

October 10,
1963.

Mr. Billy Norton,
Pinedale,
New Mexico.

Dear Mr. Norton:-

You will proba ly not remember me, though I recall watching you make a sand painting on several occasions. For many years, I have been making photographs of The Dinah, all over the reservation and have been working toward the completion of a pictorial book to be called THE ENDURING NAVAHO.

I am commencing the book with a condensed version of the Creation Story. I have illustrated with photographs from the air of the Four Sacred Mountains. This will be followed by a series of portraits, many scenes of life on the reservation, some made a good many years ago, some up to date. The book will end with a few ceremonial things ~~at~~ I have of a Yeibichai, a "real" sand painting in a medicine hogan, at night pictue of the Yeibichai.

The part at the beginning of the book, the story of the Creation will occupy some several pages without illustration. In a book that is alone all pictures, this is bothering me. I have been thinking about what else I could do to illustrate this. I had decided to use a sand painting. Two weeks ago, I was in Gallup where I had a long visit with my friend Herbert Blatchford. He suggested using a whole painting, and then four parts of it. Later he suggested "Why not get Billy Norton to make you a sand painting?" This ofcourse would be greatly superior to any copy, even on a skin.

The story I am using is the one with the raft. Should you be in Gallup perhaps you could talk to Herbert about this. He can tell you what the book is like.

I am hopin to come over again in a matter of three or four weeks time. Could you let me know if you would be willing to co-operate with me on this, and what you

you would charge? I would want to do it in a hogan with just the overhead light. I would want to get four sections and one photograph of the whole. I would want it as authentic as possible.

Other Navaho People who know of my work on this, are Ned Hathali, Sammy Day, Maurice McCabä, Sam Akeah (whom I have known for more than thirty years, Annie Wauneka and others. Mrs. Naswood who is now working at the Ranch Kitchen in Gallup looked at the book in detail when I was over two weeks ago. And, of course, I have known Herbert since he was in Albuquerque at the University.

Will you think this over and let me know what you decide about it? I am enclosing a self addressed envelope for your convenience, and I hope very much that we may work to-gether on this.

Very sincerely yours,