

HELLO OTHER

Book One – DISCOVERY

By S C Dinsdale

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

Chapter 4: Indoctrination

...Leaning back in his chair, the professor delivers the unwelcome news, "You won't get into medical school if you choose English. You need A's."

"But it's my best subject."

"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 those three.

"But I need a sanity subject."

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

"What about anthropology?" I ask hopefully.

Thoughtfully, 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, before turning 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. This means that less than twenty percent of applicants will be accepted. The odds aren't in my favour...

All rights reserved. Copyright 2024