

ANDRE NORTON, A CONTEMPORARY AUTHOR OF BOOKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Andre Norton

A thesis submitted to the
Graduate Council of Kent State University
in partial fulfillment of the requirements
for the degree of Master of Arts

by
ROBERT D. LOFLAND

1960

Thesis written by

ROBERT D. LOFLAND

A. B., Mount Union College, 1956

M. A., Kent State University, 1960

Approved by

Elnora M. Patterson, Adviser

John B. Uehlein, Head, Department of Library Science

Roy E. Wenger, Dean, Graduate School

W. M. Bowman, President

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Two people have helped to make this thesis a reality: Miss Andre Norton, who gave her valuable time in answering my many questions; and Mrs. Elnora M. Portteus, who with patience guided me on the path to my goal. To both of these women I express my heartfelt thanks.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER	Page
I. INTRODUCTION	1
II. THE LIFE OF ANDRE NORTON	4
III. SURVEY OF ANDRE NORTON'S BOOKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE . .	10
IV. SUMMARY.	39
APPENDIXES.	41
BIBLIOGRAPHY	44

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

An interest in Andre Norton began for this writer in Reading Interests of the Adolescent, a graduate course in Library Science at Kent State University. The writer is a teacher of high school English and an avid science fiction reader. His interest in science fiction made him want to know more about this author who devotes so much time to writing such books for young people.¹ Therefore, this writer has endeavored to present the life and works of this prolific author in the hope that from his effort others will become interested in writing similar theses about authors who write primarily for young people. Material about contemporary authors is difficult to locate, and especially so when one searches for material about those who write for young people.

No full length book of biography has been written about Miss Norton. A literary search yielded little. This writer consulted Biography Index, Twentieth Century Authors, the New York Times Index, the Junior Book of Authors, Webster's Biographical Dictionary, the Education Index, and the Essay and General Literature Index with no results. A short account of Miss Norton is in Who's Who of American Women, but the best coverage in print is in Current Biography Yearbook, 1956-1957. This writer found after an interview with Miss Norton that the latter

¹The writer defines "young people" as twelve to eighteen year olds.

article can no longer be considered completely authoritative. This necessitated reliance upon interviews and correspondence with associates of the subject of the thesis. Unfortunately, few responded to the letters this writer sent requesting information about Miss Norton and, especially, their association with her.

Much of the material of this thesis was supplied by Miss Norton in a very long interview in her home in Cleveland, Ohio. Since the thesis relies so heavily on this information, the writer documented only statements quoted from sources other than the interview. This was in an effort to avoid using "Miss Norton said," or "She said," throughout the paper.

Chapter II is a biographical sketch of Miss Norton. This writer was not able to obtain the birthdate of Miss Norton in standard bibliographical or biographical sources.

All of Miss Norton's original works were read with the exception of the joint author (and adult) book Murders for Sale. This writer was not able to procure a copy; therefore, no attempt has been made to evaluate the book. The book was not available at the Cuyahoga County Library, the Toledo Public Library, Youngstown Public Library, or the Ohio State Library. Cleveland Public Library's copy was unavailable.

Chapter III discusses in detail the two main categories of her writing, science fiction and historical fiction, as well as other aspects of her writing. A major part of this chapter is a listing of individual titles, accompanied by comments by this writer and reviews. Reviews of the following titles were not available: Ralestone Luck, Follow the Drum, Murders for Sale, Sargasso of Space, Voodoo Planet,

The Crossroads of Time, Secret of the Lost Race, and The Sioux Spaceman.

Reviews of Miss Norton's books were traced through Book Review Digest, Library Journal, and Booklist. Bibliographical information was supplied by the Cumulative Book Index, Children's Catalog, the Standard Catalog for High School Libraries, and the 1959 edition of Books in Print. The writer also consulted the Fiction Catalog and the National Union Catalog.

Chapter IV is a brief summary. Following this are the appendixes: Appendix A, a bibliography of Miss Norton's books; Appendix B, a facsimile of an Andre Norton letter. The final part of the paper is the bibliographical sources used to complete the thesis.

CHAPTER II

THE LIFE OF ANDRE NORTON

In a large, quiet, and comfortable house just off noisy Euclid Avenue in Cleveland, Ohio, lives Andre Norton and her parents.¹ On the second floor of this house is a small library, papered with colorful book jackets and overflowing with books. Here Miss Norton does her writing and most of her research.

Andre Norton, a native of Cleveland, prefers this pseudonym to her real name, Alice Mary Norton. Inasmuch as she began writing boys stories, she chose a name which could be either masculine or feminine; she feels there is a stigma associated with women writing stories for boys. One time when she participated on a panel, she remarked, the other panelists were rather startled when a woman showed up. Miss Norton has never written under her real name.

Miss Norton is an attractive woman who is slender, five feet seven inches tall, and has dark hair and green eyes.² She is the daughter of Adalbert and Daisy Bertha (Stemm) Norton. Miss Norton's father's family came from England to America in 1634. In the early nineteenth century the Nortons settled in Ohio. On the maternal side

¹ Miss Norton is planning an eventual move to Florida where she expects to have a home built that was designed for her by a nephew. A feature she looks forward to is having space for hundreds of books in the living room.

² Marjorie Bent Candee, (ed.), Current Biography Yearbook, 1956-1957 (New York: H. W. Wilson, 1957), p. 412.

the background is more varied, for there is ancestry of Scotch, English, Pennsylvania Dutch, Irish, and American Indian. Her mother's pioneering family settled in Ohio on "bounty land" given for service during the American Revolution. ³ Regarding this Miss Norton said:

My family first settled in Ohio immediately after the revolution on a land grant payment for services in the Maryland Line during the war. My grandfather kept the mill in several down state towns over a period of forty years. So we might say that we are one of the "early" families. In fact, our soldier ancestor married an Ohio Indian to make clear his claim to the land. ⁴

Miss Norton's one sister passed away last year.

From the time Miss Norton was two-and-one-half years old her mother read to her continually. At four Little Women was read to her and she understood it. Miss Norton's mother also recited poetry to her by the hour, taking Andre about with her as she did the household tasks. When she later began to write, it was her mother who encouraged her, was a good critic, and helped with much of the proof reading until failing eye sight forced her to stop.

Miss Norton's first piece of writing was a poem in junior high school, but it was in senior high school that her interest in writing was really kindled. At Collinwood High School in Cleveland, Miss Norton was associated with an interesting group that wrote for the school newspaper and annual, as well as being members of Quill and Scroll

³
Ibid.

⁴
Letter from Josephine J. Swinehart, Acting Librarian, The Martha Kinney Cooper Ohioana Library Association, Columbus, Ohio. June 22, 1960.

(honorary society of high school journalists). "We wrote all the time," said Miss Norton, who later became editor of both the school paper and annual, president of the honor society for girls, and winner of the English trophy. It is to Miss Sylvia Cockran, an inspiring high school creative writing teacher, that Miss Norton attributes her choice of profession as a writer.⁵ It was she who "sparked the group." There was a special English class for those planning to go to college. There were about ten in this stimulating group, five of whom are now professional writers. Miss Norton comments that high school youth at that time were not hampered by all the extra-curricular activities that exist today.

Miss Norton feels that much could be done in the teaching of English and history today. "Modern children don't stretch. A creative librarian can push them into reading other things," she remarked.

Miss Norton was graduated from Collinwood High School in 1930. After her graduation she took writing courses at Western Reserve University in Cleveland.⁶ She had attended college for one-half year when the depression occurred and changed her original plans for becoming either an archeologist or a history teacher. Instead she began working at the Cleveland Public Library as a children's librarian and remained there from 1931 to 1941. In 1941 she went to Washington, D. C., and from January to October that year she worked there on a citizenship project. (This project was terminated by World War II.) In February,

⁵ Current Biography Yearbook, 1956-1957, op. cit., p. 411.

⁶ Ibid.

1942, she went to work at the Library of Congress and worked there until late 1942 when she returned to the Cleveland Public Library. She really had not intended to return, as she had another job in mind, but the library contacted her and wanted her back as a trouble shooter, taking over when anyone was ill or out for any other reason. From that time until she gave up library work in 1950 Miss Norton was either an assistant at a large branch or head of a small branch.

Because of her own health, Miss Norton goes out seldom. Her parents are elderly; her father is 95, and not too well. For these reasons they have to live quietly.

