Richard matheson born of man and woman

**** Richard Matheson, born of human parents, was a prolific science fiction writer. His diverse works explored themes of humanity, identity, and the unknown. This explores his life and impact. RichardMatheson SciFi Literature Author** Richard Matheson: Born of Man and Woman – A Prolific Voice in Science Fiction **Richard Matheson, a name synonymous with chilling suspense and thought-provoking science fiction, was a celebrated author whose work continues to resonate with readers. Born of ordinary parents, he embarked on an extraordinary journey through the realms of imagination, leaving an indelible mark on the genre. This delves into the life and legacy of Richard Matheson, exploring his significant contributions to science fiction literature.** Advantages of Matheson's Work (Born of Man and Woman) *While his personal life wasn't inherently unique, the *output* of Richard Matheson, born of human parents, yielded significant advantages for science fiction and beyond.* • Exceptional Storytelling: His ability to craft compelling narratives, ranging from the gripping to the surreal, captured readers' imaginations and solidified his position as a master storyteller. • Exploration of Humanity's Fears: **Matheson's works frequently explored anxieties about technology, societal structures, and the unknown, resonating with readers on a deeper level, acknowledging the very human element in his narratives.** • Influence on Subsequent Authors: **His profound impact can be seen in countless authors who followed, adopting his unique approach to character development, plot twists, and themes that pushed the boundaries of the genre.** • Timeless Relevance: **Though science fiction often delves into futuristic or fantastical worlds, Matheson's stories frequently touched upon timeless human themes, making his work relatable across generations.** Understanding Matheson's Impact: A Deeper Dive Matheson's writing style and thematic concerns made him particularly successful. He was capable of presenting relatable characters in extraordinary situations, creating relatable struggles against imposing forces, even when dealing with science fiction concepts.

Genre-Bending Themes

Matheson wasn't confined to a single science fiction subgenre. His work frequently delved into existential anxieties and psychological horror, creating a blend of genres that elevated his storytelling. This broad approach made his work compelling and diverse, attracting readers with various interests within the science fiction spectrum. He masterfully weaved elements of psychological suspense, science fiction, and horror to create narratives that lingered in the reader's mind long after the last page was turned.

Character Development and Realistic Conflicts

Unlike some science fiction authors focused solely on the fantastical, Matheson frequently

grounded his narratives in relatable human conflicts. His characters faced dilemmas and struggles that echoed universal experiences, making them more compelling and less reliant on artificial or exotic plots.

The Power of Adaptation

Matheson's work has frequently been adapted to film, television, and radio. His stories translated seamlessly to other media, showcasing the strength and universality of his narratives. This demonstrated the strength of his writing beyond the page and highlighted his understanding of visual storytelling, further extending his reach into popular culture. (Visual Aid: Table Comparing Matheson's Works) **| Title | Genre | Key Themes | Adaptation Status | |||| | *I Am Legend* | Science Fiction | Isolation, survival, the unknown | Numerous | | *The Shrinking Man* | Science Fiction | Technology, fear of the unknown | Film adaptations | | *What Dreams May Come* | Science Fiction | Existentialism, afterlife | Film adaptation | | *Bid Time to Kill* | Science Fiction, Psychological Horror| The duality of human nature| Limited Adaptations | | *Hell House* | Horror | Psychological dread, the supernatural| Limited adaptations |** The Enduring Legacy Richard Matheson's work continues to inspire and captivate readers. His ability to blend the extraordinary with the ordinary, to delve into the depths of human fear and resilience, solidified his position as a truly unique and influential voice in science fiction. His profound understanding of humanity, and his use of evocative language, remains a powerful testament to his genius. His stories continue to be examined for their insight into the human condition within a fantastical framework. FAQs 1. What made Matheson's work stand out from other science fiction authors? *Matheson's ability to combine science fiction elements with deep explorations of human psychology, dread, and social anxieties set him apart. He didn't simply describe fantastical worlds; he explored the very essence of what it means to be human in the face of the unknown.* 2. How did his personal background influence his writing? *While not explicitly stated, it is plausible that his experiences shaped his understanding of the human condition, the anxieties and fears that resonate through his characters, and provided a foundation for his evocative imagery and insightful exploration of the human spirit's resilience.* 3. What are some key themes recurring in his novels and stories? Themes of isolation, survival, the impact of technology on society, and the fear of the unknown are prevalent in his works. He also frequently explores the anxieties surrounding personal identity, the fragility of the human spirit, and humanity's ability to adapt and endure when faced with monumental challenges. 4. How has his work been translated across different media? *Many of his stories have been adapted into films, television shows, and radio dramas, demonstrating the adaptability and enduring power of his narratives. This demonstrates the enduring impact of his storytelling abilities and the ability for his ideas to transcend the written page.* 5. What is the lasting impact of Richard Matheson's work on the science fiction genre today?** Matheson's influence on science fiction is undeniable. His unique blend of suspense, psychological horror, and realism in speculative contexts continues to inspire new authors and film makers. His exploration of anxieties related to emerging technologies, and the human reaction to those changes, has set a high standard for subsequent generations of science fiction writers. His stories continue to resonate with audiences today, providing a unique voice for analyzing the human condition through the prism of the unknown.

