early. Look for twenty minutes or more when you can just rest—allowing your mind and body and emotions to recalibrate. Drink in rest to awaken more fully to the wonders of God all around.

Day 17: God

Wondrous delight is found in the presence of God. With a blank sheet of paper and pen in hand, along with a Bible nearby, begin making a list of the characteristics of God. Write down various names for God. Record attributes of God. List promises of God. Then spend some time thanking God simply for who he is and offering words of adoration to him. The wonder of God's presence awaits you.

Day 18: Restore

Portraits of restoration surround us, but sometimes we walk by such beautiful work unaware. Look around your home for something that needs restoring. A wall that needs touch-up paint. A piece of jewelry that's lost its shine. An appliance that needs to be fixed. A piece of furniture that needs to be refinished. Instead of waiting another day, begin the process of repair today. As you work, consider the wondrous work of restoration that God has done and is doing in your life.

Day 19: Appreciation

People are often the couriers of God's wonder in our lives. Take some time to look around. Make a list of the people who have made a difference in your life. Express your gratitude to three of them. Pick up the phone. Send an email. Write a handwritten note. Whatever form of expression you choose, know that as you express your appreciation, you'll be encouraging them to continue serving and helping others. Sit back and watch the wonder of gratitude unfold as you love those who mean the most to you.

Day 20: Vacation

When we choose to get away by ourselves or with others—even for a half-day or overnight stay—we rediscover God's wonders as we recalibrate our lives through a shift in perspective. Today is the day to plan that getaway you've really been meaning to take. Talk to your roommate or spouse. Find a babysitter or pet sitter. Call your family. Text your friends. And set the date for a minivacation. You don't have to spend much money. You don't have to go far. You can enjoy a "staycation" by reserving a night at a local hotel or even pitching a tent in your own back yard. Don't wait another day to schedule a break and enjoy the abundance of the life God's given us.

Day 21: Pixie Dust

Pray for pixie dust today. Ask God to shower you with his grace, favor, and delight. Then live wide-eyed for the unexpected ways God may answer. Live with an awareness of divine expectation today.

Day 22: Sunset

God's creation invites us to open our eyes to ten thousand wonders. Take twenty minutes to carve out time to watch the sunset and admire God's handiwork. Consider setting an alarm so you don't miss it, and invite a friend. You can check online to find out what time the sun will dip below the horizon where you live. Depending on your location, you may want to travel to a hill or tall building nearby to catch a better view. Observe the sky and the shape of the clouds. Watch how the light shifts and changes ever so slowly. Look for colors and hues, even if it's a cloudy day. Spend a few moments thanking God for his wondrous goodness and gifts—which he shares with all of humanity day in and day out. Upload a photo of the sunset and use the hashtag #livewonderstruck.

Day 23: Generosity

Wonder thrives in the element of surprise. Give a joyful gift to someone who least expects it! Stop by a coffee shop or local restaurant and purchase a few gift cards. They don't have to be large amounts. Then spend some time asking God who you should give them to. Keep an eye out for unsuspecting people all around you and look for the opportunity to be a conduit of God's blessing and goodness.

Day 24: Forgiving Others

Forgiveness unlocks the wonder of God in our lives. Spend twenty minutes asking the Holy Spirit to reveal any people, situations, or organizations in your life where you harbor

unforgiveness. On a blank piece of paper, write them down as they come to mind. Write until you can't think of any more, and then forgive each one. Ask God to forgive you for holding unforgiveness in your heart. Then spend some time blessing each one. Don't wait another day to experience the wonder of forgiveness.

Day 25: Meaning

Though we are given names before or shortly after we emerge from the womb, our names are often reflections of who God has created us to be or the work God wants to do in our lives. Do you know the meaning of your name? If not, take a moment to search for the meaning of your name online. Then spend ten minutes prayerfully reflecting on how God has demonstrated his love and goodness in the meaning of your name as well as who he has called and created you to be. Take time to reflect on the wonder of God's plan and provision for you.

Day 26: Kindness

Love is laced with wondrous discoveries of God's handiwork. Consider the people in your life—especially those you don't naturally connect with or who intimidate you. Go out of your way to express kindness to that person today. Demonstrate God's goodness and love in a practical, tangible way. Reflect on how

your actions affect your attitude with this person and celebrate the wonder of relationship.