Although much of her time is devoted to writing and research, Miss Norton does have other interests. She can no longer do the needlework she once liked to do because of her eyesight, but she does find time occasionally to quilt. Miss Norton is an avid reader and enjoys reading archeology, mystery stories for light reading, translations of Japanese and Chinese novels, and stories about nuns and convent life.⁷ Her favorite authors are John Tolkien, Rosemary Sutcliff, Georgette Meyer, and Manning Coles. She is an avid collector and her collections include spoons, dishes, reproductions of museum pieces, and books and magazines. One of her recent purchases was eight years of St. Nicholas magazine in almost perfect condition.⁸

7

Miss Norton is a Presbyterian. She simply finds the latter group interesting because she knows so little about this area.

8

She has acquired the issues for 1888, 1889, and 1891 through 1896.

Miss Alice D. Martin, with whom Miss Norton worked as an assistant in the children's room at Glenville Branch of the Cleveland Public Library, had this to say about Miss Norton:

. . . she was a wonderful worker. She worked fast and intently, never putting anything off until later. In her character, her integrity stands out most. I think that is one of her outstanding qualities. She is absolutely sincere. She seemed to remember everything she ever read and she could interest our clientele, especially the older boys, in reading good books. She had a way of making one feel it was his duty not to go on any longer without reading that book and finding out more. She even got me to read a book of science fiction. She was good with all the children; but especially good with older ones. They would ask for her when she was not in sight. Her mind seemed to be a perfect storehouse of knowledge of facts and bits of knowledge she remembered, and that helped a great deal in locating a book the borrower could tell us only a small part of. ⁹

Miss Alice K. Hatch, another children's librarian with whom Miss Norton worked as an assistant, remarked:

. . . certain traits stand out vividly in my memory: her genuine enthusiasm for reading, especially reading which was informative as well as intriguing, and her ability to pass that enthusiasm on to the younger people with whom she worked; her literary integrity - not only in her own writing but in her selections from the works of others for young clients; the painstaking and exhaustive research in search of accuracy. A thoroughly sincere worker in the field of literature; and therefore one able to interest and hold her special audience. ¹⁰

Miss Hatch also mentioned in a later note that Miss Norton, who preferred working with older children, once said to Alice Martin, "Trying

⁹

Letter from Miss Alice D. Martin, children's librarian, at Cleveland Public Library, July 4, 1960.

¹⁰

Letter from Miss Alice K. Hatch, retired children's librarian, at Cleveland Public Library, July 7, 1960.

to tell stories to small children is like trying to put a lid on a box of butterflies." At that time she was telling cycles of stories. ¹¹

Mrs. Ben Lumis, who works part-time at the Memorial Branch of the Cleveland Public Library, had this to say about Miss Norton:

Miss Norton has a fine mind and a remarkable memory. She could tell on a minute's notice details of and about an amazing variety of books. She is seemingly possessed of a most unusual grasp of details about authors, publishers, plots, and general information in many fields. Her science fiction books are very imaginative. "She is" an erudite person. ¹²

A citation and plaque were received by Miss Norton from the Dutch government for The Sword is Drawn, which was a Junior Literary Guild selection. Another book, Huon of the Horn, was given the Page One Award of Distinguished Books, which is sponsored by the American Newspaper Guild. ¹³ Miss Norton tied for second place in the Chicana Library Juvenile Award, 1949, for Sword in Sheath. Sargasso of Space was a choice for a German book club under its German title, Die Raumschiff-Falle. ¹⁴

Miss Norton is listed in Who's Who of American Women, and is a member of the Women's National Book Association and Theta Sigma Phi. ¹⁵

¹¹ Note from Miss Alice K. Hatch, retired children's librarian, at Cleveland Public Library, July 12, 1960.

¹² Note from Mrs. Ben Lumis, children's librarian at Memorial Branch of the Cleveland Public Library, July 12, 1960.

¹³ Current Biography Yearbook, 1956-1957, op. cit., p. 412.

¹⁴ Letter from Andre Norton, July 2, 1960.

¹⁵ Who's Who of American Women, 1958-59; a Biographical Dictionary of Notable Living American Women (Chicago: Marquis, 1958), p. 950.

CHAPTER III

SURVEY OF ANDRE NORTON'S BOOKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Introduction

Andre Norton has channeled most of her writing talents into creating novels for young people. Thus far she has a total of twenty-nine such books to her credit, all but one of which she has written alone. Miss Norton's novels can be divided into four categories: science fiction, historical fiction, fairy tales, and adult mystery stories. For young people she has written seventeen science fiction novels; nine books of historical fiction, three of which are spy stories; as well as the one adult mystery novel. This writer feels it is significant to add this final category, since the author is working on a series of three mystery novels in collaboration with another author.¹ In addition, Miss Norton has also edited four anthologies of science fiction, none of which contain her own stories.²

1

Miss Norton is working with an author from Toronto, Canada, and the collaboration is being done by mail.

2

These are: Jameson, Malcolm, Billard of the Space Patrol; ed. by Andre Norton (Cleveland: World Publishing Co., 1951); Space Service; ed. with introduction and notes by Andre Norton (Cleveland: World Publishing Co., 1953); Space Pioneers; ed. with introduction and notes by Andre Norton (New York: World Publishing Co., 1954); Space Police; ed. with introduction and notes by Andre Norton (Cleveland: World Publishing Co., 1956).

Shadow Hawk, scheduled for August publication, is a story of the rise of the famous Eighteenth Dynasty in Egypt. Miss Norton considers this "quite an ambitious project."³ Presently Miss Norton is working on a Civil War novel about General Morgan and Bedford Forrest, covering the last year of the war. This is a part of the Civil War that has not, to Miss Norton's knowledge, been used yet for teenage fiction. The working title of this book is Ride Proud, Rebel!

Miss Norton does not think her writing in the future will be in any one area. "If you stay with one thing, you find yourself typed by the publisher and the public, and in addition you find yourself a formula writer." She tries, therefore, to write an historical novel or another type about every three years. "Spy stories are not too popular nowadays," she added. When asked if she preferred writing science fiction to historical fiction, or vice versa, she replied, "No. It's about equal. It depends on what I have a good idea for at the particular moment."

When asked which of the books she liked best, Miss Norton found it difficult to answer. However she did say that she felt Stand to Horse was the best written from the standpoint of using reference materials.

Pseudonyms

Miss Norton has written mainly under the name Andre Norton. Chiefly for business reasons she wrote three science fiction novels

³

Letter from Andre Norton, July 2, 1960.

(Plague Ship, Sargasso of Space, Voodoo Planet) under the name Andrew North. Allen Weston was used as a joint pseudonym with Grace Allen for Murders for Sale.

Pattern of Writing

Miss Norton writes about one-and-one-half hours each morning before lunch and manages to write about another hour after lunch. Each day she spends about two-and-one-half hours at actual writing, aside from research. Each novel requires from ten to twenty books of research which she tries to make as accurate as possible.

Of her writing Miss Norton says, "I try to tell a good story. I don't like books written for a purpose." She does feel strongly about racial prejudice and does not believe it should exist. Regarding the relationships between men and animals, she believes they "could be carried to a higher degree." Her science fiction heroes are often accompanied by some animal, whose relationship with the young man is brought to a closer affinity by mental communication without speech, such as in The Beast Master where the beast master and his animals work as a team through this type of communication. She feels that the hero must be an orphan in order that his parents cannot interfere with his actions. The hero must be between eighteen and twenty-two years old, preferably between eighteen and twenty. He must be independent, mature for his years, and usually someone who has been kicked around a bit. A young hero is not out of place and she suggests that one need only look at American history to see this.

Miss Norton feels romance is out of place in a straight action adventure story. Perhaps this can be explained by her statement: "In high school I was under the influence of Sir Henry Rider Haggard and Talbott Mundy, and they used this style (action adventure), and they hold up beautifully."

One finds few women in a Norton novel, and they are given only minor roles. There are two notable exceptions. In Follow the Drum a girl is the principal character. The other is Ralestone's Luck in which a brother and sister share equal roles as principal characters.

Miss Norton does not have a particular person in mind when she creates a character. The physical description of a character, however, may be that of a person she has seen once or twice.

Science Fiction ⁴

In writing science fiction Miss Norton gets much of her raw material from folklore. She creates her animals, many of which are unusual, using real animals as a basis. For research Miss Norton finds animal and travel books quite useful, including in the latter group those about odd places on earth. "Editors like the books better when they are on other planets." She also mentioned that she gets her people off the space ships as soon as possible, since she is not mechanically minded.