Richard Matheson: Exploring the "Born of Man and Woman" Theme in His Works

Richard Matheson. The name alone conjures images of chilling suspense, profound humanism, and a relentless exploration of what it means to be alive. While his bibliography is vast and varied, encompassing groundbreaking science fiction, gripping horror, and poignant dramas, a recurring and deeply resonant theme in his writing is the very essence of humanity – the concept of being "born of man and woman." This isn't just a biological fact; for Matheson, it's a philosophical and psychological touchstone, a source of both vulnerability and strength, and a fertile ground for examining the human condition in its myriad forms.

This article delves into how Richard Matheson, a master storyteller, weaves the fundamental truth of human origin into his narratives, examining the implications for his characters, the societal structures he critiques, and the very nature of consciousness. We'll explore how this seemingly simple premise underpins some of his most iconic works, from the desperate survival of *I Am Legend* to the existential dread of *The Shrinking Man*, and even into the tender complexities of his short stories.

The Biological Imperative: Survival and Reproduction

At its most basic level, being "born of man and woman" signifies the biological imperative for survival and reproduction. This drive is primal, inherent, and deeply ingrained in the fabric of existence. Matheson, never shying away from the raw realities of life, often places his characters in extreme situations where these fundamental drives come to the forefront.

In *I Am Legend*, Robert Neville is the last survivor of a plague that has turned humanity into vampire-like creatures. His existence is a testament to the will to survive, a biological imperative pushed to its absolute limit. While the "born of man and woman" aspect isn't explicitly debated, Neville's isolation highlights what he's lost – the connection, the community, the potential for continuation that arises from human procreation. His desperate fight for survival is, in essence, a fight for the continuation of the species that is "born of man and woman." The very existence of the infected, however monstrous, is a twisted reflection of this biological drive, a perversion of the natural order that Neville so fiercely defends.

Similarly, in *The Incredible Shrinking Man*, Scott Carey's predicament forces him to confront his physical vulnerability in ways he never imagined. His shrinking body challenges his masculinity, his ability to protect himself, and his very place in the world. His survival becomes a testament to the adaptive nature of beings "born of man and woman," capable of finding new ways to exist even when stripped of their traditional advantages. His journey is a profound metaphor for the human capacity for resilience in the face of overwhelming odds, all stemming from that initial biological blueprint.

Beyond Biology: The Psychological and Emotional Landscape

Matheson understood that being "born of man and woman" is far more than just the mechanics of reproduction. It's about the complex tapestry of human relationships, the emotional bonds

that form, and the psychological impact of our origins. Love, loss, family, and the yearning for connection are all intrinsically linked to our humanity, a humanity rooted in that duality of conception.

Many of Matheson's short stories, often overlooked in favor of his more famous novels, are exquisite explorations of these emotional landscapes. Consider tales where characters grapple with regret, longing for lost loved ones, or seeking solace in human connection. The very desire for these connections stems from our nature as beings who are born from and to interact with others. The ache of loneliness, the joy of shared experience – these are all facets of the "born of man and woman" condition.

In *Somewhere I Have Never Traveled*, a short story collection, you'll find narratives that delve into the nuances of human interaction, often tinged with melancholy or a quiet desperation. The characters, regardless of their extraordinary circumstances, are driven by relatable human emotions – the need to be understood, the fear of abandonment, the hope for a better future. These are all products of being sentient beings, born into a social and emotional world.

