

A Yorkshireman, Brian R Hill was born in the UK in 1951 and educated at Aireborough Grammar School in Yeadon near Leeds. He has a grown up family and three young grandchildren who keep him active. Brian lives close to the beautiful Yorkshire Dales National Park. A keen amateur photographer, musician - leader of a local orchestra - and composer Brian derives much of his inspiration from the beautiful countryside of the region. A stroll through The Dales can provide Brian with a chapter full of ideas, although the areas he includes are normally unrecognisable by the time the final draft has been completed – Yorkshire, for example, is not known for any volcanoes.

The story began one sunny Saturday afternoon many years ago when, after walking his dog through Spring Woods, Brian returned home to discover a typewriter, temporarily abandoned, resting forlornly on a coffee table. A blank sheet of paper was already in place and, sitting down, Brian typed in the immortal words 'Chapter I', and thus the tale was conceived.

Working with the old typewriter, now relegated to a desk inside a walk in cupboard over a staircase, the story began to take shape. Over a number of years with frequent and often very lengthy interruptions due to family and work commitments, transferring the manuscript to word processing and much re-writing, The Shintae has finally been completed.

Brian currently works full time and divides as much of his evenings and weekends between writing, walking, photography and music as he can. He has started work on a second novel, which he sincerely hopes will be finished in what will prove to be a much shorter period of time.