Day 27: Sitting with God

We spend a lot of time with our spouses, coworkers, and children, but we often miss opportunities to simply *be* with God. Go to a place where God is most real to you—church, chapel, at the beach, or in the subway. Take twenty minutes today to sit beside your Maker. Allow prayers, worship, thanksgiving to emanate naturally from your soul. And, of course, don't forget to pray for wonder.

Day 28: Gratitude

Gratitude is the acknowledgment of God's wonder in our lives. It keeps us from walking past wonder unaware. Set an alarm every three hours throughout your day. Whenever the alarm goes off, write down three things you're grateful for today. Such a simple discipline invites the wonder of gratitude to blossom in our lives.

Day 29: Listen

Flip through your music collection and select a song that's particularly meaningful to your spiritual journey. Close your eyes and listen to the lyrics and the tune. Reflect on the phrases or

words that catch your attention. Consider how this song reminds you of God's presence and faithfulness in your life. Spend some time thanking God for his faithfulness in your life.

Day 30: Serve a Stranger

Thankfulness beckons us to discover the wonders of God. The wonder of gratitude isn't just found in expressing thanks to God but also to each other. Find a missionary or person in the military that you, a friend, a family member, or your church knows. Write a letter expressing gratitude and encouraging this person serving overseas. Consider asking if there's anything the person needs and sending a care package. You may even want to pray for the person regularly. Live the wonder of gratitude by expressing thanks to a stranger.



Wherever we find God, we should celebrate his presence. We should share our stories and encourage others to awake to the wonders of God all around us. My hope is that through this thirty-day challenge you, too, will pray for wonder and find yourself awestruck by God in more ways than you ever imagined.

Remember to #livewonderstruck.

BEHIND THE SCENES

Contents

1. If you're intrigued by the unusual numbering of the chapter titles, you're not alone. Several readers have asked me, "Why do you call chapter 1 '.001'?" Here's the scoop: I began numbering my chapters this way in 2007 when I wrote *The Organic God*. Other books that feature this detail include *The Sacred Echo*, *Scouting the Divine*, and *Hungry for God*. I chose this numbering system because I liked the clean layout and design, and I wanted to subtly communicate to you, the reader, *Slow down. Pay attention to the details. This isn't like other books you've read. Don't rush—you'll miss the hidden treasures within*. Since then, the books I pour my whole self into all share this style of chapter numbering. These are the books my best friends read and say, "I didn't know that about you." When you see this numbering, know that you're getting the treasures I've dug the deepest to mine in life and faith.

.000: Captured by the Night Sky

- 1. I discovered that these mysterious night illuminations begin on the surface of the sun when a cloud of gas is emitted. Whenever that cloud reaches the earth and collides with our planet's magnetic field, the energized atoms create mesmerizing colors and patterns. Alaska is famed for its northern lights, and the best time to see them is on a clear night in the winter, when the days are shortest.
 - 2. Philippians 1:6.

.001: Hidden Among the Highlands | the wonder of divine expectation

- 1. This is Mary Poppins's word *supercalifragilisticexpialidocious* backward.
- 2. Sesame Street's the Amazing Mumford is a purple magician with pronounced black eyebrows whose magic tricks all too often go awry. With his overeager assistant, Grover, at his side, the Amazing Mumford declares, "A la peanut butter sandwiches!" and a puff of smoke appears. When the scene clears, viewers can see how yet another magic trick has gone wrong. Some of

the Amazing Mumford's more celebrated tricks include making four pineapples disappear one by one so kids can learn subtraction. My favorite is when the Amazing Mumford waves his wand over a glass cookie jar, which becomes full, then empty again, much to the frustration of *Sesame Street* cohort Cookie Monster. This detail might be important for any children who are enjoying the book alongside of you.

- 3. Mark 10:1-16.
- 4. Mark 10:16.