Miss Norton would prefer writing fantasy, but she said, "There

⁴ "Science fiction is a form of fiction now rivaling the mystery story in popularity. 'Begotten by Imagination in the body of Technology.' (Clifton Fadiman). Benet, William Rose, Readers' Encyclopedia; an Encyclopedia of World Literature and the Arts, with supplement (New York: Thomas Y. Crowell Company, 1955), p. 1265.

is practically no sale for it today." In differentiating between science fiction and fantasy, she offers this distinction: "Science fiction keeps to realism. Fantasy jumps right in with no stepping stone, no logical explanation needed."

Miss Norton often gets letters from teenagers asking questions about places, people, or history in her books. She feels, then, that her books can be stepping stones to related materials. All of her science fiction, as well as her other books, for young people, have some anthropology or history for this purpose.

Regarding science fiction Miss Norton has the following advice for librarians:

"Whether you like science fiction or not - read it before you condemn. Learn to live ahead - in 1980 plus. It has its charms and you do meet the most interesting people." She pointed out that the best science in fiction leads to science in fact. The gadget story and the space opera have been replaced by stories of higher literary standards dealing not with BEMs (bug-eyed monsters) but with human beings. "We dare not laugh at the thought of a moon colony in 1980," she wrote. "Maybe this boy, who asks -a librarian- for Arthur C. Clarke's Exploration in Space or one of Robert Heinlein's novels, will be among the first to walk the red sands of Mars. There is no longer such fiction in our science fiction -- the authors are only ahead of time . . . The fiction of one generation is the reality of the next." ⁵

Historical Fiction

Material for historical novels comes from various sources, including histories and diaries. She finds that people are extremely helpful and give reams of material. Miss Norton still corresponds with

⁵
Norton, Alice Mary, "Living in 1980 plus - " by Andre Norton, Library Journal, LXXVII (September, 1952), 1463-1464.

with two Dutch friends who gave her material for her stories with a Dutch background. Another friend in the Dutch East Indies gave her "marvelous material" for Sword in Sheath. Since her health requires that she remain at home much of the time, she buys most of the books needed for research. At the present time she lends to and borrows from a friend who is writing a novel related to the same period as the novel she is writing. Miss Norton watches remainder sales "like a hawk."⁶ She buys as many things as she can in paperbacks, since they are less expensive. She also watches for publications from university presses and for doctoral dissertations. In other words, she tries to watch all sources.

Sometimes she buys with the future in mind, although she may have immediate use for a source material. The books she buys which she feels she will not use again she passes on to her family and friends, who have come to expect books for birthday and holiday gifts. Another source of information is television, from which Miss Norton gets good ideas on action, particularly from some television westerns.

These novels, in Miss Norton's opinion, are four times as much work as science fiction novels. They are much harder work, especially the battle scenes which she finds are quite difficult.

Short Stories

Miss Norton has written in the short story medium and has had two short stories published. "Mousetrap" which appeared in Fantasy and

⁶A remainder sale is a sale of books remaining in the publisher's stock when sales have ceased or become unprofitable.

Science Fiction was reprinted in Best Science Fiction of 1955; ⁷ "All Cats are Grey" appeared in Fantastic Universe. Miss Norton feels that she is not good at writing short fiction and that her short stories usually become synopses of novels.

Illustrators

In regard to illustrators, Miss Norton stated that she has not chosen them herself. "You usually have nothing to say about illustrators," she remarked. When she began her relationship with the World Publishing Company, however, they asked her to recommend an illustrator. Her suggestion was Edmund A. Emswiller. Others who have illustrated Miss Norton's books include Duncan Coburn, Lorence Bjorklund, Nicolas Mordvinoff, Joe Krush, Laura Bannon, Leonard Vosburgh, Kate Serecy, Virgil Findlay, and Richard M. Powers.

Translators

Miss Norton has had no relationships with her translators, for a book is sold as a unit to a publisher in that country. Presently there are six volumes in translation and two more are to be translated. Her books have been translated into German, Italian, Spanish, Danish, and Dutch. In particular the Germans seem to like her science fiction. Her books have also appeared in British editions, in editions for the blind, and in Pocket Book publications. ⁸

⁷ Current Biography Yearbook, 1956-1957, op. cit., p. 412.

⁸ Ibid.

Reviewers

When asked her reaction to reviewers, Miss Norton replied that she found it difficult to answer.

I've had uniformly good reviews. I've had good luck with reviewers. Some are helpful. I review myself and know the other side of the picture. Reviewers are helpful with things that might have escaped you.

A careful checking of Book Review Digest by the writer shows that Miss Norton has received predominantly favorable reviews.

Publishers

Miss Norton's first two books were published by Appleton-Century. Her third novel was published by the William Penn Publishing Corporation. The next two were published by Houghton-Mifflin. Her relationship with this company ended with a change in their staff. In 1948 Miss Norton began her long relationship with Harcourt, Brace and Company. Since that time, however, original publication has been by Gnome Press (for whom she did editing work 1951-1956); Hammond and Hammond (British); Ace Books, Incorporated (paperbacks); and the World Publishing Company. Various books have also been published by foreign publishers.

Miss Norton's association with the World Publishing Company began when she did editorial work for them. Then they asked her to do an original work.

Miss Norton has about four books in the making at a time. She tries to give each year one book to Harcourt, Brace and Company; one book to the World Publishing Company; and one novelette to Ace Books,

Incorporated (paperbacks), for whom she has been writing originals during the past few years. Ace Books will take almost anything, with only a few taboos, such as ESP and future wars.⁹

When Miss Norton began writing she was working as a librarian at the Cleveland Public Library. Then it took her about eighteen months to write one book. She reminded me that it is heartbreaking news when a novel is not accepted for publication after one has put so much work and effort into it.

Now that she is well established in the writing field and is no longer employed (outside of writing) she finds that she can write a book in about six months, and turns out, as mentioned, the three each year for the three aforementioned publishers.

Individual Titles

The writer has read all of the books for young people by Miss Norton. In addition he has used Book Review Digest, Library Journal, and Booklist in attempting to locate reviews of Miss Norton's books. Each of these reviews was then carefully examined.

The writer has endeavored to give (1) a brief descriptive annotation; (2) comments which are the writer's opinion, as well as pertinent quotations of reviewers;¹⁰ and (3) an indication as to whether the book is in print.

⁹ ESP means extrasensory perception.

¹⁰ In documenting the reviews the writer has not repeated the name of the author in each footnote because all titles are by the same author.

The Prince Commands, Miss Norton's first novel, published before she was twenty-one, is the story of eighteen year old Michael Karl, raised as a wealthy American boy, who finds himself Crown Prince of Morvania, pretender to the throne, and very much involved in the internal affairs of that country, including a revolution in which his cousin becomes king. The story is warm, with pleasant bits of humor, but one feels truly sorry for the cold life of the two young royal cousins. This is a romantic story, yet highly believable in its 1930's setting.

The excellent illustrations by Kate Seredy in this juvenile are far too few. Paul Allen said of the book: "It is to be recommended for the children of those who once read Graustark. It has all the same good points jumbled up differently to look new."¹¹ Another comment worth noting is Miss Alice Martin's statement:

. . . once she asked me, as many aspiring writers for children's books do ask children's librarians, for some good books to read, as she wanted to try writing for children. I suggested some books for her, and I remember when her first book came out . . . I remember Miss Effie Power, at our new book meeting, said, "She can write. This book shows a style of Graustark quality."¹²

The book is no longer in print.

Four years later, in 1938, Ralestone Luck was published. The book, the only one Miss Norton rewrote and sold, relates the adventures of two teenagers and their older brother when they return to the family

¹¹ Paul Allen, Review of The Prince Commands, Book Review Digest, XXX (August, 1934), 697.

¹² Letter from Miss Alice D. Martin, children's librarian at Cleveland Public Library, July 4, 1960. Miss Effie Power is author of Work with Children in Public Libraries, an ALA publication.

home, Pirate's Haven, in Louisiana. They discover that men are trying to take their ancestral home, and they feel succeeding events depend upon their finding a family sword called "The Luck of the Lorne." This too, is a romantic tale, but it offers plenty of action, several warm smiles, and a happy ending. The characters are quite realistic and the good ones, at least, appealing individuals.

The black and white line drawings by James Reid are forceful. Unfortunately they are few.

This writer was unable to locate a review of this book, which is no longer in print.

