



SCIENCE  
FICTION

"Terrific . . . it belongs on the same shelf with *1984* and *Brave New World*." —Robert A. Heinlein

In the futuristic society that serves as the setting for this elegantly chilling novel, the State decides whom one will choose as one's mate. In any case, professional boundaries cannot be crossed, and thus the young mathematician Haldane IV cannot fall in love with or marry the girl of his choice, the poet Helix. But as the young couple studies ever more closely the long-hidden poems of Fairweather I, whose work years before had completely altered the whole nature of society and who is universally acknowledged to be the greatest mathematician since Einstein, they realize the verses hold important messages for them—and for the world. What, for example, does this couplet mean?

That he who loses wins the race, . . .

That parallel lines must meet in space.

Even as they ponder, they know that the price, if they are caught, is exile to the planet Hell.

"A fascinating novel" —Arthur C. Clarke

"In the literate tradition of Huxley, Orwell, and Bradbury, it is a work of extraordinary impact."

—*Los Angeles Times*

Cover painting by Peter Cross

United Kingdom 70p  
Australia \$2.25 (recommended)  
Canada \$1.95  
U.S.A. \$1.95

Fiction: Science Fiction

ISBN 0 14  
00.4875 8



SCIENCE  
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SUBJECT: Psychiatric case history, Freda Janet Caron

DIAGNOSIS: Humanism with nymphomaniac omniphilia

When the United States starship *Botany* returned from the planet Flora—the Flower Planet—Dr. Freda Caron, a cystologist for the Bureau of Exotic Plants, stood waiting in the space agency's control tower in the area of touchdown, the San Joaquin Valley. When the officers, scientists, and crew disembarked, however, Freda's fiancé, Paul Theaston, was not among them. Why had he chosen not to return, almost on the eve of his marriage to Freda? What were the secrets of the Flower Planet? What was its strange hold on Paul? Determined to learn the truth, Freda sets out from Earth to visit Flora—and there, at last, she understands.

Of John Boyd's earlier science-fiction novel, *The Last Starship from Earth*, Robert A. Heinlein said, "It belongs on the same shelf with *1984* and *Brave New World*," and the *Los Angeles Times* noted, "In the literate tradition of Huxley, Orwell, and Bradbury, it is a work of extraordinary impact."

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John Adams and Kevin O'Hara are graduates of North Dakota's great Mandan Space Academy. Both trained to be conquistadors of space, explorers in an age of interstellar imperialism, Adams and O'Hara are as different as any two space scouts could possibly be. Now, together, they are sent to explore a distant world called Harlech. The Harlechs are unclassified aliens; relations with their women are strictly forbidden by the Interplanetary Colonial Authority. Adams is willing to play by the rules—but whoever made those rules hadn't counted on the lusty Red O'Hara, rakehell of heaven. . . . From the Adams-O'Hara probe, only John Adams returns.

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