

Places to Begin as an Unknown Writer

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If you are starting as a writer with no prior experience, finding a way to get a following or be able to show your work can be difficult. For most the only way to start is to go through the grueling process of the first draft, developmental edit, proofreading, line edit, and then struggling to find an agent just to get to a traditional publisher. All of this just to have your first work shown to the world, and even then there is no guarantee of getting a following, at least not very quickly.

This is why before your “big break” of publishing traditional or even self-publishing, it is important to start gaining a following. Here, I’ll discuss a few ways that are of course, time consuming, but free.



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Places to Gain a Following as an Unknown Writer

To start off, there is Wattpad. Now before you shake your head and scurry off, hear me out. By writing on Wattpad, not only can you get a following- but you can test story concepts you are unsure of. Let's say you're torn between two story concepts. Write the intro for each story and see which one gets more of a response. This can help you decide how to develop your writing voice, story concepts, and get feedback in general so you understand what your readers will like. So not only do you get a following from making yourself known, but you can get feedback, which is very valuable. As long as you remain consistent, you will get followers with time.

Don't forget to interact with other writers and people! Read other stories here and follow the writers. Give compliments! Be a part of the community. Posting alone is not all you need to do in order to succeed on Wattpad.

Quora. A lot of people use Quora to become better known. Quora is a site for asking and answering many types of questions, and a lot of writers do that on there. By helping other writers with any areas you feel you excel at, or by asking questions on Quora. You can get help, help others, and even gain a few writing contacts and friends. It will also help you improve your creative writing skills in how you answer writing related questions. I always believe you can gain a better understanding of something by teaching another about it. So through Quora, you can improve your own writing, help others write, and gain following here as well.

Finally, I recommend using TikTok. With the usage of the right hashtags, you can easily talk about your writing, and writing related things and gain a following. I post videos on TikTok about writing advice, I make my videos on Canva for free, and with the use of the right hashtags I have consistently gotten a good number of views and followers.

Using TikTok, you can advertise your story you're working on, your wattpad, or talk about your opinions on popular books from a writer's perspective. Try

to stick to a niche thought! If you write fantasy novels, don't be reviewing mystery crime. You can of course do that, don't let me stop you, but try to stick to a general theme and stay consistent so you can gain a good following on here. How often should you post though? At minimum try to post three times a day. So this might mean making videos in advance, maybe in your free time make a few videos so you can post them periodically over a busy day.



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There are many ways to gain followers, and as you gain more and more this gives you better chances for when you publish your first story (Check out my article on the pre-publishing plan for self-publishing success!).

With a following, when you're ready to publish, you can advertise this wherever your following watches you. Take your time in building your following, be genuine about it, be consistent with your posting times and works, and as always, happy writing!