.002: Shock and Awe | the wonder of God's presence

- 1. For me, the phrase "on the throne" reminded me that God was still in charge, God still had things under control, God still held the whole world in his hands.
 - 2. Exodus 3:2-4.
 - 3. Exodus 5:22, emphasis added.
 - 4. Job 1:20-21.
 - 5. Job 13:25 MSG.
 - 6. Job 3:11 paraphrased.
 - 7. Job 13:24 paraphrased.
 - 8. Job 7:21 paraphrased.
 - 9. Job 7:19 paraphrased.
 - 10. Job 24:1-12 MSG paraphrased.
 - 11. Job 38:4 paraphrased.
 - 12. Job 38:6 paraphrased.
 - 13. Job 38:25 paraphrased.
 - 14. Job 38:37 paraphrased.
 - 15. Job 38:41 paraphrased.
 - 16. Job 39:5 paraphrased.
 - 17. Job 38:12 paraphrased.
 - 18. Job 38:19 paraphrased.
 - 19. Job 40:4 paraphrased.
- 20. I find great comfort in a single extraordinary sentence of Frederick Buechner concerning Job: "As for the children he had lost when the house blew down, not to mention all his employees, he never got an explanation about them because he never asked for one, and the reason he never asked

for one was that he knew that even if God gave him one that made splendid sense out of all the pain and suffering that had ever been since the world began, it was no longer splendid sense that he needed because with his own eyes he had beheld, and not as a stranger, the one who in the end clothed all things, no matter how small or confused or in pain, with his own splendor." From *Peculiar Treasures: A Biblical Who's Who* (San Francisco: Harper San Francisco, 1979), 77.

- 21. Thank you for honoring my privacy in such matters. I don't wish to share more about the illness.
- .003: Alpenglow Evenings | the wonder of creation
 - 1. Psalm 1:3.
 - 2. Psalm 90:5-6.
 - 3. Psalm 51:2.
- 4. Marc Berman, John Jonides, and Stephen Kaplan, "The Cognitive Benefits of Interacting with Nature," *Psychological Science* 19, no. 12 (2008): 1207–12.
- 5. M. Bodin and T. Hartig, "Does the Outdoor Environment Matter for Psychological Restoration Gained Through Running?" *Psychology of Sport and Exercise* 4 (2003): 141–53.
- 6. Kathryn Rose and Ian Morgan, "Outdoor Activity Reduces the Prevalence of Myopia in Children," *Ophthalmology* 115, no. 8 (2008): 1279–85.
- 7. Richard Louv, *The Nature Principle: Human Restoration and the End of Nature-Deficit Disorder* (Chapel Hill: Algonquin, 2011), 11.
 - 8. Psalm 36:5.
 - 9. Psalm 33:5.
 - 10. Psalm 36:6.
 - 11. Psalm 103:12.
 - 12. Psalm 74:12–17, 29:3–9.
 - 13. Psalm 148:6-8.
 - 14. Psalm 107:23-30.
 - 15. Psalm 1:4, 32:9.
 - 16. Proverbs 25:14.
 - 17. Proverbs 17:12.
 - 18. Psalm 84:1-4.

- 19. Matthew 6:26, 10:29.
- 20. 1 John 1:5.
- .004: A Sanctuary in Time | the wonder of rest
 - 1. See, for example, Genesis 1:5, 8, 13.
- 2. Abraham Joshua Heschel, *The Sabbath* (New York: Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 1951), 14.
 - 3. Here's Leif's almost-world-famous recipe for green chili chicken.
 - 4 trimmed chicken breasts (no excess fat)
 - 1 diced medium onion
 - 1 tsp. red pepper flakes
 - 4 tbsp. taco seasoning
 - 1 bay leaf
 - 4 cups of chicken broth
 - 1 27-oz. can of whole green chiles

Place first six ingredients in slow cooker and cook on high for 4 hours or more. With slotted spoon remove chicken and onion mixture and place in a container. Discard the bay leaf and all cooking liquid. Place entire can of green chiles including liquid into a blender and puree. Pour green chile puree into slow cooker. Add chicken and onions back in. Heat for 20 minutes or until warm. Shred chicken using two forks while in the slow cooker. Serve with heated corn tortillas, lettuce, tomato, avocado, cilantro, and lime (optional).