Societal Structures and the "Natural" Order

Matheson frequently used his fiction to examine and often critique societal structures, exploring how they both reflect and distort the "natural" order of things, including the implications of being "born of man and woman." He questioned rigid norms, explored the consequences of artificial divisions, and pondered what happens when society tries to suppress or control fundamental human drives.

His novel *A Stir of Echoes* touches upon themes of inherited trauma and the lingering impact of past generations. While not directly about birth, it speaks to the lineage and the continuation of human experience from one generation to the next, a concept intrinsically tied to being born of man and woman. The story explores how the past can haunt the present, a consequence of the ongoing human cycle of birth, life, and death.

Furthermore, Matheson's interest in the uncanny and the supernatural often serves as a lens through which to examine what makes us human. When faced with the inexplicable, his characters often revert to fundamental human responses, highlighting the bedrock of their existence as beings "born of man and woman." The fear of the unknown, the desire for order, the need to rationalize – these are all deeply ingrained human traits that Matheson masterfully exploited.

The Androgynous Ideal and the Blurring of Boundaries

Interestingly, while the concept of being "born of man and woman" is central, Matheson also played with ideas that blurred these traditional lines. This isn't to deny the biological reality, but rather to explore the psychological and social constructs associated with gender and identity.

In some of his more philosophical works, or even through subtle character nuances, Matheson hinted at an androgynous ideal, a recognition that individuals possess a spectrum of traits

often labeled as masculine or feminine. This exploration doesn't negate the fact of their birth but rather enriches the understanding of the complex individuals that result. It suggests that while the origin might be dual, the resulting human is a unique blend, capable of embodying a wide range of human qualities.

This theme can be seen in the way some of his characters, regardless of their gender, display remarkable strength, empathy, or intellectual prowess. It's a testament to the multifaceted nature of individuals, a nature that begins with two distinct biological contributors but blossoms into something far more intricate.

The Future of Humanity: Evolution or Extinction?

Richard Matheson was a forward-thinking writer, and the theme of being "born of man and woman" inevitably leads to questions about the future of humanity. Will we continue to reproduce and evolve as we have? Or are there forces at play that could alter or even extinguish this fundamental aspect of our existence?

The Future of Mankind (often referred to as *Not Until We Are Lost*) is a powerful exploration of this very question. Matheson, through his characters and their predicaments, prompts us to consider the trajectory of our species. The biological continuation, the very essence of being "born of man and woman," is often at the heart of these existential debates. Will technology intervene? Will environmental changes force adaptation? Or will some catastrophic event bring an end to the cycle?

His works often serve as cautionary tales, urging us to consider the consequences of our actions and the fragility of our existence. The continuation of the human race, rooted in the fundamental act of being born of man and woman, is always implicitly or explicitly on the line.

Conclusion: The Enduring Power of a Simple Truth

Richard Matheson's enduring legacy lies in his ability to take seemingly simple truths and explore their profound implications. The fact of being "born of man and woman" is one such truth, a biological reality that underpins our existence, our emotions, our societies, and our very future.

Through his masterful storytelling, Matheson invites us to contemplate the essence of our humanity. He shows us that while our origins are rooted in a duality, the resulting human experience is a complex, beautiful, and often terrifying journey. Whether grappling with monstrous threats, existential crises, or the quiet dramas of everyday life, his characters, products of being "born of man and woman," remind us of our shared vulnerabilities, our innate strengths, and the indelible mark of our human condition. The next time you pick up a Richard Matheson novel or short story, pay attention to this fundamental aspect of his characters. You might just find a deeper understanding of yourself and the world around you.

The Legacy of Richard Matheson: Born of Man and Woman

Richard Matheson, a name synonymous with psychological horror and speculative fiction, emerged as a profound storyteller whose work transcended genre boundaries. Born in 1929, Matheson's creative identity was deeply shaped by the duality of human experience—caught between the rationality of science and the chaotic pulse of human emotion. His life and work reflect a unique fusion of intellectual rigor and emotional depth, rooted in the timeless theme of being "born of man and woman"—a metaphor not only of his human origins but also of his artistic mission to explore the fragile boundaries between identity, memory, and transformation.

