

BOOKING DAVE



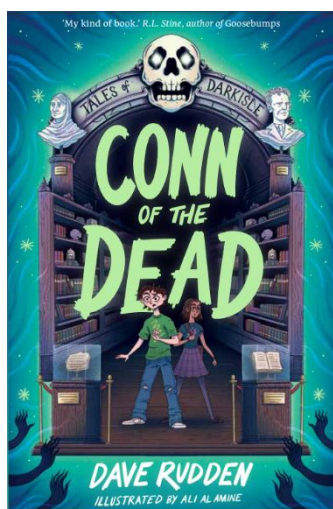
About Dave

A former librarian, English teacher and actor, Dave has brought events to more than a thousand schools, libraries, festivals, conferences, conventions, theatres and even a literary death match.

You can find details of his different series overleaf, as well as a detailed rundown of the types of events he offers. If you have something specific or bespoke that you're looking for, don't hesitate to ask – he's very happy to design or adapt to whatever it is that you need.

Find out more at daverudden.com or contact him directly at contact@daverudden.com

SERIES

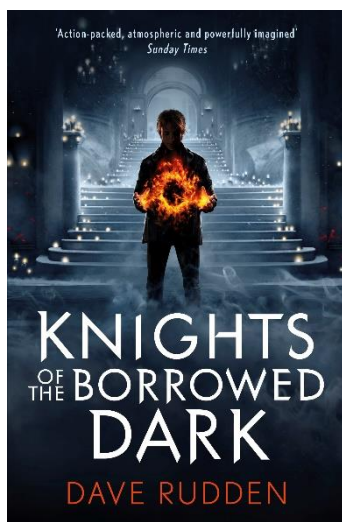


Conn of the Dead (8 – 11)

Called ‘my kind of book’ by R.L. Stine, *Conn* is a short, accessible horror comedy where a kid discovers that his ADHD might be exactly the superpower he needs to do battle against an ancient Celtic necromancer.

[Link to purchase.](#)

Link to teaching resources (due Sept 2025)

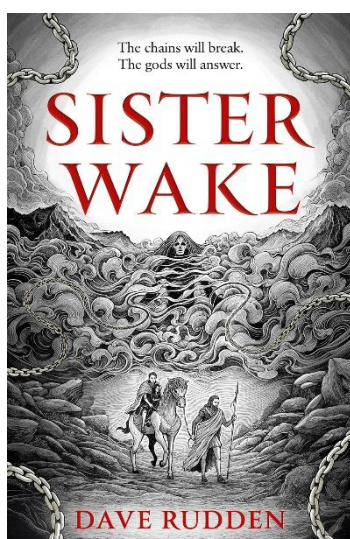


Knights of the Borrowed Dark (12 – 14)

Perfect for post-Potter and *Stranger Things* fans, the *KOTBD* trilogy is about an anxious, genre-savvy teenager thrust into a war against shapeshifting monsters, all while battling his own barely-controllable powers. The first book in the trilogy is also a Junior Cert 1st year text.

[Teaching resources.](#)

[Link to purchase.](#)



Sister Wake (adults)

The first in a new epic fantasy trilogy (think *Andor* meets *Elden Ring*) inspired by Irish mythology and history. The island of Croí is fighting for its freedom when its gods return as titanic, feral monsters.

Only reluctant saint Sister Wake dares ask the question – is this a blessing, or a new invasion?

[Link to pre-order. \(due Jan 2026\)](#)

EVENTS

Dave offers a wide variety of events, each one 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.

Dave loves designing new events and adapting to new audiences, but the templates below are a good place to start.

1. Author Talk (1 hour)

This is the most common event Dave is booked for – a fast-paced, fun one-man-show packed full of inspiration, writing tips and interactivity, with a chaotic Q & A at the end. Suitable for any age, and best with a large audience (Dave’s record is 1500, and he’d love to break it) this talk requires a projector, laptop and a microphone.

2. Workshop (1 hour)

Dave has a variety of workshops he can offer, from general tips to specific deep-dives into different areas of writing, editing and publishing, as well as on writing-adjacent topic such as screenwriting, performance and even D & D.

Adaptable to any age, and best with groups of up to fifty, this talk requires a flipchart and writing materials for students.

3. Storysmiths (2 hours)

This workshop is perfect for dedicated writers of any age who really want to dive into the life cycle of a story. Dave will guide students from inspiration to character creation to plot to editing, and leave them with a finished, polished story at the end. This workshop also includes a book for each student in the price.

4. Leaving Certificate Masterclass (90 min)

As a former English teacher, Dave visits schools delivering Leaving Certificate English Paper I and Paper II Poetry masterclasses, as well as delivering a yearly lecture on Leaving Cert English in DCU.

5. Online/Pre-Recorded Visits (1 hour)

Dave also offers online and pre-recorded versions of the above events.

EVENT INFO

Dave's fees are as follows -

One in-person event – 350e (plus travel)

Two same-day in-person events – 500e (plus travel)

Three same-day in-person events – 650e (plus travel)

Storysmiths – 750e (capped at 50 students)

Dave is the same fee and the same level of enthusiastic no matter how many students are in the room, and so he encourages schools or venues to combine classes and team up with each other to keep costs down.

It is not a requirement for the students to have read Dave's work, but it does result in a more interactive event, and students get a lot out of getting to ask Dave specific questions about his choices and process. Feel free to ask for sample chapters or for a video from Dave to introduce himself before the gig.

He also offers a discounted event fee if schools wish to purchase a school set of any of his books. He can also bring books to sell on the day at a discount, as well as organise delivery for large orders from Kenny's Books.

Dave is also very happy to make extra time to sign books and chat informally to fans of his work on the day – it's the best part of the job.

If you have any questions about the above, don't hesitate to ask.

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