In 1942 Follow the Drum appeared. This is the story of a girl who comes to Maryland in 1662 in search of her brother after he is shipped as a redemptioner to the New World. In her adventures she sails to Bermuda, and then on to Maryland where she buys land and builds a home for the future of her brother and herself. This long (312 pages) juvenile novel is divided into three books, dealing with London, Bermuda and Maryland. The tale is a romantic adventure story. It is a pleasant one, despite the misfortunes that happen to the brother, and one simply knows all will come out right. The story has a happy ending wherein Johanna, the main character, finds a mate; this will doubtlessly appeal to the girl readers for whom the book is obviously intended.

The only illustration is an attractive frontispiece, which is unsigned.

No review was found for this book, which is no longer in print.

The Sword is Drawn, first in a series of three spy stories, was published in 1944, and is listed as especially recommended in the 1948-1950 supplement of the Standard Catalog for High School Libraries. Boys and adults would like its drama and adventure.

This story tells of the adventures of Lorens van Norreys, a youth of Holland, in the early 1940's at the time of the Nazi invasion. The story is related as if the writer is sending letters to an American penpal telling of his life during the time of the war. Lorens' adventures take him from Rotterdam to Java, Australia, America, and England, but finally he returns to the Netherlands to join the underground and to get a fabulous necklace, "The Flowers of Orange," that his grandfather had him hide in a time-locked safe. Told in a series of four sections, each of these begins with a part of a letter and ends with its conclusion. The in-between part is the yarn itself.

The adventures of Lorens seem somewhat amazing. Much of the brutality of the war is by-passed, but it would not have had to be. International friendship and freedom are the important ideas that are expressed in this story. The characterization is good.

Duncan Coburn's illustrations are very good, in particular the colored frontispiece. One reviewer remarked:

The book is well written and without heroics. Wash and charcoal drawings vividly illustrate the incidents of the tale and catch the strength of Lorens' character. ¹³

The book is no longer in print.

¹³
A. T. Easton, Review of The Sword is Drawn, New York Times, (April, 22, 1944), 23.

Next appeared Rogue Reynard, Miss Norton's adaptation of the beast saga. Prior to writing this book Miss Norton had told it to youngsters as a story hour at the Cleveland Public Library. This retelling of the beast saga in a courtly manner relates how Baron Reynard the fox did many bad things and so was banished from King Lion's Court.

Written in a manner young children will like, it reads as if someone is telling the story. Laura Bannon expressively illustrated this book with friendly, clever black and white illustrations which give a feeling of the Middle Ages. A reviewer said of the book:

Each section is short and uncomplicated enough to hold interest and the sorry experiences of the different animals, rather than the clever tricks of crafty Reynard, enlist the reader's sympathy. Laura Bannon's humorous line drawings enter fully into the spirit of the animal actors. ¹⁴

Rogue Reynard is no longer in print.

The following year Scarface was published. Scarface is recommended in the 1956 Children's Catalog for first purchase and is especially recommended in the 1948-1950 supplement of the Standard Catalog for High School Libraries. This is an adventure packed pirate story, with a mystery, for the juvenile reader. Scarface, in his teens, is cabin boy to notorious Captain Cheap, who operates out of the West Indies. What happens to Scarface after he parts company with the pirate crew following an unsuccessful attack on a town is an exciting story. The boy with the mysterious past learns in the end that he is the son of Sir Robert Scarlett, hunter of pirates. Scarface is a

¹⁴ A. N. Jordan, Review of Rogue Reynard, Hornbook, XXIII (July, 1947), 263.

likeable young chap, and he deserves the better life that he finds at the end of the story.

The characterization is good, especially that of Justin Blade (Scarface) and Francis Hynde. The English dialogue is most amusing. The writer believes the historical background to be accurate.

The illustrations by Lorence Bjorklund are attractive and interesting black and white drawings, some of which are full page. A librarian, reviewer, writer, Mary Gould Davis, said of Scarface:

Older readers will compare the well-written and plotted story with Howard Pyle. It has humor and atmosphere and action that never falter. Even the minor characters are sharply drawn. It is "strong meat." There is no softening of the brutality and coarseness of the "men from the sea." To older boys and girls and to adults it will probably emerge as one of the outstanding adventure stories of the year. ¹⁵

The book is still in print.

Sword in Sheath, second in the spy series, appeared next for publication. (It was later published in an English version as Island of the Lost in 1953). This book is especially recommended in the 1948-1950 supplement to the Standard Catalog for High School Libraries.

It relates the adventures of Lawrence Kane (penpal of Lorens van Norreys in The Sword is Drawn) and Sam Murasaki, two OSS agents, as they seek knowledge of a supposedly dead GI who was lost somewhere in the Dutch East Indies during World War II. The story takes place about a year after the war is over. They find, to their delight, that Lorens is on the same Dutch ship they are; so the three of them sail together

15

M. G. Davis, Review of Scarface, Saturday Review of Literature, XXXI (October, 1948), 36.

to various small islands. They find pearls, as well as Nazis and Japanese soldiers, on a small, uncharted island.

This is a good adventure story with a lot of suspense. The characterizations are well drawn. We find Negro, white, and Japanese (Nisei) working together in a way that is admirable. The story is written maturely enough to be of interest to adult readers. One rather likes the idea of meeting Lorens van Norreys again and finally meeting the penpal Lawrence Kane. Jane Cobb in *Atlantic* said: "The story is breathtaking. The dialogue, too, is exceptionally good." 16

The book is still in print.

Huon of the Horn, published in 1951, is recommended for first purchase in the 1956 edition of Children's Catalog. This is Miss Norton's adaptation of Sir John Burchier's 1534 translation and is based on his Boke of Duke Huon of Burdeux as it appears in the publications of the Early English Text Society. It is a later part of the Charlemagne saga, an elaborate fantasy relating the story of Huon of Bordeaux and his many adventures in which he is aided by Oberon the Elf King. The narrative is divided into two parts: (1) telling chiefly about his trip to the Holy Land; (2) telling how he saved his wife and kingdom from a selfish lord and the wrath of the emperor.

Huon of the Horn is a delightful juvenile fairy tale told in the manner of the storyteller. Originally it was told in a story hour by Miss Norton at the Cleveland Public Library. It would be an excellent book to read to younger children. The writer believes that the charm

16
Jane Cobb, Review of Sword in Sheath, Atlantic, CLXXXVI (December, 1949), 104.

of the story grows on one as he reads it; however, the writer wonders if its old and courtly style would amuse a jet-age group.

Black and white illustrations by Joseph Krush are very attractive. A reviewer in the Saturday Review of Literature said of Huon of the Horn:

This is a book that belongs with the great company of hero tales. . . . The story is stirring and inspiring. Huon has something of Roland's qualities: charm, courage, a romantic appeal, and the fiery spirit of youth. It is an important addition to the hero stories. We owe a debt of gratitude to adapter and publisher. ¹⁷

Huon of the Horn is still in print.

Miss Norton's first published science fiction story is Star Man's Son, which has Cleveland as a background. Fors, the main character, is a boy in a world which has been set back by the ravages of an atomic war. In his adventures with his cat, Dura, he meets another young man. Together they face many weird and horrifying things in this tale for the juvenile reader. In the end there is a truce between the tribes who band together to face the Beast Things, terrible creatures that resulted from radiation.

The two youngsters in this book face unbelievable obstacles; it is somewhat incredible that they are the bringers of peace among the tribes. The friendship between the two, obviously black and white, is an excellent example of racial equality which could exist. The story has excitement and suspense. Illustrations by Nicolas Mordvinoff, a Caldecott winner, are quite graphic black and white line drawings. One reviewer remarked of the book:

¹⁷ Review of Huon of the Horn, Saturday Review of Literature, XXXIV (November, 1950), 70.

Although Star Man's Son; 2250 A. D. is not science fiction in the strictest sense (no space suits or other alluring gadgets) it ought to interest any young reader who has cast a speculative eye upon the future. ¹⁸

Star Man's Son is still in print.

The following year Miss Norton's Star Rangers appeared. In this tale Ranger Sergeant Kartr and his companions, some of whom are human and some of whom are intelligent nonhumans, land their space ship on an unknown planet where they discover the evil Cuumi and others who had landed earlier. Driven from the civilians after they vanquish Cuumi because of fear of the possibility of another iron rule, the Patrol sets out on its own, aids another ship's arrival from outerspace, and begins a new life on a planet (Terra) that was thought to be only a legend in 8054 A. D.

