

About the author: István Lakatos, who has come to be called **‘HUNGARY’S ANSWER TO TIM BURTON’**, was born in Budapest on November 10, 1980. His first serious work of fiction, *Miserere Homine – Man Have Mercy On Me*, appeared in a leading Hungarian literary and art journal in 2008, which has gone on to publish a comic strip by the author every year since. He graduated from the Piarist Grammar School in Kecskemét before going on to study Hungarian and Communication at Pázmány Péter Catholic University. He is a frequent contributor to a contemporary literary blog and illustrated the Hungarian edition of Lyudmila Ulitskaya’s *Tales of Humans and Animals* in 2009. *Lentil Girl*, his first comic-narrative album, was published in 2010.

“Children’s Book of the Year” 2011 by “Hungarian TIM BURTON”
István Lakatos : BOXVILLE Children’s Fiction, 328 pages
MAGVETŐ PUBLISHING, HUNGARY



About the novel : Zalán is the kind of boy who much prefers comic books to playing computer war games. On one not particularly lovely day, an old gentleman by the name of Chairleg pays young Zalán a call. He behaves rather strangely and informs Zalán that his parents are not actually his parents but copies, and convinces the boy that his mother and father have been kidnapped by Boxvillers. The young boy is left with little choice other than to go with the old man. It’s the only chance that Zalán stands of ever seeing his real parents again. Our young hero is introduced to Chairleg’s extraordinary world, meets a whole family of water imps and a goat by the name of Jónás before finding himself confronted by dragons in a smoky city powered by steam machines: Boxville.



As in all the best stories, this is a tale of the battle between good and evil. The power of Boxville’s tyrannical ruler appears to be gaining strength by the hour while the once strong and always kindly Charleg seems to be losing his. And who exactly is Chairleg?

“Very many years ago, two meteors towed his enormous house through the star-filled skies! They leapt and frolicked around it like dolphins playing by the bow of a speeding boat. If he ever felt like it, he held out a cup and drank his fill from the Milky Way or took a ride on a galactic spiral just for the fun of it. He played football with lifeless planets using a black hole as his goal and lit his pipe from the flames of burning stars.”

Creation and destruction lock horns in a struggle for supremacy: “Either Boxville falls or everything else fails that possesses any worth in this world.”



István Lakatos' fantastical tale is an entertaining, exhilarating and enchanting story for children – and for adults who like to read something with an uplifting and worthwhile message.

The book is illustrated by the author and accompanied by a two-page comic story insert.

For inquiries and translation rights please contact

István Láng

Foreign Rights Manager

lang.istvan@lira.hu

Tel: +36-1-235-5030

Fax: +36-1-318-4107

Magveto Publishing House Ltd.

Danko u. 4-8.

H-1086 Budapest

Hungary

www.magveto.hu