

craft, I rewrote that same manuscript and sold it. But in the meantime I had already marketed my first book, a Graustarkian romance for teen-agers.

During World War II, I was introduced to the fine work being done by the Cleveland Press' World Friends Club, and was given access by members to some exciting letters from the Netherlands. From this contact developed my three espionage novels—*The Sword Is Drawn*, *Sword in Sheath*, and *At Swords' Points*. *The Sword Is Drawn* was awarded a plaque by the Netherlands government for its sympathetic portrayal of that nation at war.

Since history and legend led me to explore, via books, odd byways of the past, I came to translate and adapt two cycles of legends, telling the tales aloud first in special story hours at branches of the Cleveland Public Library, where I was then an assistant in the children's department. These cycle stories, having proved popular with listening groups, were eventually published as *Rogue Reynard* and *Huon of the Horn*. And in addition, scattered through my working years, I have written four historical novels for young people—*Follow the Drum*, a story of the settlement of Maryland; *Scarface*, about pirate action in the West Indies; *Yankee Privateer*, concerning a Marine during the Revolution; and *Stand to Horse*, a chronicle of the Apache wars during the late 1850's. All of these required long months of research and delving into old records, volumes of letters, Army reports, and much revision.

Then, in 1951, I had published my first science-fiction adventure—*Star Man's Son*. Having long collected and read science fiction for my own pleasure, I had a liking for what is termed "space opera," the science-fiction adventure story, which is the type I wanted to write. Since that time I have written the other Star titles in a loose arrangement of future history—*Star Rangers*, *Star Born*, *Star Guard*, *Star Gate*, *The Stars Are Ours!*

There is also the Solar Queen series, dealing with the exploits of the crew of a tramp space freighter of the far future—*Sargasso of Space* and *Plague Ship*. And I have two unrelated volumes—*Time Traders* and *Sea Siege*. In addition, I was asked to choose the stories for and edit four anthologies—*Bullard of the Space Patrol*, *Space Service*, *Space Pioneers*, and *Space Police*.

Andre Norton

AUTHOR OF

Star Man's Son; Time Traders; Stand to Horse; Follow the Drum; Etc.

Autobiographical sketch of Alice Mary Norton, who writes under the pseudonym "Andre Norton":

MY involvement with the future began while I was still in high school, but then it was a reader's interest rather than a writer's preoccupation. Working on the *Collinwood Spotlight*, writing short adventure stories for the once-a-term literary magazine of that paper, belonging to a keen-minded Quill and Scroll chapter, all led to stringing words together on paper. Though, at that time, I had every intention of becoming a history teacher rather than a professional writer. However, I wrote my first book, an adventure-mystery, the year I graduated from high school. Some four years later, having learned a little more of my



ANDRE NORTON

Several of the Star books and one of the Solar Queen adventures have been translated into German, Italian, and Spanish, as the demand for such stories of our "might bes" has spread around the world. And so I have become used to living in the future with a reference shelf of spaceship projects and speculations at hand. A good knowledge of history is also a fine tool for a writer of science fiction, for history repeats itself, and the colonies of a mother planet revolt in an "American Revolution" of some future time.

Having served as a library assistant until 1950, I am now a free-lance writer. My home is in Cleveland, where I was born, as my family has been Ohio rooted since the land-grant days just after the Revolution. In addition to library work, I have managed a bookshop and served as juvenile editor for Gnome Press.