

# R E V I E W

## Thendara House

Reviewed by Marty Conway

Another in the Darkover series, *Thendara House* is the journey of discovery for its two main characters; Magda, a Terran intelligence officer and Jaelle, a member of the Guild of Renunciates — Free Amazons. Through an oath, the women change places stepping into a world and culture as different as night is to day.

Magda, hiding her Terran heritage, must learn to accept her strength and inner sense of self to become a free Amazon. Just when she has started to feel secure in Thendara House, a violent confrontation with a man and his two hired mercenary swordsmen puts her place in the Guild into jeopardy as she unknowingly violates an honor code.

Jaelle, raised as a free Amazon, marries as a freemate to a Terran intelligence officer previously married to Magda. Believing in her

love for her mate, she begins to question her oaths taken at Thendara House, only to find she is becoming his property.

The discoveries Magda and Jaelle make about their lives and their love for each other eventually bring them into a life threatening situation.

Definitely not the best work of Marion Zimmer Bradley, *Thendara House* is a book to be read and thought about. Although this work starts slowly it will definitely keep you interested. What was distressing about this story is that even though it is set in futuristic times it contains the sexism, racism and violence we see in the world around us today. Homophobia is still a problem, even in Thendara House amongst the free Amazons, who take the oath, "And I further swear that the members of the Guild of Free Amazons shall be to me, each and every one, as my mother, my sister or my daughter, born of one blood with me, and that no woman



sealed by oath to the Guild shall appeal to me in vain." (Excerpt from the Oath of the Free Amazons.)

Perhaps *Thendra House* was meant to show what the future could and would hold if we do not work to change things today.

## Gay/lesbian poll shows ambivalence

In a recent nationwide telephone survey, 52 percent of the gay people asked said they support anti-discrimination laws for gay people, and 47 percent said they would not let a candidate's homosexuality influence their decision to vote for that person, according to a newspaper poll.

The nationwide telephone survey of 1653 people showed that 44 percent said they know someone who is gay, but about two-thirds said they were "unsympathetic" to the homosexual community.

Laws banning job discrimination against gay people were supported by more than half of those polled in the nationwide survey. Support for non-discrimination laws was appreciably higher in California. A separate telephone survey of 1889 Californians indicated that the state may be the most hospitable to gay people. Of those surveyed, 58 percent said they did not oppose gay and lesbian lifestyles; 37 percent said they did.

The nationwide poll showed that opposition to lesbian and gay lifestyles was prominent; 52 percent opposed while 44 percent did not. The East was the only region where more than half said they approve of homosexuality.

Anti-gay feelings were strongest in the South and the West, and among fundamentalist religionists. More women than men said they knew gay people and were more positive about gays.

The poll showed that there is strong resentment in some parts of the country to the increased political organizing by lesbians and gay men. Those polled said they were unsympathetic to lesbians and gay men as a group, and 46 percent said they were "very unsympathetic." Roman Catholics were generally more tolerant of lesbians and gay men than were Protestants.

The polls were conducted by the Los Angeles Times; the nationwide poll between September 17 and 22 and the California poll between October 15 and 20. The nationwide poll is calculated to have a 3 percent margin of error and the California poll a 2 percent margin of error.

Now Serving . . .

### BREAKFAST/BRUNCH EVERY DAY

Mon-Fri 8am-11am Sat 10am-1pm Sun 9am-2:30pm



Fresh Fried Potatoes • Quiche • Huevos Rancheros

Omelets including unusual daily specials such as Guacamole, Szechwan Spicy Eggplant, Italian Sausage, Curried Vegetables & Chutney

And for the "I'll eat anything in the morning" crowd: Vegetarian, Chicken & Seafood Specials beyond the imagination of the common breakfast egg!

Fresh Fruit Salad • Muffins • Real Maple Syrup • Pancakes  
Sourdough & Whole Grain French Toast

Espresso • Exceptional Coffee • Wine • Beer  
Twinings & Celestial Seasonings Teas

(You "shouldn't" but you can even have our wonderful desserts.)

### OLD WIVES' TALES

1300 East Burnside • 238-0470

Lunch • Dinner • Dessert • Every day of the week  
Children's Playroom • Room for Breakfast Meetings

## POSTCARDS by RIGGS PHOTOGRAPHY



TELEPHONE: 282-2474

SELF DEFENSE SEMINARS  
DEMONSTRATIONS  
WORKSHOPS  
CLASSES

JANESA KRUSE  
HEAD INSTRUCTOR



1515 SE 37th Ave.  
Portland, OR 97214  
231-1232