

Trad vs. Indie: A Tale of Two Publishing Paths by Veronica Sloane

For as long as I've been a reader, I've been an aspiring author. I love being creative and dream of sharing stories of my own to other bookworms. So as I approach graduation, it's time to put my dreams into motion. I am currently working on a novel, *Birds of Paradise*, that will be the first book in the series, *The Ash & Bloom Duology*. The sequel is not yet written but is titled *Lilies of the Valley*. As I write these adult fantasy novels and prepare to get them out into the world I am faced with the question on how I want to do that. Do I want to publish them myself or do I want to get them traditionally published? Based on what I've gleaned from my research and interviews with authors, I've decided it would be ideal for me to get traditionally published. However, it is not as easy as writing a book and sending it out. The publishing industry is always evolving, and there are also many other writers out there who share the same goals as I do. With that being said, independently publishing my books is a real option that I could do permanently, but is also a good jumping off point for me to acquire readers before pursuing traditional publication. While I would love to be picked up by a big publishing house right away, I have compromised my desires and have decided that I want to pursue being a hybrid author.