

SPECULATIVE FICTION REVIEW by Stephanie Young

TITLE	<i>Delusion World</i>
AUTHOR	Gordon R. Dickson
PUBLISHER	Ace
COPYRIGHT	1960
PRINTING	1981

Delusion World is the second book in the Ace double that contained *Time to Teleport*. I suspect they doubled these two because they both have a telepathy/psionic theme to them. That is where the similarity ends however.

In this story our protagonist, Feliz Gebrod, is a technique trader who is called upon to go to the planet Dunroamin (a cute play on words) to find out why they have not been absorbed by the aggressive Malvar, who are expected to take over all the human worlds in 200 years – not nice creatures.

Feliz is reluctantly agrees to go and our adventure begins. When he lands – somewhat less than a textbook landing courtesy of the Malvar who attack him on the way – he finds a girl sobbing nearby. She is very reminiscent of Lewis Carroll's Alice in my opinion. She tells him how she is alone on the planet and hungry. Feliz is not sure why she feels alone since his sensors showed the planet is well populated, but is unable to find out more. As he begins to head toward the large city near is landing area he runs into the eccentric mayor El Hoska.

Things get interesting when, after the mayor leads him to town in an interesting fashion, Feliz is left there alone for a moment and is captured by two very strange peace officers and hauled off to jail. He then meets Taki Manoai the controller of the city. Feliz is beginning to believe he is hallucinating as he goes between the dressed in black people of the controller, and the colorfully dressed people who call El Hoska mayor. Eventually Feliz figures out what is going on and comes up with a rather unique way of resolving the issue and finds out why the Malvar have left Dunroamin alone.

I liked the payoff but the novel was very slow reading up to it. Of the two stories, I liked *Time to Teleport* better. I will have to retrieve our copy of *Dorsai* from the library at the farm now and compare it with these two stories.

I give it 2.5 out of 5 rings of Saturn.

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