An Exchange of Souls
by Barry Pain

Read by Roger Melin. Total running time: 04:41:35

Barry Pain departs from his typical themes with An Exchange of Souls. In this novel, respected doctor Daniel Myas is a scientist who has developed a machine which allows for the exchange of his soul with that of another. However, when his attempt at an exchange occurs with an individual very close to him, only a form of horror can be the result, and the reader is led down a path of deterioration and fear. Pain’s development of the theme of immortality by use of scientific methods proves quite intriguing. What are the potential results when souls are exchanged, particularly with those of the opposite sex? Undoubtedly, this novel, published in 1911, influenced H. P. Lovecraft’s tale of personality exchange in “The Thing on the Doorstep”, which was published in 1937.

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