4. Some may not be able to take a full day off, but perhaps two half-days are possible. Everyone's Sabbath will look different, but the invitation is to set aside time for rest and worship.

.005: Forgotten Longings | the wonder of prayer

1. Stephen H. Shoemaker, *Finding Jesus in His Prayers* (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2004), 40. I'm incredibly grateful for Shoemaker's book that accompanied me throughout this season in my life, shaping and influencing much of the material in this chapter.

- 2. One of our friends makes her own handmade candy bars in small batches and pays close attention to the geographic origin and quality of every ingredient. Check out her delicious work at beesandbeans.com.
- 3. Abraham Heschel, *Man's Quest for God* (New York: Scribner, 1954), 6–7.
 - 4. Psalm 46:10 KJV.
 - 5. Psalm 42:7.
 - 6. John 11:41-42.
 - 7. Mark 14:36.
 - 8. Luke 23:34.
 - 9. Matthew 27:46 NIV.
 - 10. Luke 23:46 NIV.
- 11. For a more in-depth look at the prayers of Jesus, check out the *Wonderstruck* 7-week DVD curriculum from LifeWay, which invites participants to explore the prayers. You can learn more about and order the curriculum at margaretfeinberg.com.
- 12. Leon Morris, *Luke: Tyndale New Testament Commentaries* (Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity Press, 1988), 211.
- 13. Matthew 6:9–13. The version in Luke 11:2–4 is even shorter. Please note that I added the word *Abba* before *Father* to emphasize the intimate relationship Jesus enjoyed with God. The Greek word used is *pater*, which means "father," but in Aramaic, the word is *Abba*, which can be translated "Dad," or almost as "Daddy." Also, the doxology of the Lord's Prayer is, "For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen." This mention is not included in the Gospel of Luke or the earliest manuscripts of Matthew but was added later, as noted in Matthew 6:13.
 - 14. Matthew 6:7 NIV.

.006: Treasure Hunting in Africa | the wonder of restoration

- 1. See Ezekiel 37.
- 2. Ezekiel 37:3.
- 3. The Torah forbids the mistreatment of the blind. Giving misleading directions or doing anything to cause a blind person to stumble was strictly prohibited. See Deuteronomy 27:18 and Leviticus 19:14.

- 4. Kenneth E. Bailey, *Jesus Through Middle Eastern Eyes: Cultural Studies in the Gospels* (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2008), 172–73.
 - 5. Mark 10:47.
 - 6. Mark 10:51.
 - 7. Mark 10:52 NIV.
 - 8. Mark 10:46, 52.
 - 9. Matthew 10:8.
- .007: Magic in the Table | the wonder of friendship
 - 1. John 10:1-7, Revelation 3:20, Luke 13:24.
 - 2. Genesis 4:7.
 - 3. Genesis 7:15–16, Genesis 19:9–10.
 - 4. Revelation 3:14-21.
 - 5. John 15:15.
- 6. Abraham is called God's servant (Genesis 26:24) and friend (Isaiah 41:8). Prophets were referred to as servants (2 Kings 17:13), and the nation of Israel was collectively referred to as servants (Isaiah 41:8–9), but individuals called the Lord's servant were rare (Moses: Exodus 14:31; David: 2 Samuel 7:5; Isaiah: Isaiah 20:3). In Exodus 33:11, Moses comes close to receiving the title of friend, but it's not a direct address—it's a simile.
 - 7. Matthew 11:28-30.
- 8. Insights on the yoke are from Michael Blewett, "The Declaration of Inter-Dependence," preached July 3, 2011. Check out Michael Blewett's blog at michaelblewett.com.
- .008: The Disappearing Silver Necklace | the wonder of forgiveness
- 1. Matthew 18:21. In the parable that follows Peter's question (vv. 23–35), some translations use the word *servant*. The NASB is among those translations that use the word *slave*.
 - 2. Mark 11:25.
 - 3. John 20:23.
- 4. Eugene Davidson is not this man's real name. In considering an alternative, I confess to being tempted to call him "Richard Boils" or some other name that carried a double meaning. But I chose to call him Eugene

because it's reminiscent of the Greek word *Eulogeo*, meaning "blessing," and *David*, meaning "beloved." Luke 6:28 challenges us to bless those who curse us, and in this case, I decided to follow the words of Jesus literally.

