

# The Invisible College Trilogy Press Kit

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## Book/Product Information

### Book 1. They do Things Differently Here

#### Paperback

**Paperback:** 456 pages

**Publisher:** U P Publications Ltd (3 Aug. 2015)

**Language:** English

**ISBN-10:** 1908135719

**ISBN-13:** 978-1908135711

**Product Dimensions:** 12.9 x 2.3 x 19.8 cm

#### Kindle

**Format:** Kindle Edition

**File Size:** 4056 KB

**Print Length:** 306 pages

**Publisher:** U P Publications Ltd; 1 edition (14 Aug. 2015)

**Language:** English

**ISBN-13:** 978-1908135728

**ASIN:** B013Z4FCFA

## **Book 2. Dust and Shadows**

### **Paperback**

**Paperback:** 360 pages

**Publisher:** U P Publications Ltd (10 Feb. 2016)

**Language:** English

**ISBN-10:** 1908135148

**ISBN-13:** 978-1908135148

**Product Dimensions:** 12.9 x 2.3 x 19.8 cm

### **Kindle**

**Format:** Kindle Edition

**File Size:** 4056 KB

**Print Length:** 306 pages

**Publisher:** U P Publications Ltd; 1 edition (10 Feb. 2016)

**Language:** English

**ISBN-13:** 978-1908135704

**ASIN:** B01BL16FVO

## **Book 3. A Perilous Journey**

### **Paperback**

**Paperback:** 261 pages

**Publisher:** U P Publications Ltd (3 October 2016)

**Language:** English

**ISBN-10:** 1908135662

**ISBN-13:** 978-1908135667

**Product Dimensions:** 12.9 x 1.9 x 19.8 cm

### **Kindle**

**Format:** Kindle Edition

**File Size:** 4550 KB

**Print Length:** 261 pages

**Publisher:** U P Publications Ltd; 1 edition (September 2016)

**Language:** English

**ISBN-13:**

**ASIN:** B01LYQGH25

The books can be ordered from Amazon UK [here](#), or from Waterstones [here](#), or Blackwell's [here](#).

# Sales Copy

## Long Form Copy

When the Waldens move to Templewood, teenagers Emily and Peter find that leaving the City for 'a quieter life in the country' is the least of their problems. Bubbling beneath the surface of their new home are challenges that could change their world forever ...and end ours.

Templewood is so isolated it is not on the map and has no communications links with the outside world. The village is home to the Sect, a divided organisation planning an apocalyptic event intended to establish world domination, but which may destroy the planet.

Emily and Peter's arrival is no accident; their parents may know more than they admit. Could Peter really hold the key to trigger a world-changing event? One by one, mysteries are uncovered, until the terrifying objective of the Sect becomes clear.

There is little time in which to find who is responsible. How far will they go? Should they be stopped? Can they be stopped? If you were the only ones who could save the world, where would you start? Who would you trust?

*'1984 Meets the Book of Revelation'*

[www.owenknight.co.uk](http://www.owenknight.co.uk)

## Short Form Copy

Moving to a quiet country life becomes a challenge that could change their world and end ours - Emily and Peter need to uncover the mysteries of their new home and discover why Peter is being drawn to the conspiracy. Who is responsible? How far will they go? Should they be stopped? Can they be stopped? If you were the only ones who could save the world, where would you start? Who would you trust?

# Biography

## Long Form

Owen Knight lives in Essex, close to the countryside that inspired his trilogy. He spent many years in business, as a director of a software company and as an independent consultant. The experience provided him with a background of envisaging change, producing scenarios of differing outcomes and developing pragmatic solutions: useful qualities to apply to creative fiction.

**They Do Things Differently Here, Book 1 of The Invisible College Trilogy, is his first published novel. He is currently working on other ideas for fiction and young adult books.**

A blog and website are located at [www.owenknight.co.uk](http://www.owenknight.co.uk)

## Short Form

They Do Things Differently Here, Book 1 of The Invisible College Trilogy, is Owen Knight's first published novel. He lives in Essex.

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## Author Photos

You are welcome to use the following photograph, or refer to website for higher resolution photos.



## Endorsements: Praise for The Invisible College Trilogy

'In this remarkable trilogy, Owen Knight blends mystery, suspense and character with an exploration of profound moral, political and social issues. Is personal freedom an illusion? What should be the limits of state power? Whom can we trust? Can dictatorship ever be benign? What price would we be prepared to pay for a world of comfort, peace and equality? The story and the issues should engage readers young and old, leading them through a mysterious world of sectarian division and control to asking fundamental questions about life and values.'

Mel Thompson, Best-selling author of books on religion, philosophy and ethics.

## Review and Promotion Feedback

When reviewing or promoting the book, please link to [www.owenknight.co.uk](http://www.owenknight.co.uk)

When you post a review or promotion, please let me know so that I can link to your content.

