

### THEMES

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- Family & Belonging
- Loss & Recovery
- Fate & Destiny
- History

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### INSPIRATIONS

Cassandra Clare's "The Mortal Instruments" & "The Infernal Devices"

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Both staples in the YA genre, these two series exemplify the conventions of the "urban fantasy" genre that I hope to add to in my novel.

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## The Adventure Zone: Amnesty

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This podcast serves as a model for the setting and main conflict of Shield & Tower, as it also focuses on a threat to a small close-knit town and the heroes dedicated to stopping it.

## Donna Tartt's "The Secret History"

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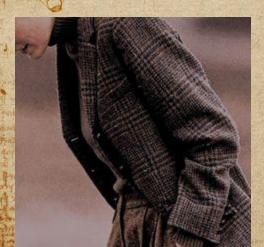
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The aesthetic genre of "dark academia" is a staple of my generation, often combining a love of knowledge and value of academia with a desire for a richer and more comfortable lifestyle. the number of circles to formula 1868

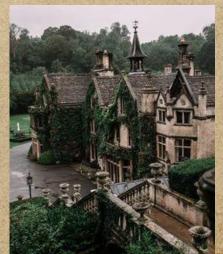














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# TRADITIONAL PUBLISHING VS SELF-PUBLISHING

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#### Traditional:

- Little to no upfront cost
- Professional credibility
- Wider distribution to physical bookstores
- Very competitive
- Support from editorial & marketing teams

### Self-Publishing:

- Total creative control

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- Writer earns a much higher percentage of royalties
- Virtually no competition for publication
- Responsibility for marketing and (often) distribution

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For updates on *Shield & Tower* as I pursue publication, find me on Instagram @ssherwoodwrites. Thank you for your time!

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