- .009: Miracle on the Runway | the wonder of gratitude
 - 1. 1 Thessalonians 5:16–18, emphasis added.
 - 2. Galatians 5:22.
- 3. Gene L. Green, *The Letters to the Thessalonians: The Pillar New Testament Commentary* (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2002), 257–60.
 - 4. Romans 8:31-39.
 - 5. Acts 16:9.
 - 6. Green, Letters to the Thessalonians, 12.
- 7. A.S. F. Gow, and D. L. Page, eds., *The Greek Anthology: The Garland of Philip and Some Contemporary Epigrams* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1968), 1:329.
 - 8. Acts 16:25.
 - 9. Psalm 13:1-2.
 - 10. Psalm 13:3-4.
 - 11. Psalm 13:5-6.
- .010: The Legend of Cactus Jack | the wonder of abundant life
- 1. Although it doesn't mention my great-grandfather's loan to Publix's founder, its history is told at publix.com.
 - 2. John 10:10.

SOUNDTRACK

MUSIC AWAKENS THE HEART. This list of songs suggests music to accompany your journey through the chapters of *Wonderstruck*. If you find a few other songs that are great fits, please let me know at wonderstruck@margaretfeinberg.com.

.000: Captured by the Night Sky

"Take Me Into the Beautiful," Cloverton, Take Me Into the Beautiful

"Bring on the Wonder," Sarah McLachlan, Laws of Illusion

"Beautiful Things," Gungor, Beautiful Things

.001: Hidden Among the Highlands | the wonder of divine expectation

"Raconte-Moi Une Histoire," M83, Hurry Up We're Dreaming
"Wonder of the World," Rush of Fools, Wonder of the World
"Hallelujah," Rufus Wainwright, Shrek—Music from the
Original Motion Picture

.002: Shock and Awe | the wonder of God's presence

"Hello Hurricane," Switchfoot, *Hello Hurricane*"Still," The Fray, *Scars & Stories*"Show Me What I'm Looking For," Carolina Liar, *Coming to Town*

.003: Alpenglow Evenings | the wonder of creation
"What a Wonderful World," Louis Armstrong, All Time Greatest Hits

"Orange Sky," Alexi Murdoch, *Time Without Consequence*"Stars in the Sky," Kari Jobe, *Where I Find You*

.004: A Sanctuary in Time | the wonder of rest

"Shake it Out," Florence and the Machine, *Ceremonials*"First Breath After Coma," Explosions in the Sky, *Earth Is Not a Cold, Dead Place*

"You Can Have Me," Sidewalk Prophets, These Simple Truths

.005: Forgotten Longings | the wonder of prayer

"With Everything," Hillsong, Aftermath

"The Prayer," Celine Dion (with Andrea Bocelli), These Are Special Times

"Whenever I Say Your Name," Sting (with Mary J. Blige), Sacred Love

.006: Treasure Hunting in Africa | the wonder of restoration

"Bronte," Goyte, *Making Mirrors*"Hello World," by Lady Antebellum, *Need You Now*"Mercy," OneRepublic, *Dreaming Out Loud*

.007: The Magic in the Table | the wonder of friendship

"Don't Stop Believin'," Journey, Greatest Hits

"Boston," Augustana, All the Stars and Boulevards

"Decimate," David Ford, Songs for the Road

Soundtrack

.008: The Disappearing Silver Necklace | the wonder of forgiveness

"Fire to the Rain," Adele, *21*"The Cave," Mumford and Sons, *Sigh No More*"Say," John Mayer, *Say*

.009: Miracle on the Runway | the wonder of gratitude

"Paradise," Coldplay, Mylo Xyloto

"Wherever You Will Go," The Calling, Wherever You Will Go

"Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus," Casting Crowns, The Altar and the Door

.010: The Legend of Cactus Jack | the wonder of abundant life

"Closing Time," Semisonic, Feeling Strangely Fine

"The Gambler," Fun, Aim and Ignite

"Hear You Me," Jimmy Eat World, Jimmy Eat World