



Every shadow is a door. Every nightfall brings danger. There are things who look like people, things that feed on people, things that lurk in the dark. Fortunately for humanity, standing between us and the shadows are the Knights of the Borrowed Dark.

Unfortunately for thirteen- year old Denizen Hardwick, he's one of them...

Irish Book Awards Children's Book of the Year 2016

Great Reads Award Most-Read Novel 2016

2017 Dublin UNESCO Citywide Read

ABOUT DAVE

A former English teacher, librarian and actor, Dave Rudden has performed in over 800 schools, libraries, theatres, art galleries, conventions, universities, tents, conferences, seminars and one pumpkin festival. He is the winner of the 2011 Fantasy Book Review Short Prize and has been shortlisted for the Hennessey New Writing Prize and the Bath Short Story Prize. His writing has been featured in the *Irish Times*, the *Guardian*, the *Stinging Fly*, the *Telegraph*, *Wordlegs* and many more.

He enjoys cats, adventure and being cruel to fictional children.

EVENTS

I'm delighted you're considering booking me for an event. I offer a wide variety of events for humans of all ages and sizes, each centred on promoting reading, writing and breaking down the barriers between 'book people' and 'non-book people.'

Every kid is a story kid. Every person is a writer waiting to happen.

I can adapt/design events around your needs and schedule, but here are just a few templates -

Author Talk (1 hour)

A fast-paced and fun talk about *KOTBD*, beards and crisps, with readings, writing tips and insights into the life of a published author. There is a Q & A at the end, with a free signed copy of *KOTBD* for the best question.

This talk is raucous and high-volume, so the more people in the room the better. It requires a projector, speakers and (depending on numbers) a mic.

Workshops (1 hour)

A workshop focusing on idea generation, plot, editing and how to beat the dreaded writers' block. This talk is perfect for groups up to fifty, and requires a flipchart, and writing materials for the students.

Masterclass (1 hour / 2 hours)

For the dedicated writer – a challenging, no-holds-barred exploration of the mechanics of writing, with a focus on each student's style and voice.

This event works best with small groups – up to 20 – and requires a flipchart & pens and paper. Custom-made masterclasses on particular subjects (world-building, character, plot, getting published) are also available.

Zoom Visits & Pre-Records

I also offer Zoom visits and pre-recorded workshops and instruction videos on a variety of topics – just ask. These are also usually discounted, as no travel is required.

Writer in Residence Scheme

An eight-week-long in-depth course culminating in an open night where students perform their work for teachers and parents.

EVENT INFO

I do charge for events, as they take me away from my desk, take a lot of time to prepare and I throw one hundred percent of my energy into each one.

My fees are as follows -

One **in-person** event – 300e (plus travel and VAT at 23%)

Two **in-person** events – 450e (plus travel and VAT at 23%)

Three **in-person** events – 550e (plus travel and VAT at 23%)

One **online** event – 200e (plus VAT at 23%)

I am based in Dublin, but very happy to travel, and I'm exactly the same amount of enthusiastic no matter how many students are in the room, so combining classes or teaming up with other schools to keep costs down is very much encouraged. I also recommend you keep an eye on my Upcoming Events page, as if I'm already in your area there are no travel costs.

If you do wish to organise an event but the above prices are above what you can afford - let me know and we can have a chat. I'd rather do an event than not do an event.

It's not a requirement for the students to have read *Knights of the Borrowed Dark*, but I can send on sample chapters and teaching resources beforehand. I can also sell books on the day if students would like to get them signed, or I'm delighted to sign copies they've brought with them. I look forward to working with you.



PRAISE FOR KNIGHTS OF THE BORROWED DARK

‘A magical debut.’

The Guardian

‘Atmospheric, action-packed and powerfully imagined.’

The Sunday Times

‘Clear some time in your schedule before you read this, because once you start it is very difficult to stop.’

Joseph Fink, Welcome to Nightvale

‘Knights of the Borrowed Dark is filled with brilliant turns of this kind, limning absolute poetry with the equally evocative, deceptively spare ruminations of the young hero, all using vocabulary accessible to YA readers.’

The LA Review of Books

‘The stuff of nightmares... in the best possible way.’

Heat Magazine

‘Rudden has the eye and ear of an artist.’

The Irish Independent

‘Wonderful style. Reminded me of Douglas Adams.’

R. L. Stine

‘Finally a real writer who isn’t dead.’

Eleanor, Year 8

TESTIMONIALS

'Dave uses his skills as a storyteller, actor and teacher and combines them all into the perfect session for children. It is fun, energetic and highly entertaining. We were all very impressed with his ability to act out an entire scene from Knights of the Borrowed Dark from memory. He interacts really well with the children and pitches his talk just right. He was a pleasure to work with.'

- Maedhbh Rogan-McCann, Meath County Executive Librarian

"Dave Rudden is a sensational author to have in school. He doesn't read from his book - he fully acts it out as a piece of drama. He is energetic, entertaining, well-pitched, and intelligent. Success for me is always that the students come up afterwards and want to borrow the book, and with Dave I've had to go out and buy more copies - despite the fact that all the ones he brought with him sold out! His talk in our school was to a large group of 2nd year boys and girls and they were all enthralled and fully engaged. Even the teachers were fully entertained. We are all waiting with baited breath for book two!"

- Joan Kelly, Librarian at King's Hospital, Palmerstown

'It's been quite some time since I have been part of such a spellbound audience.'

- Jean Keegan, Mary Queen of Angels N.S.

'Great storytelling by a talented speaker, nice touch with drawings the kids' ideas as well. Really great interaction and energy with the kids.'

- Parent at Coolock Library

'Dave's workshop was a full house attracting kids of all ages.

As we couldn't fully control the age group that booked their seats, it was a an unexpected mish mash of abilities and reading levels but Dave handled them all with equal enthusiasm and attention. The kids shared story ideas and brain stormed characters and plot lines without any one child holding the other back. Dave was also highly entertaining with giggles rippling around the room and eager hands-up throughout. We look forward to welcoming Dave back to 'Something Wicked' as our guest and repeat host, anytime he wishes.'

- Fiona Byrne, Organiser, the Something Wicked Crime Festival, Malahide