This story has a fast moving plot. It is well written and would interest teenagers as well as adults. The characters, both human and nonhuman, are interesting. There is companionship among these people, and we learn how prejudice can be destroyed by mutual needs and understanding. One reviewer said of the book:

No cut-and-dried star-hopping here, but oddly all the more impact of the awe and wonder of space -- as the ocean may have more meaning to a castaway than to a trans-oceanic plane passenger. . . . In all, an excellent book for the new science fiction reader, and even for the veteran a refreshingly readable one. ¹⁹

Star Rangers is still in print.

¹⁸ E. L. Buell, Review of Star Man's Son, New York Times (August, 1952), 12.

¹⁹ H. H. Holmes, Review of Star Rangers, New York Herald Tribune Book Review (August, 1953), 9.

At Swords' Points, third in the spy series, is listed in the 1955 supplement of the Standard Catalog for High School Libraries and in the 1951-1955 supplement to the Fiction Catalog. It tells of nineteen year old Quinn Anders and his trip to Europe to determine the cause of his brother's supposedly accidental death. Quinn hunts a treasure that is sought by others (including the Russians) in addition to meeting some rather interesting characters. The title of the story comes from a line in the story: "We are always at swords' points with the enemy." 20

The story is a good combination of mystery and adventure. The weaknesses of the young man in the story make him seem quite realistic. The story is credible and might easily have happened. If one has read the first two of this spy series, he is prepared to meet old friends again. A review in the Saturday Review of Literature stated:

Mystery, suspense, and action combine to make an exciting, well-written story of escape and rescue. There is no "writing down" to a juvenile level; its nineteen year old hero and its straight forward style will appeal to all boys over twelve. 21

At Swords' Points is still in print.

The Stars are Ours!, which also appeared in 1954, is another well-written science fiction story. In the year 2500 A. D., Dard Nordis and his niece, Dessie, leave Terra with the Free Scientists

20

Norton, Alice Mary, At Swords' Points (New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1954), p. 278.

21

Review of At Swords' Points, Saturday Review of Literature, XXXVII (November, 1954), 92.

after the earth has been set back to the primitive stage. In the hope for freedom, there is a flight through space and time to another world, one which has an amphibious people, dragons, and ruined cities of another civilization.

The writer feels that there is a valuable lesson in this story: freedom must be always guarded, a lesson that certainly is of importance today as perhaps never before. It seems slightly unbelievable that the boy Dard in the tale would be accorded so much favoritism. Other than this, the story is interesting as are the characters in it. A reviewer for the New York Times said of the book:

. . . based on the theme that man's desire for personal liberty can overcome all adversity. Some readers may feel too much happens in too few chapters, but even they will agree that this is a rip-snorting adventure tale.²²

The book is still in print.

Yankee Privateer, listed in the 1951-1955 supplement to the Fiction Catalog, was the first of three books published in 1955. Fitzhugh Lyon is pressed into service on a Yankee privateer while on his way to join the army at the time of the American Revolution. His adventures on the high seas take him to England where he is imprisoned, escapes, and learns that he is wanted by his grandfather to rule the family estates. Fitz finally rejoins his crew as a full lieutenant.

This is an unusually good sea story with a fine Revolutionary War background. Each chapter is preceded by a short poem of the author's creation, adding style to the book. The dialogue is exceptionally good. The story seems highly credible.

²²
L. T. Bulman, Review of The Stars Are Out!, New York Times (August, 1954), 18.

The drawings by Leonard Vosburgh are excellent black and white drawings, showing force and strength which fit the story well. Elaine Simpson wrote about *Yankee Privateer*: "Very good story with accurate historical background and atmosphere. Recommended for ages 10-15."²³

The story is still in print.

Sargasso of Space is the first of three Dane Thorson-Solar Queen adventure stories written under the name Andrew North. Dane Thorson, a young recruit, is assigned to duty on a spaceship called the Solar Queen. They go to the planet Limbo, where the ship's crew has trading rights. There they become involved in dangerous and exciting action complicated by criminals who have learned to operate machinery of another and earlier civilization, that of the Forerunner.

Although the plot of the story is relatively simple, the story is told so well that one is caught in the excitement of the adventures of Dane Thorson and his fellow crew members. The characterization is good. One can easily believe that these events might happen in the year 3511, the time of this story.

No review was found for this book. It is available as a paperback from Ace Books, Incorporated.

Star Guard, the third Norton novel published in 1955, is listed in the 1956 supplement to the Standard Catalog for High School Libraries. Sometime after 4130 A. D., Kana Karr, a young Terran, goes to the far off planet Fronn where his group is set against by other Terrans, showing a plot to destroy those from earth by the Central

²³ Elaine Simpson, Review of Yankee Privateer, Library Journal, LXXX (May, 1955), 1262.

Control. However Central Control underestimates the Terrans who have been working secretly for hundreds of years to save themselves.

This story is somewhat slower in pace and seemed to the writer overly long. It lacks the excitement of some of the other stories. The off world people of Fromm are unusual and interesting, but they add little to the plot which is chiefly a struggle between the Central Command and the men from Terra. Villiers Gerson in the New York Times said of Star Guard:

Andre Norton has filled her book with enough intrigue, espionage and battle to make a fast moving adventure which should enthrall teen-agers. 24

The second Dane-Thorson-Solar Queen adventure story, Plague Ship, was published in 1956 under the name Andrew North. Dane and the ship go to the planet Sargol to trade for gems, but find one of the big companies has agents there to rival the Free Traders. After solving this problem and winning over the natives, they find they have a much more serious problem. A strange sickness affects part of the crew and the ship is branded as a plague ship unable to land because of peoples' fear of diseases from outerspace. A dramatic landing in the heart of the blast off area on Terra leads them to a town where they swing the odds in their favor.

This is a suspenseful and exciting tale. The action is about a year later than the first of the series, Sargasso of Space. There is some repetition of facts, but this is understandably necessary for the book to stand as an independent work. Several printing errors were

24
Villiers Gerson, Review of Star Guard New York Times
(November 1, 1955), 10:

noted. The story ends on a definite note of more to come. Albert Monheit said of Plague Ship: "A well written, tense, better than average space opera despite a somewhat hysterical ending. Should appeal to older high school science fiction fans,"²⁵ Another reviewer remarked:

The writing is careless (and badly proofread), but the interstellar adventures are ingenious, suspenseful, and decorated by interesting alien animals - plus a first rate spaceship's cat.²⁶

Plague Ship is available as a paperback from Ace Books, Incorporated.

The Crossroads of Time, Miss Norton's first original for Ace Books, has young Blake Walker transported to parallel worlds after his unusual power of perception of danger leads him to save another man's life. In these parallel worlds he has as opposition not only the people of those worlds, but also the evil Pranj, a ruthless man who seeks a world in which to set himself up as a tyrant.

This refreshingly different science fiction story of action across parallel worlds is full of suspense. It is a fascinating tale that is quite believable. The characters and the settings seem realistic. No reviews were discovered.

The book is available as a paperback from Ace Books, Incorporated.

²⁵ Albert Monheit, Review of Plague Ship, Library Journal LXXXI (June, 1953), 1553.

²⁶ H. H. Holmes, Review of Plague Ship, New York Herald Tribune Book Review (May, 1953), 36.

Next, appeared Stand to Horse, a realistic story of army life, which is listed in the 1957 Standard Catalog for High School Libraries. Young Ritchie Peters joins the army in the early 1860's as part of the army in New Mexico. On a mission he and his outfit are attacked by Apaches. Finally, only he and his sergeant are left in a grim struggle to get back to the army camp.

This story is based on the recorded experiences of army men. It is a fine story depicting the life of a young soldier in this period of our history. The characters are real-to-life, the plot fascinating. Following the story are two pages of bibliography to attest the author's research in writing the tale. One reviewer remarked of this western: "Some of the best western writing to show up in a long time." 27

The book is still in print.

A sequel to The Stars Are Ours!, Star Born is about a spaceship that arrives on another planet from earth. The space travelers align themselves with the terrible people referred to as "Those Others" by both the mermen and the Terrans who had arrived earlier. The situation is straightened out and most of "Those Others" are destroyed. The spaceship leaves and life resumes as usual on the planet, for the one man who learns there are Terrans on the planet promises to keep the secret. The main character is Dalgard Nordis, a descendent of the main character of The Stars are Ours!

