

# HELLO OTHER

## Book One – DISCOVERY

By S C Dinsdale

*"Fear outs when the Truth is out of alignment, and opinions prevail."*

- for J M Doe. 2018

### Chapter 4: Indoctrination

"You won't get into Medical School if you choose English. You need A's." The professor delivers the unwelcome news, leaning back in his chair and frowning.

When I explain that English is my best subject, he rephrases his opinion.

"It's too difficult to get an A," he tells me, with a dismissive shake of his head.

Biology and chemistry are compulsory, and mathematics is my best chance of an A. So far, we've agreed on three subjects.

"But I need a sanity subject," I object.

The professor of physiology looks back at me with a blank expression, and for a second time reminds me that I should've taken physics in year thirteen.

"What about anthropology?" I ask hopefully.

Looking down, he taps his pen on the desk, giving adequate consideration to my question. We both know that my options for a fourth subject are limited. Eventually, he nods and gives me a wry smile, "Alright, anthropology it is."

Glancing down at his watch, he wishes me all the best for my pre-med year and turns back to his list. Our advisory session has concluded. Weeks later, I hear that 750 students have enrolled for pre-med study at universities all over New Zealand, competing for 150 places at Otago Medical School. Post graduate students can also apply, so less than twenty percent of pre-med applicants will be accepted. The odds aren't in my favour...