

THE PORTAL
By Keith White

Interview Questions

You've been described as a modern day Indiana Jones. How does a dentist, husband and father juggle being a pilot, world traveler and history buff?

You used to be a competitive sportsman as well. Why did you give that up?

You seem to have a lot on your plate. What made you decide to tackle writing?

The Portal reads quickly, like a Grisham novel, but it's a big book. How long did it take to write?

There are some hair-raising airplane stunts in the book, and you say that they are all possible. Have you tried them yourself?

Your heroes aren't typical square-jawed, stoic icons. They're flesh and blood people who laugh and cry, and feel joy and fear. Why did you opt for this type of portrayal?

Kelly Wilson, the female lead, doesn't sit around waiting to be rescued — she's as scrappy and heroic as the men she's around. Who was your inspiration for Kelly?

You touch on the issue of what the world would be like if the Allies hadn't won World War II. What captivated you about that subject?

Why do you think World War II continues to intrigue readers and movie-goers?

A key topic in the book is the Allies plan to land at the Port de Calais (instead of Normandy) on June 6, 1944. Was that really an option? How would that decision have affected the outcome of the war?

You also touch on the issue of the negative impact Westerners can have on indigenous people like the Indian tribes of eastern Columbia. Why was that an important issue for you? Have you seen it happen first-hand?

You create incredible descriptions of Paris, New York and the depths of the Amazon jungle. How do you craft such remarkable images?

It's not hard to imagine *The Portal* being made into a movie. If you had an opportunity to cast it, who would you get to play the three leads?

What are you working now?