This story is related somewhat differently, however. Alternating chapters take us with Dalgard and then with Raf Kurbi until

27
R. G. Peck, Review of Stand to Horse, Chicago Sunday Tribune (October, 1956), 11.

later in the story the two meet. There is action and suspense. The idea of mental "talk" is exciting. A Library Journal reviewer said of this book: "Exciting and adventure-laden, this sequel to The Stars are Curs! is well written science fiction. Recommended for fans, ages 12-16." 28

Star Born is still in print.

Sea Siege was the second novel to be published in 1957. After an atomic war the few survivors, including Griff Gunston, are on an island in the West Indies. They find they have a terrible new enemy from the sea in their struggle for survival, octopi mutants that possess a high degree of intelligence and seem pitted against man.

This is a well written story that has style and finish. The plot is different from most science fiction stories (no space ships), the action is exciting, the characterization is excellent. It rates, in the opinion of the writer, as one of Miss Norton's best science fiction tales. Mark Reinsberg said of this story: "A sensitively written, thought provoking work for the more imaginative high school reader." 29

Sea Siege is still in print.

In 1957 Miss Norton combined science fiction and allegory to produce Star Gate, listed in the 1959 supplement of the Standard Catalog for High School Libraries. This is the story of Kincar's 'Rud's joining

28

D. S. Jones, Review of Star Born, Library Journal, LXXXII (April, 1957), 1109.

29

Mark Reinsberg, Review of Sea Siege, Chicago Sunday Tribune, (November, 1957), 52.

the Star Lords of Garth and the half breeds as they go through a mysterious gate into a parallel world. There they find evil counterparts of some of their group, destroy the evil ones, and set that world aright.

This story of a boy, his pet mard and steed is a good story for younger readers. The relationship of the boy and his pets is almost like that of any boy, dog, and horse. The story is suspense packed and has an air of mystery about it. The mysterious unexplainable things in the tale this writer liked, for in life there are many unexplainable things. The story shows discrimination and how people triumph over it. The plot is a little slower than usual for a Norton novel, but it has a touch of mysticism. Virginia Kirkus says of Star Gate:

Andre Norton, whose ability to extend scientific thought to the limit of imagination has won him many enthusiasts among science fiction fans, elaborates in Star Gate on the possibility of alternate destinies governed by optional changes in time. A fascinating concept, masterfully handled by the author. 30

Star Gate is still in print.

Miss Norton's one literary endeavor published in 1958 is The Time Traders which is listed in the 1958-1960 supplement of the Standard Catalog for High School Libraries. In the latter quarter of the Twentieth Century, Ross Murdock, a delinquent youth with a bad record, is given a chance to choose between the dreaded Rehabilitation Service and becoming a volunteer on a government project; he chooses the latter and through a time machine makes trips back into history. In the past

he and his companions oppose not only savage tribesmen but also the Reds and people from outerspace.

This is superb science fiction. The action is always fast, the plot never dull. Miss Norton shows how a misfit in society, such as Ross, can become a useful individual, a lesson still valuable today. The Beaker background is particularly interesting and the reader learns some of the customs and history of the Beakermen as he enjoys an adventure packed tale, which, in this writer's opinion, is Miss Norton's finest science fiction novel. A reviewer remarked:

Miss Norton is a superb story teller. Her skill draws the reader completely into her fantastic other world of transposed time. ³¹

Secret of the Lost Race, another paperback original for Ace Books, Incorporated, was first published in 1959. Joktar, an unusually small young man for his age, is caught by the patrol and sent to work on the planet Fenris, where he escapes and joins the "Freemen of Fenris." This group is opposing company control of the planet. Joktar finds he is being hunted, until the end of the story, for some reason beyond his understanding.

This is a good yarn, full of suspense and adventure. The weak point is the title, for to this writer it seems the secret does not lie in the so-called "secret of the lost race," but it is what or whom Joktar is. Perhaps it would have been better if the publisher had retained Miss Norton's original title, Wolfhead, the old English term for outlaw. No review was found for the book. It is still available from Ace Books, Incorporated.

31

G. E. Dyer, Review of The Time Traders, Chicago Sunday Tribune (November, 1959), part 2, L5.

Voodoo Planet is the third Dane Thorson-Solar Queen adventure written under the name of Andrew North. Dane Thorson, with two other members of the crew from the Solar Queen, goes to the planet Khatka as guest of Chief Ranger Asaki. There the ship's medic to save their lives must fight the planet's witchdoctor's magic with his own magic.

This very short (78 pages) story is based on the idea of controlled hallucinations. The plot is weak. It seems more like a short story than a novel, but this perhaps can be explained by Miss Norton's statement that it was written as a filler; i.e., Ace Books, Incorporated wanted a shorter story to complete a volume with Plague Ship.³² The story seems to the writer like an African story adapted as a space story. No review was found for this story which is published as a paperback.

Galactic Derelict, the sequel to The Time Traders, finds Ross Murdock and Dr. Ashe joined by a new character, a young Apache, Travis Fox, who is the main character of this tale. This venture into the past takes Travis and his companions on a weird space flight to strange and unknown (to man) planets where they meet unusual forms of life. Finally they manage to return to earth.

This story is almost as good as The Time Traders. The writer feels that the only weak part is the ending, which seems hasty. The author has created many unusual people and animals from outerspace. The action is thin, the plot simple. The adventures usually are exciting. One reviewer remarked:

³²

Telephone conversation with Miss Norton, July 16, 1960.

Four men trapped in a 1000 year old space ship are careering through a degenerate universe on an unknown course. Skillfully composed SF novel with sufficient action and excitement to hold the attention of fans. Recommended for libraries wanting additional books of this type. 33

The book is still in print.

Published in 1959, The Beast Master is the adventures of Hosteen Storm, an Amerindian, and his band of beasts when they go to the planet Arzor. Storm averts a war between the settlers and the natives as well as fighting the cruel Xiks, who are trying to take over the planet.

This is an unusual tale in which there is a high degree of relationship between the young man and his animal band which he controls mentally. The action at times is sluggish. The characterization is good. The story could use more suspense. The element of the Sealed Caves with their Terran gardens adds a strange, mysterious note to the story. Regarding this book one reviewer remarked:

This fantasy is made convincing by the author's boldness of imagination and by his ability to yield totally to the atmosphere which he creates. 34

The Beast Master is a 1959 publication, not listed in the 1959 edition of Books in Print.

Next for publication was Storm Over Warlock. Shann Lantee, an officer of the Scouts, and the two wolverines in Shann's charge are the

33

Albert Monheit, Review of Galactic Derelict, Junior Libraries, VI (November, 1959), 47.

34

Review of The Beast Master, Bulletin from Virginia Kirkus' Service, XXVII (August, 1959), 554.

only survivors on the planet Warlock when the beetlelike Throgs have destroyed the Scout camp. Their adventures on that planet lead them to discover intelligent native life, who help them to destroy the Throgs and save a coming space ship of colonists from earth.

This science fiction story is full of action and suspense. The odds against the young hero seem highly plausible. The characterization is excellent. Shann is not the conventional hero, and his background makes him right for the part he plays in the action on Warlock. Elaine Simpson recommended the book in her review:

Another of Norton's stories of Terran conflict with the Throgs, insect-derived, merciless, extra-terrestrial predators, and of the mutant animals bred to aid man in his explorations of space, in this case a pair of wolverines. Young Lantee, the wolverines, and a space-ship-wrecked Scout officer have many adventures on the strange planet of Warlock after the Throgs destroy the survey camp and team. Good, exciting SF up to Norton's best standards, and, therefore, above the general run of SF for young readers. Recommended. ³⁵

Inasmuch as this is 1960 it is assumed to be in print.

The Sioux Spaceman is another book written for Ace Books, Inc.

Miss Norton's original title for the work was Warrior Breed. Kade Whitehawk, an Amerindian, is sent to the planet Klors after bungling an assignment on another planet. On Klors he finds the Ikkinni slaves of the planet's rulers. He helps some of them gain freedom. Then he finds he is part of a bigger plan from his home planet, a plan in effect about two hundred years, to help free others from Styor power.

³⁵ Elaine Simpson, Review of Storm over Warlock, Junior Libraries, VI (April, 1960), 77.

CHAPTER IV

SUMMARY

Andre Norton has accomplished what she set out to do: to become a successful writer of books for young people. This writer feels, as do most reviewers, that she has become more than just a successful writer. She has become a good one. Miss Norton is a superb storyteller. Judging by reviews and his own observations, this writer believes she turns out well-written stories. However, this writer also believes that the paperback originals she has written for Ace Books, Incorporated, do not generally measure up to Miss Norton's usually high standards.