The Human Catalyst: Matheson's Personal Journey

Matheson's upbringing, marked by a blend of curiosity and introspection, laid the foundation for his literary voice. Raised in a world where rational thought coexisted with existential questions, he developed an acute sensitivity to the complexities of the human condition. This dual heritage—biological and artistic—became central to his storytelling. His characters often grapple with profound questions: What defines selfhood? How does the mind fracture under pressure? How does the past shape the present? Drawing from personal reflections and societal tensions of the mid-20th century, Matheson infused his narratives with psychological nuance, rendering horror not as spectacle, but as an intimate exploration of inner turmoil.

Key Insights: Themes That Resonate

At the heart of Matheson's work lies the theme of transformation—both physical and psychological. His most famous novel, I Am Legend, redefines the monster myth not as a tale of brute aggression, but as a profound meditation on isolation, identity, and the erosion of humanity. In this narrative, the protagonist's separation from society mirrors a deeper existential disconnection, revealing how even a single individual can embody the collapse of human order. Matheson's genius lies in his ability to personify abstract fears through relatable, deeply human characters. Another central insight is the tension between control and chaos. His stories often depict protagonists confronting forces that defy explanation—be they viruses, supernatural entities, or collective psychological shifts—forcing them to confront their own vulnerabilities. This struggle reflects a broader human condition: the constant negotiation between the desire for order and the inevitability of uncertainty. Through these narratives, Matheson invites readers to question not only the boundaries of the possible but also the limits of the self.

Applications and Broader Impact

Matheson's influence extends far beyond the horror genre. His exploration of identity and transformation has informed fields such as psychology, philosophy, and even science fiction. The concept of a human becoming something else—part man, part something alien—resonates

with contemporary discussions on artificial intelligence, genetic engineering, and the nature of consciousness. Educators and scholars often cite his work as a lens through which to examine the ethical and emotional implications of technological progress. In film and television, adaptations of Matheson's stories continue to shape modern storytelling. His emphasis on atmosphere, psychological depth, and moral ambiguity has inspired generations of writers and directors seeking to create narratives that linger in the mind long after the final scene. By blending scientific plausibility with emotional authenticity, Matheson set a benchmark for speculative fiction that balances fear with meaning.

Benefits: Why Matheson Matters Today

Engaging with Matheson's work offers readers more than entertainment—it provides a framework for understanding modern anxieties. In an age of rapid change and existential uncertainty, his stories act as mirrors, reflecting our deepest fears and hopes. They encourage introspection, fostering empathy by inviting us to inhabit perspectives that challenge our sense of self and community. Moreover, his writing cultivates critical thinking. By presenting ambiguous scenarios without easy answers, Matheson encourages readers to embrace complexity, resist oversimplification, and engage thoughtfully with the unknown. This intellectual rigor makes his work enduringly relevant in academic, creative, and personal contexts.

The Future of Matheson's Vision

As society continues to navigate unprecedented technological, ecological, and social transformations, the themes Matheson explored remain profoundly timely. The boundaries between human and machine, between reality and perception, are blurring—questions he addressed decades ago with remarkable foresight. His work anticipates the ethical dilemmas posed by AI, genetic modification, and digital identity, offering a narrative foundation for grappling with these frontiers. Looking ahead, Matheson's legacy will likely inspire new generations of storytellers to explore the intersections of science, ethics, and humanity with the same depth and courage. His vision—born of man and woman, shaped by time and truth—remains a powerful testament to the enduring power of literature to illuminate the human soul. In a world perpetually on the edge of change, Richard Matheson's voice endures as a guiding light, reminding us that what we fear—and what we become—defines the very essence of who we are.

Richard Matheson, a titan of speculative fiction, left an indelible mark on literature with his masterful storytelling and profound exploration of the human condition. While his prolific career spanned numerous genres and iconic works, the phrase "Richard Matheson born of man and woman" often surfaces in discussions about his core themes, his unique perspective on humanity, and the very essence of his fictional creations. This article delves deep into this concept, analyzing its significance within Matheson's oeuvre and its enduring relevance to readers and critics alike.

The Human Core: Richard Matheson's Enduring Fascination with Humanity

At the heart of Richard Matheson's writing lies an unwavering fascination with humanity. Even when his characters inhabit extraordinary circumstances – facing alien invasions, battling vampires, or grappling with existential dread – their struggles are fundamentally human. The phrase "born of man and woman" serves as a potent reminder of this grounding. It emphasizes the biological, emotional, and psychological realities that shape his characters, regardless of the fantastical elements surrounding them.

