

science fiction news

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Selectors: John Carnell, Dr J. G. Porter

SPACE BORN

by Lan Wright

The February Choice

ABOARD the starship which is taking him from Earth to the planet Ferroval, Martin Regan shares a cabin with Manuel Cabrera, a wealthy South American business man. Although there is an air of mystery about Cabrera, Regan has no reason to suppose that the journey will be other than uneventful. But on the fourth day out from Earth disaster strikes and the ship explodes into molten ruins.

Only Regan survives—mutilated beyond recognition—and on an alien world he is treated by surgeons whose knowledge of human anatomy is scant. His torn and broken body is patched up with prosthetic limbs, his face rebuilt in a travesty of human likeness, and he slowly returns to health—only to learn that he has been wrongly identified as Manuel Cabrera.

Claimed by the Cabrera family, Regan is forced to play out a sinister masquerade in a situation which threatens the survival of the whole human race. For he—in the role of Manuel Cabrera—is the key figure in a threatened conflict between overpopulated Earth and a Terran empire among the stars.

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THE JANUARY SFBC CHOICE

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by Leonard Daventry

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