

The background is a collage of various sketches from Leonardo da Vinci's notebooks, rendered in a sepia tone. It includes architectural drawings of domed buildings, mechanical diagrams of gears and wheels, anatomical sketches of flowers and a horse, and a landscape sketch of a fortified hill. The sketches are layered and partially obscured by the text.

SHIELD & TOWER

SARAH SHERWOOD '21

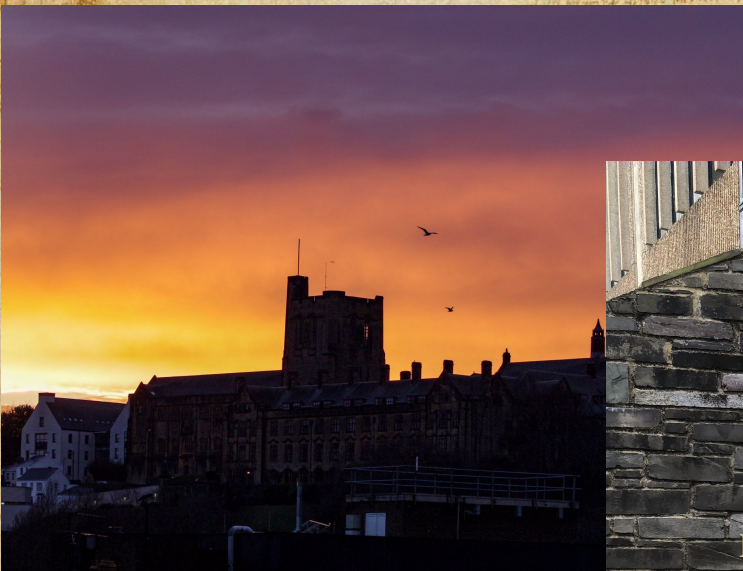


ABOUT:

Shield & Tower is a young adult urban fantasy novel that follows two students as they face an ancient threat seeking revenge on the college town of Briar, Oregon and many of its inhabitants.

THEMES

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



INSPIRATIONS

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

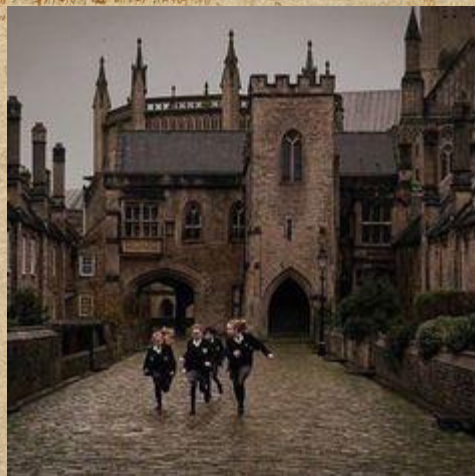
Both staples in the YA genre, these two series exemplify the conventions of the "urban fantasy" genre that I hope to add to in my novel.

The Adventure Zone: Amnesty

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"*

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.



TRADITIONAL PUBLISHING VS SELF-PUBLISHING

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

THANK YOU!



For updates on *Shield & Tower*
as I pursue publication, find
me on Instagram
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for your time!