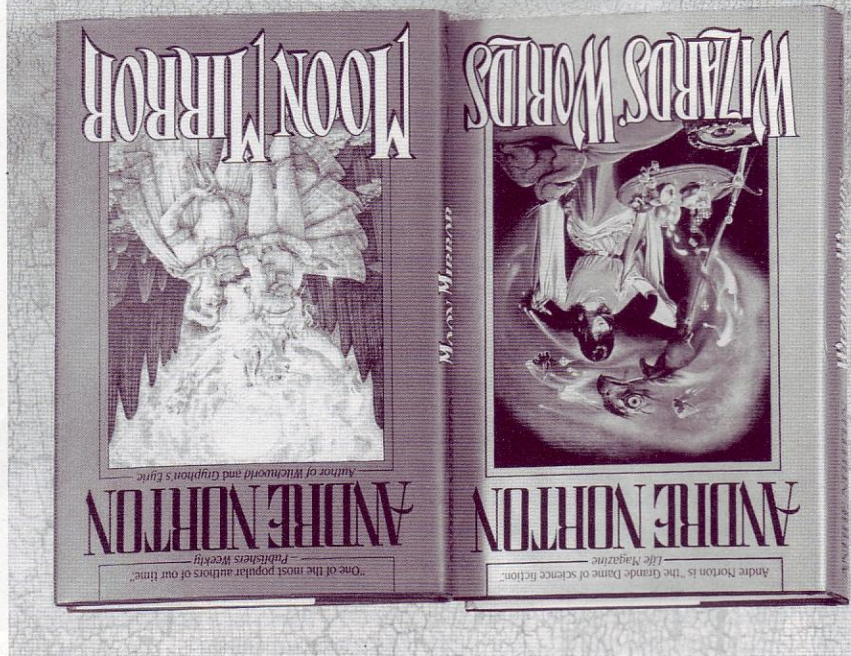


ing to know an author doesn't have to resort to foul language, sex, or graphic violence to write a saleable book (or in Norton's case, more than a hundred of them). Norton is still actively writing and shows few signs of slowing down. She has had some health concerns in the past but is currently in relatively good health, with some recent improvements in vision and mobility. She possesses a sharp mind and an incredible memory. (Norton once read a manuscript for a publisher and not only told him not to publish it, but that the would-be author was a plagiarist who had only changed the time frame of an obscure novel Norton remembered reading 40 years earlier.)

At a point in life where many would consider relaxing, Norton is undertaking a very ambitious project, a writer's retreat to be known as High Hallack, where up to four writers at a time can reside for up to a month to work on their books. The centerpiece of the planned compound is to be Norton's vast 10,000-volume reference library. (Norton's work has always been meticulously researched. Her 1960 novel *Shadow Hawk* was set in the period of the Hyksos occupation in Egypt. The historical backdrop was so well done that the book was translated into Arabic and used in the Egyptian school system.) Thousands of books will be available to the writers; more volumes are steadily being acquired to fill out weak sections. A vast collection of fiction will be on hand, as well as a large video library. The library will also house Norton's personal collection of all her work, including notes and manuscripts not previously donated elsewhere. This project will benefit many future writers and will be a permanent tribute to a lifetime of achievement by this gifted and giving author.

Rule Number One for collectors is "Collect what you like." I like Andre Norton and I like her books. I just reread one of her science fiction titles written more than 40 years ago. It was as good as when I was that elementary school kid, looking for more A. Norton titles on the library shelf.



Norton historicals I have lent her. It is also refreshing several years younger than the author, has read the spooked by a Norton ghost story; my mother, only Norton books; my wife and my son have been discussed. My daughter has read more than a dozen of wonder so often evoked when Norton's books are a timeless tale that will help it experience that sense like this." It's exciting to pass on to a new generation shelf and handing it to a child: "Here, I think you'll pulling a reading copy of a Norton title down off a had the pleasure, as have many other parents, of their first space adventures with Andre Norton. I've more "mature," but they still have fond memories of fiction may have moved on to authors they consider Many enthusiasts who prefer "hardcore" science Asians and Native Americans.

tagonists have also included African Americans, in *Ordeal in Otherwhere* (1964). Her pro-first serious female science fiction hero of the day, she did quietly introduce the which to launch diatribes on the issues using her books as a soap box from started. Although she has refrained from many young writers needed to get inspiration and encouragement that blazing female writer she has been the done much more than that. As a trail-fiction." Intentionally or not, she has story, for it is my firm belief that that is been my intention to do more than tell a Norton once wrote, "It has never to receive their Grand Master Award.

in 1984 by making her the first woman tasy Writers of America recognized her Boston. The Science Fiction and Fantasy the guest of honor at the Worldcon in