

science fiction news

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Selectors: John Carnell, Dr J. G. Porter

THE MARCH CHOICE

Doppelgänger

by Gerald Heard

THE world of 1997 is in the grip of a benevolent dictator who organizes and controls it for its own good, with all the help that science can give him. As always in a dictatorship, there is an opposition—in this case one driven literally underground and organized as ruthlessly and despotically as the world of light overhead.

A willing victim is selected by the dictator of darkness—a man who will assume the physical and mental characteristics of the upper world's ruler through rigorous training and with the aid of grafting operations which need the greatest fortitude to be endured.

The main part of the novel deals with the experiences which await this victim once he has ascended into the upper world and has become the double, the *doppelgänger*, of its dictator. It tells how he sets out upon his mission of assassination, how he is soon captured, how he comes face to face with his quarry and how his mission is accomplished—but in changed circumstances and with fearfully unexpected results.

'Doppelgänger' is dense in its construction and its ideas; in its outline it is an adventure story, but its implications are strange and complex and need real thought. This is a book which has not been generally available for a long time and we are very glad to be able to include it in the SFBC list.

Cassell o.p.; SFBC 6s

WANTED

MR M. G. TASKER, 9 Pelham Place, Seaford, Sussex, would like to sell the following SFBC titles: *The Neon Halo*, and Nos. 58, 59, 62, 69, 87, 88 and 90; he also has a number of sf paperbacks which he would like to dispose of; members who are interested should, of course, write to Mr Tasker direct.

THIS MONTH'S CHOICE IS

GLADIATOR-AT-LAW

by Frederik Pohl and C. M. Kornbluth

(Gollancz 15s; SFBC 6s)

NEXT MONTH'S CHOICE IS

DOPPELGÄNGERS

by Gerald Heard

(Cassell o.p.; SFBC 6s)

OPTIONAL BOOKS

HERE are details of the Optional books which will be issued in Readers Union in April and which will, of course, be available, too, to members of SFBC.

Fringe Medicine

by Brian Inglis

(The April Additional title)

THIS is one of those fortunate books which can have the best of both worlds: whether one supports its argument or disagrees with it entirely, it is thoroughly enjoyable and rewarding to read. It