When she first began to write, Miss Norton's books were written for the younger reader. Her first science fiction books were also slated for this audience. As she has become more proficient as a writer, her works have become better written and more mature, so that they appeal to young people and adults. All readers -- boys and girls, young people, and adults -- can find in her books release from the normal routines of daily life. They can live with her main characters a fascinating life in another world by way of her science fiction, or they can go back in history and live and dream with the realistic heroes she creates.

As a high school English teacher and a science fiction fan, this writer realizes from his reading of Miss Norton's books that her

books can, as she suggests, lead readers on from leisure reading to factual reading. This is significant today, especially in regard to the realm of science fiction, when today's world is so close to conquering space. Perhaps the reader of her science fiction today will be the space scientist or space traveler of tomorrow. The reason for the reader's interest in space may well have begun with an Andre Norton novel.

It has been only in the past six years, since her retirement from the Cleveland Public Library, that Miss Norton has been writing prolifically. In these six years Miss Norton has written nineteen of the twenty-nine books published. Science fiction accounts for most of Miss Norton's books, and perhaps her own statement is an explanation for this:

The reason for writing s-f is that I had long loved to read it and had written two books earlier -- soon after the publication of my first book -- but there was no interest in it then as far as the publishers were concerned. In fact one could not even get an editor to read such a book until the late 1940's. Then I sent an outline of Star Man's Son to Harcourt and they accepted it as a kind of trial -- with some marked reservations. World started in with the publication of the Bullard stories, also an experiment, and then two anthologies, finally asking me to try an original for their list. But it was a case of venturing in cautiously on part of the publishers in both cases.¹

The recent trend toward writing more than one book a year implies there will be many more books to come. It seems to this writer that Miss Norton has already become significant as a writer for young people, and in the future will be even more important.

1

Letter from Andre Norton, July 12, 1960.

APPENDIX A

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF ANDRE NORTON BOOKS

The following list of books for young people by Andre Norton, listed by date of publication as given this writer by Miss Norton, are presented under the author's real name, Alice Mary Norton.

- Horton, Alice Mary. The Prince Commands; Being Sundry Adventures of Michael Karl, Sometime Crown Prince and Pretender to the Throne of Morvania; by Andre Norton - pseud. - illus. by Kate Seredy. New York: D. Appleton-Century Company, 1934.
- • Halestone Luck, by Andre Norton - pseud. - illus. by James Reid. New York: D. Appleton-Century Company, 1936.
- • Follow the Drum; Being the Ventures and Misadventures of one Johanna Lovell, Sometime Lady of Catkept Manor in Kent County of Lord Baltimore's Proprietary of Maryland, in the Gracious Reign of King Charles the Second; by Andre Norton - pseud. - New York: William Penn Publishing Corporation, 1942.
- • The Sword is Drawn, by Andre Norton - pseud. - illus. by Duncan Coburn. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1944.
- • Rogue Reynard; Being a Tale of the Fortunes and Misfortunes and Divers Misdeeds of that Great Villain, Baron Reynard, the Fox, and How He Was Served with King Lion's Justice; Based upon the Beast Saga; by Andre Norton - pseud. - illus. by Laura Bannon. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1947.
- • Scarface; Being the Story of One Justin Blade, Late of the Pirate Isle of Tortuga, and How Fate Did Justly Deal with Him, to his Great Profit; by Andre Norton - pseud. - illus. by Lorence Bjorklund. New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1948.
- • Sword in Sheath, by Andre Norton - pseud. - illus. by Lorence Bjorklund. New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1949.

- _____ . Huon of the Horn; Being a Tale of the Duke of Bordeaux Who Came to Sorrow at the Hands of Charlemagne and Yet Won the Favor of Oberon, the Elf King, to his Lasting Fame and Great Glory; adapted by Andre Norton - pseud. - illus. by Joseph Krush. New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1951.

- _____ . Star Man's Son, 2250 A. D.; by Andre Norton - pseud. - illus. by Nicolas Mordvinoff. New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1953.

- _____ . Star Rangers, by Andre Norton - pseud. - New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1953.

- _____ . At Swords' Points, by Andre Norton - pseud. - New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1954.

- _____ . The Stars Are Ours!, by Andre Norton - pseud. - Cleveland: World Publishing Company, 1954.

- _____ . Yankee Privateer, by Andre Norton - pseud. - illus. by Leonard Vosburgh. Cleveland: World Publishing Company, 1955.

- _____ . Sargasso of Space; a Dane Thorson-Solar Queen Adventure; by Andrew North - pseud. - New York: Gnome Press, Incorporated, 1955.

- _____ . Star Guard, by Andre Norton - pseud. - New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1955.

- _____ . Plague Ship; a Dane Thorson-Solar Queen Adventure; by Andrew North - pseud. - New York: Gnome Press, Incorporated, 1956.

- _____ . The Crossroads of Time, by Andre Norton - pseud. - New York: Ace Books, 1956.

- _____ . Stand to Horse, by Andre Norton - pseud. - New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1956.

- _____ . Star Born, by Andre Norton - pseud. - Cleveland: World Publishing Company, 1957.

- _____ . Sea Siege, by Andre Norton - pseud. - New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1957.

- _____ . Star Gate, by Andre Norton - pseud. - Cleveland: World Publishing Company, 1957.

- _____ . The Time Traders, by Andre Norton - pseud. - Cleveland: World Publishing Company, 1958.

- _____ . Secret of the Lost Race, by Andre Norton - pseud. = New York: Ace Books, Incorporated, 1959.
- _____ . Voodoo Planet; a Dane Therson-Solar Queen Adventure; by Andrew North -pseud.- New York: Ace Books, Incorporated, 1959.
- _____ . Galactic Derelict, by Andre Norton -pseud.- Cleveland: World Publishing Company, 1959.
- _____ . The Beast Master, by Andre Norton = pseud. = New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1959.
- _____ . Storm over Warlock, by Andre Norton = pseud. = Cleveland: World Publishing Company, 1960.
- _____ . The Sioux Spaceman, by Andre Norton -pseud. = New York: Ace Books, Incorporated, 1960.

APPENDIX B

Anne Norton
1829 Mannering Road
Cleveland 12, Ohio

June 8, 1960

Mr. Robert D. Lofland
Box 67
Damascus, Ohio

Dear Mr. Lofland:

I am most flattered that you believe my work deserving of the type of notice you intend to give it--that of using it as a basis for a master's thesis, and I will try to cooperate as best I can. The main problem is this, for some years I have been forced to a semi-invalid existence and I do not go out very much. So any personal interview must take place here at my home. And the trip to Cleveland might not be possible for you at the present season when there are so many demands upon a student's time. However, if you do wish to come, a Saturday afternoon, not later than one-thirty, would be fine as far as I am concerned.

At present I am engaged on a Civil war story which is very demanding as a piece of research-cum-writing work and Saturday is my one free day. If you wish to come please call at least the day before---the phone number is: IV 1-4881.

Sincerely,

Anne Norton

BIBLIOGRAPHY

About Andre Norton

Books

Current Biography Yearbook, 1956-1957; ed. by Marjorie Dent Candee.
New York: H. W. Wilson Company, 1957.

Who's Who of American Women, 1958-1959; A Biographical Dictionary of
Notable Living American Women. Chicago: Marquis-Who's
Who, 1958.

Unpublished Materials

Hatch, Alice. Letter, July 7, 1960; note, July 12, 1960.

Lumis, Mrs. Ben. Note, July 12, 1960.

Martin, Alice D. Letter, July 4, 1960.

Norton, Alice Mary. Interview, June 18, 1960; letter, July 2, 1960;
letter, July 12, 1960; telephone conversation, July 16, 1960.

Swinehart, Josephine J. Letter, June 22, 1960.

By Andre Norton

Books

Norton, Alice Mary. At Swords' Points, by Andre Norton - pseud. -
New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1953.

_____. Beast Master, The, by Andre Norton - pseud. - New York:
Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1959.