## Sample Interview Questions

### **What Does The Trilogy Title 'The Invisible College' Refer To?**

The term was coined by Robert Boyle in the 17th century to describe a precursor group of scientists to the Royal Society. The Royal Society became a body that advised the Government on scientific matters, a role it still fulfils today.

I have used 'The Invisible College' to imply an anonymous group that has influence over affairs of Government, both at home and worldwide.

### **How Would You Describe The Major Themes?**

A hidden community. A prophecy. A conspiracy, known to all the locals, none of whom will share with Emily and Peter. The importance of music and sound, generally.

The story is very loosely based on Chretien de Troyes' Perceval, The Story of the Grail.

### **How Did You Develop The Idea For Your Book?**

The original idea for the trilogy came from walking in the woods with my children and looking for treasure hidden beneath the roots of trees felled by a storm. This led to the ideas of a hidden community, hidden knowledge and the concept of knowledge as treasure. This in turn led to the idea of the discovery of a prophecy of an impending global catastrophe and the likely consequences.

The Invisible College has taken ten years to develop and complete. I spent much time on research of sources that give credibility to the story as an interpretation of historic legends, from the Ancient Mysteries, through the Book of Revelation and Norse Myths.

During my research, I discovered books describing historical documents, myths and legends that appear to support the existence of the prophecy and justify the hypothesis.

### **The Complete Trilogy Is Over 250,000 Words. Did You Know The Ending When You Started?**

No. Originally I envisaged it as a single book. Books one and two developed organically as a single volume. It became clear that it was becoming too large and I divided it into two and started work on the third, for which I had already sketched out a couple of chapters, but it was the beginning of a new journey.

### **Did You Ever Have Doubts That You Would Complete It?**

Yes. My partner works in international development and I joined her overseas. The intention was for me to work on the book during the day, while she was working at her office.

This worked well; I had no domestic distractions, and a clear mind. So well, that I quickly discovered that I did not know how to develop the plot. This was worrying.

I went through the plot elements from what I had already written, over and over again. Suddenly, after a couple of days, it came to me. In a fortnight I wrote twelve thousand words in draft. Much of the rest followed naturally.

**The Language And Themes Of The Book Are Very Mature. Do You Think That Young Adults Will Have A Problem With This?**

No. You can't write down to an audience. If readers find words or concepts they don't understand, they have the Internet. It's what they do.

**The Main Characters Seem Very Young To Be Dealing With The Threats They Face. Why Did You Not Make Them Older?**

It is really an adult book with teenage protagonists. They had to be at an age where they were living in a family environment. Had they been older, they may have chosen not to move to Templewood with their parents.

**You Date The Events Of The Book Quite Precisely As 2005. Is There A Reason For This?**

A common problem when writing about young people encountering problem situations is to how to avoid giving them the option to communicate by social media. The book is therefore set before the widespread use of Facebook.

**Templewood Is Described As Being Like Somewhere Out Of An Agatha Christie Novel, Yet No-One Wants To Escape. Why Is This?**

A mixture of control and comforts, and a lack of alternative. It will become clear in books two and three.

Yes, the farmers are in complete control of Templewood. One is the magistrate and controls law and order. Another controls the telecommunications centre. Another is head of the mapping agency for the whole country, which means he can dictate what does or does not appear on maps. All are working on genetic modification of plants and animals for reasons we do not understand.

The community benefits from the high-tech research undertaken at what is described as a military base. Templewood has all the resources it needs for residents to live their lives, albeit in a controlled This is just as well as only a few trusted people are allowed to go outside of the villages. And no-one outside of Templewood is aware of existence, as it does not appear on maps.

**There Are Several Hints Of The Supernatural Throughout The Story. Is This Intentional?**

Peter sees devilish creatures, or believes he does. Inanimate objects appear to move, or glow. He is the only one on a school walk to see a ragged character in the woods. Dreams play a significant role. Whether these things are real or imagined is left to the reader to judge. There are no overt supernatural or magical elements; everything has a possible grounding in reality.

**There Are Also Many Unexplained Events Or Statements That Make The Reader Curious.**

Everything in the text is there for a purpose. The Book of Mysteries, the chanting, the creatures, the beauseant token and ring. Tales of hidden treasure, tunnels, mythical creatures, old maps and ancient legends. Mysterious chanting and the ragged character in the woods. Even a cricket helmet with an ornate visor. A particular phrase, "l'art embellit la vie" is written across the doorway of Richard and Alice's house, which may or may not be significant. All of these things are relevant to the plot.

### **The Use Of Myth Is Very Important To The Story. Why Is This?**

I started with the idea of a world-changing event, being planned by the Sect, which will allow them to take control of the world. I wanted this to be based on a real historical myth or legend, to give the story more credibility, and to find other examples from different cultures that would support this..

I found an ancient Greek poem, the Aretalogy of Isis, which provided the first mention. After much research, most of it fruitless, I was able to find links in Egyptian and Norse mythology, the Gnostic texts and Book of Revelation, that could be interpreted as having a connection to the same event. I have been very fortunate, although it could be argued that the amount of research undertaken was bound to produce some connections.