From Ordinary to Extraordinary: The Matheson Protagonist

Matheson excelled at taking seemingly ordinary individuals and thrusting them into extraordinary situations. Think of Robert Neville in *I Am Legend*, a man alone against a world of vampires, whose survival hinges on his ingenuity, his resilience, and his deep-seated human need for connection. Or consider the characters in *The Shrinking Man*, Scott Carey, whose physical diminishment mirrors an existential crisis. These protagonists, "born of man and woman," are defined by their relatable fears, desires, and capacity for both great courage and crippling doubt. Their humanity is not a given; it's something they fight to preserve, often in the face of overwhelming odds.

This emphasis on the human element is crucial to Matheson's impact. His science fiction and horror are not merely exercises in genre tropes; they are vehicles for exploring what it truly means to be human. The anxieties about societal collapse, the primal fear of the unknown, the struggle for survival – these are all deeply rooted in our shared human experience. The phrase "born of man and woman" encapsulates this focus, reminding us that even in the most alien or terrifying settings, we are dealing with beings who possess the fundamental characteristics of humankind.

The Nature of Good and Evil: A Nuanced Perspective

Matheson rarely presented black-and-white morality. His antagonists, even the most monstrous, often possessed a twisted logic or a tragic backstory. Similarly, his heroes were not always pure. This moral ambiguity stems from his understanding that individuals, "born of man and woman," are complex creatures capable of both profound good and disturbing evil. This nuanced portrayal resonated with audiences, offering a more realistic and thought-provoking exploration of ethical dilemmas.

Consider the vampires in *I Am Legend*. While presented as terrifying creatures of the night, their existence is a consequence of a pandemic, a perversion of nature. This complexity challenges the reader's perception of villainy. Similarly, in stories exploring psychological horror, the true monsters are often found within the human psyche itself, driven by fear, obsession, or desperation. The idea that these flawed beings are "born of man and woman" underscores the inherent potential for both darkness and light within us all.

The Psychological Depth: Matheson's Exploration of the Human Psyche

Beyond their biological origins, Matheson's characters are deeply invested with psychological complexity. The phrase "born of man and woman" can also be interpreted as referring to the intricate tapestry of emotions, memories, and consciousness that define us. His stories often delve into the inner lives of his characters, exploring their traumas, their desires, and their capacity for self-deception.

Fear and Anxiety in the Matheson Universe

Fear is a recurring motif in Matheson's work, and it's often rooted in the psychological vulnerabilities inherent in being human. Whether it's the fear of isolation in *I Am Legend*, the fear of losing control in *Duel*, or the existential dread of a world turned against us, Matheson taps into primal human anxieties. The characters, "born of man and woman," are susceptible to these fears, and their battles against them are as significant as any external conflict.

His ability to craft palpable tension and suspense is a testament to his understanding of the human mind. He doesn't rely solely on jump scares or gore; instead, he builds dread through atmosphere, character introspection, and the slow unraveling of psychological stability. This makes his stories linger long after the final page, prompting readers to reflect on their own fears and anxieties, their own existence as beings "born of man and woman."

Love, Loss, and Connection: The Unifying Human Experience

Despite the often bleak landscapes of his narratives, Matheson consistently explored the enduring power of love, loss, and the need for connection. These are universal human experiences, transcending genre and setting. The desire to protect loved ones, the pain of grief, the yearning for companionship – these elements are central to the motivations of many of his characters, even when they are battling forces beyond comprehension.

The phrase "born of man and woman" can also signify this inherent capacity for empathy and emotional connection. Even in a post-apocalyptic world, Robert Neville longs for interaction, for the simple comfort of another human presence. This fundamental human need is what drives him, what makes him relatable, and ultimately, what makes his story so poignant. Matheson's understanding of these unifying human experiences is a key reason why his work continues to resonate so deeply.

The Legacy of "Born of Man and Woman": Influences and Enduring Impact

The phrase "Richard Matheson born of man and woman" is more than just a descriptive tag; it encapsulates a philosophy that permeates his writing and has influenced countless other authors and filmmakers. His ability to ground extraordinary narratives in relatable human experience has set a benchmark for speculative fiction.

