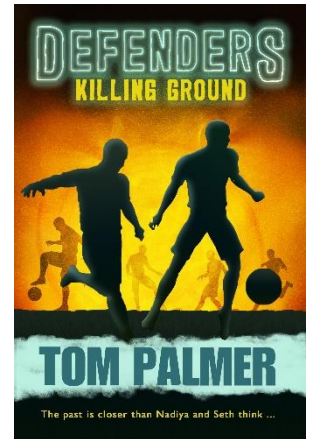


READING QUIZ

Defenders 1:Killing Ground by Tom Palmer

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Everyone is freaked out when circles of scorched earth start appearing in Halifax – on the moors, the parks and even the football pitches. Seth is most disturbed of all – he sees the shadows of the past. But when he looks into a Viking’s murderous eyes and smells burning flesh, Seth knows he must stop this cycle of supernatural suffering from when the Vikings invaded Yorkshire in the year 866. They attacked Anglo-Saxon villages at night. With his friend Nadiya, can he discover the dark history behind the forces attacking their town?

From Chapter 25

In the new central library in Halifax, Seth and Nadiya handed all the old books back to Danny the archivist, then went for a sandwich in a café at the Piece Hall. Seth looked round at the huge square enclosed on all four sides by rows of arches and balconies and thought how beautiful it was. The only place like it in the world. If it had been in Rome or Paris it would have been crowded with tourists.

But Seth needed to focus. He knew what he had to do.

“So what next?” Nadiya asked, handing him a mug of hot chocolate.

“Go inside the circle,” he said.

“What?” Nadiya raised her voice too high. It echoed off the far wall of the Piece Hall.

“It’s the only way,” Seth insisted. “Like you said, if I know it’s not real I can defeat it.”

Nadiya shook her head. “But they’ve got axes and spears. They’re killers.”

“They had axes and spears,” Seth replied. “But they’re dead. All there is now is light.”

The two looked at each other. Seth stared at Nadiya without flinching, trying to look like he could do what he had just said to her. She stared back, then, after a long pause, nodded.

“So what will you do?” she asked.

“I have to face the shadow,” Seth said, his plan taking shape as he spoke. “Find a way of reflecting it back at itself so it stops. I need to be like that man in the haunted room.”

1 Which town are Seth and Nadiya visiting?

2 What shape is the Piece Hall?

3 Does Seth move as he stares at his friend Nadiya?

4 How does Nadiya show that she agrees with her friend?

5 What could Seth use to create a reflection?