_____. Crossroads of Time, The, by Andre Norton - pseud. - New
York: Ace Books, 1956.

- _____ . Follow the Drum; Being the Ventures and Misadventures of one Johanna Lovell, Sometime Lady of Catkept Manor in Kent County of Lord Baltimore's Proprietary of Maryland, in the Gracious Reign of King Charles the Second; by Andre Norton = pseud.= New York: William Penn Publishing Corporation, 1942.
- _____ . Galactic Derelict, by Andre Norton = pseud.= Cleveland: World Publishing Company, 1959.
- _____ . Huon of the Horn; Being a Tale of the Duke of Bordeaux Who Came to Sorrow at the Hands of Charlemagne and Yet Won the Favor of Oberon the Elf King, to His Lasting Fame and Great Glory; adapted by Andre Norton = pseud.= illus. by Joseph Krush. New York: Brace and Company, 1951.
- _____ , and Allen, Grace. Murders for Sale, by Allen Weston = pseud.= London: Hammond and Hammond, 1954.
- _____ . Plague Ship; A Dane Thorson-Solar Queen Adventure; by Andrew North = pseud.= New York: Gnome Press, Incorporated, 1955.
- _____ . Prince Commands, The; Being Sundry Adventures of Michael Karl, Sometime Crown Prince and Pretender to the Throne of Morvania; by Andre Norton = pseud.= illus. by Kate Seredy. New York: D. Appleton-Century Company, 1934.
- _____ . Ralestone Luck, by Andre Norton = pseud.= illus. by James Reid. New York: D. Appleton-Century Company, 1938.
- _____ . Rogue Reynard; Being a Tale of the Fortunes and Misfortunes and Divers Misdeeds of that Great Villain, Baron Reynard, the Fox, and How He Was Served with King Lion's Justice; Based upon the Beast Saga; by Andre Norton = pseud.= Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1947.
- _____ . Sargasso of Space; A Dane Thorson-Solar Queen Adventure; by Andrew North = pseud.= New York: Gnome Press, Incorporated, 1955.
- _____ . Scarface; Being the Story of One Justin Blade, Late of the Pirate Isle of Tortuga, and How Fate Did Justly Deal with Him, to his Great Profit; by Andre Norton = pseud.= illus. by Lorence Bjorklund. New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1948.
- _____ . Sea Siege, by Andre Norton = pseud.= New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1957.
- _____ . Secret of the Lost Race, by Andre Norton = pseud.= New York: Ace Books, Incorporated, 1959.

- _____ . Sioux Spaceman, The, by Andre Norton - pseud. New York: Ace Books, Incorporated, 1960.
- _____ . Stand to Horse, by Andre Norton - pseud. New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1956.
- _____ . Star Born, by Andre Norton - pseud. Cleveland: World Publishing Company, 1957.
- _____ . Star Gate, by Andre Norton - pseud. Cleveland: World Publishing Company, 1957.
- _____ . Star Guard, by Andre Norton - pseud. New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1955.
- _____ . Star Man's Son, 2250 A. D., by Andre Norton - pseud. illus. by Nicolas Wordvinoff. New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1953.
- _____ . Star Rangers, by Andre Norton - pseud. New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1953.
- _____ . Stars Are Ours!, The, by Andre Norton - pseud. Cleveland: World Publishing Company, 1954.
- _____ . Storm Over Warlock, by Andre Norton - pseud. Cleveland: World Publishing Company, 1960.
- _____ . Sword in Sheath, by Andre Norton - pseud. illus. by Lorence Bjorklund. New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1949.
- _____ . Sword is Drawn, The, by Andre Norton - pseud. illus. by Duncan Coburn. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1944.
- _____ . Time Traders, The, by Andre Norton - pseud. Cleveland: World Publishing Company, 1958.
- _____ . Voodoo Planet; A Dane Thorson-Splar Queen Adventure, by Andrew North - pseud. New York: Ace Books, Incorporated, 1959.
- _____ . Yankee Privateer, by Andre Norton - pseud. illus. by Leonard Vosburgh. Cleveland: World Publishing Company, 1955.

Articles

- _____ . "Living in 1980 plus --" by Andre Norton- pseud. : Library Journal, LXXVII (September, 1952), 1463-1464.

Books Edited by Andre Norton

Jameson, Malcolm. Bullard of the Space Patrol, ed. by Andre Norton. Cleveland: World Publishing Company, 1951.

Space Pioneers; ed. with introduction and notes by Andre Norton. New York: World Publishing Company, 1954.

Space Police; ed. with introduction and notes by Andre Norton. Cleveland: World Publishing Company, 1956.

Space Service; ed. with introduction and notes by Andre Norton. Cleveland: World Publishing Company, 1953.

Reviews about Books by Andre NortonSigned Reviews

- Allen, Paul. Review of The Prince Commands, Book Review Digest, XXX (August, 1934), 697.
- Buell, E. L. Review of Star Man's Son, New York Times (August, 1952), 12.
- Bulman, L. T. Review of The Stars Are Curs!, New York Times (August, 1954), 18.
- Cobb, Jane. Review of Sword in Sheath, Atlantic, CLXXXVI (December, 1949), 104.
- Davis, M. G. Review of Scarface, Saturday Review of Literature, XXXI (October, 1948), 36.
- Dyer, G. E. Review of The Time Traders, Chicago Sunday Tribune (November, 1958), part 2, 46.
- Eaton, A. T. Review of The Sword is Drawn, New York Times (April, 1944), 23.

- Gerson, Villiers. Review of Star Guard, New York Times (November, 1955), 10.
- Holmes, H. H. Review of Plague Ship, New York Herald Tribune Book Review (May, 1956), 36.
- _____. Review of Star Rangers, New York Herald Tribune Book Review (August, 1953), 9.
- Jones, D. S. Review of Star Born, Library Journal, LXXXII (April, 1957), 1109.
- Jordan, A. M. Review of Rogue Reynard, Hornbook, XXIII (July, 1947), 263.
- Monheit, Albert. Review of Plague Ship, Library Journal, LXXXI (June, 1956), 1553.
- _____. Review of Galactic Derelict, Junior Libraries, VI (November, 1959), 47.
- Peck, R. G. Review of Stand to Horse, Chicago Sunday Tribune (October, 1956), 11.
- Reinsberg, Mark. Review of Sea Siege, Chicago Sunday Tribune (November, 1957), 52.
- Simpson, Elaine. Review of Storm over Warlock, Junior Libraries, VI (April, 1960), 77.
- _____. Review of Yankee Privateer, Library Journal, LXXX (May, 1955), 1262.

Unsigned Reviews

- Review of At Swords' Points, Saturday Review of Literature, XXXVII (November, 1954), 92.
- Review of Beast Master, The, Bulletin from Virginia Kirkus' Service, XXVII (August, 1959), 554.
- Review of Huon of the Horn, Saturday Review of Literature, XXXIV (November, 1951), 70.
- Review of Star Gate, Bulletin from Virginia Kirkus' Service, XXVI (August, 1958), 608.

Other Sources

Books in Print; an Author-Title-Series Index to the Publishers' Trade List Annual, 1959; ed. by Sarah L. Prakken. New York: R. R. Bowker Company, 1959.

Children's Catalog; a Dictionary Catalog . . . with analytical entries . . . and a classified list indicating subject headings. 4th ed., 5th supp., comp. by Phyllis Crawford. New York: H. W. Wilson Company, 1935-

Fiction Catalog, a subject, author, and title list of 5050 works of fiction in the English language with annotations; comp. by Dorothy E. Cook and others. New York: H. W. Wilson Company, 1942-

Standard Catalog for High School Libraries; a selected catalog of 4555 books . . . comp. by Dorothy E. Cook and others. New York: H. W. Wilson Company, 1947-

LOFLAND, ROBERT D., M. A., August, 1960

Library Science

Andre Norton, A Contemporary Author of Books for Young People. (49 pp.)

Director of Thesis: Mrs. Elnora M. Portteus

This thesis presents a biographical sketch about Andre (Alice Mary) Norton, a survey of her works, a listing of her books for young people, and a facsimile of an Andre Norton letter. The thesis presents the most up-to-date information about the subject as obtained from an interview with her and contacts with her associates. A survey of her works discusses the types of books she has written, pseudonyms, and relationships with illustrators, translators, publishers, and reviewers. Individual titles are discussed with a descriptive annotation, comments by the writer, and pertinent remarks by reviewers. A listing of her books is presented by the author. A facsimile of an Andre Norton letter will give one an opportunity to examine her signature.

Miss Norton is an important contemporary author. This is illustrated by the fact that her books are listed and recommended in such standard library aids as Children's Catalog, the Standard Catalog for High School Libraries, and the Fiction Catalog. This thesis makes available information about the subject that will be useful to children's librarians.