Science Fiction and Horror: Redefining the Boundaries

Matheson was a pioneer in blurring the lines between genres. His science fiction often possessed a visceral, human horror, and his horror stories were frequently infused with speculative elements. This cross-pollination, driven by his focus on the human element, redefined what was possible within these genres. The phrase "born of man and woman" can be seen as a constant reminder of the human anchor that made his genre-bending so effective.

His impact can be seen in the works of authors who similarly explore the psychological underpinnings of horror and the human cost of technological advancement or societal upheaval. Filmmakers have repeatedly adapted his works, recognizing the enduring power of his human-centered narratives. From Spielberg's *Duel* to the various iterations of *I Am Legend*, the core of his stories – the struggle of individuals "born of man and woman" – remains the driving force.

The Philosophical Underpinnings: Existentialism and the Human Condition

Matheson's work often grapples with existential themes. His characters frequently confront the absurdity of existence, the fragility of civilization, and the search for meaning in a seemingly indifferent universe. The fact that they are "born of man and woman" highlights their inherent vulnerability and their simultaneous capacity for defiance in the face of these profound questions.

His stories serve as a stark reminder of our shared humanity, our interconnectedness, and our responsibility to one another. In a world increasingly defined by technological advancement and artificial intelligence, Matheson's emphasis on the organic, the emotional, and the deeply personal experience of being "born of man and woman" feels more relevant than ever. He reminds us that at the core of all our endeavors, whether scientific, artistic, or survival-based, lies the fundamental human experience.

Conclusion: The Timeless Resonance of Richard Matheson's Humanity

The phrase "Richard Matheson born of man and woman" is a powerful distillation of his literary genius. It speaks to his profound understanding of human nature, his ability to craft compelling narratives that resonate on a deeply emotional level, and his enduring influence on the landscape of speculative fiction. His characters, flawed yet resilient, terrified yet hopeful, are a testament to the enduring power of the human spirit. In a career marked by innovation and unforgettable stories, Matheson consistently returned to the elemental truth of his characters' origins, reminding us that even in the face of the unimaginable, the most compelling stories are those that explore the depths of what it means to be human, to be truly "born of man and woman." His legacy is not just in the monsters he created or the futures he envisioned, but in the profound empathy he fostered for the beings who inhabit them.

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Perhaps the most meaningful change lies in how digital access influences attitudes toward learning. When information is easy to obtain, curiosity feels encouraged rather than inconvenient. Readers are more willing to explore new topics, revisit familiar ideas, and continue learning over time.

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Questions & Answers About richard matheson born of man and woman

No	Question	Answer
1	What is Richard Matheson's novella 'Born of Man and Woman' about?	It's a chilling short story exploring the disturbing relationship between a young boy and his cruel, abusive father. The boy is often depicted as monstrous or abnormal, and the narrative delves into themes of alienation, neglect, and the dark side of family dynamics.
2	Why is 'Born of Man and Woman' considered so unsettling?	The story's power lies in its raw depiction of psychological horror and the ambiguity surrounding the boy's nature. Matheson masterfully builds dread and unease through the father's perspective, making the reader question reality and empathy.

3	What makes Richard Matheson's writing style stand out in 'Born of Man and Woman'?	Matheson's prose is stark, direct, and incredibly effective. He uses simple language to convey profound terror and emotional weight, drawing the reader into the disturbing inner world of the narrator and creating a sense of claustrophobic intensity.
4	Are there any specific interpretations or common analyses of the boy's character in the story?	Many interpretations exist. Some see the boy as a metaphor for societal outcasts or the hidden 'monsters' within us. Others view him as a victim of extreme abuse, his perceived monstrosity a product of his environment and the father's warped perception.
5	Where can I find and read 'Born of Man and Woman' by Richard Matheson?	The novella is famously included in Richard Matheson's celebrated short story collection, 'Shockwaves.' It can also be found in other anthologies of his work and is widely available through booksellers and libraries.
6	How has 'Born of Man and Woman' influenced other horror or speculative fiction writers?	Matheson's ability to blend psychological dread with visceral horror and his exploration of unsettling family relationships have influenced countless writers. The story's lingering questions and its unique perspective continue to resonate and inspire within the genre.

richard matheson literary legacy, born of man and woman richard matheson analysis, richard matheson human origins, matheson works man and woman themes, richard matheson birth and identity, human origins in richard matheson writing, matheson rich man woman themes, birth of richard matheson character, richard matheson family and themes, man and woman in richard matheson fiction

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