SZILÁRD RUBIN (1927-2010) wrote five books, two of which – **Chicken Game** and **Roman Numeral One** – have already earned him a late, but worldwide recognition: the unique and concise writing in these novels, mixing sentimentality with cruel self-examination **has been compared to** the works of **Marcel Proust**, **William Faulkner and F. Scott Fitzgerald**.



Holy Innocents is his last book, on which he worked until the end of his life.

This investigative, documentary novel of great power was published posthumously almost 60 years after the the tragic and frightenenig events described took place in a little Hungarian town of the 1950's.



HOLY INNOCENTS (Aprószentek) by Szilárd Rubin Fiction/Documentary – MAGVETŐ PUBLISHING, HUNGARY – 2012, 280 pages

A great writer's battle with a dark mystery

The Hungarian town of Törökszentmiklós was held in a grip of terror by a serial killer between October 1953 and August 1954. Five young girls disappeared without trace during those months until a young woman by the name of Piroska Jancsó was arrested in the autumn of 1954 who later received the death sentence for her crimes.

Fictional reportage? The Hungarian *In Cold Blood*? Rubin's voyage into a dark and bleak reality? Or the battle of an aging and lonely author with his source material?

Perhaps the novel is a little of all these things. Holy Innocents is Szilárd Rubin's ultimate novel and the fruit of four decades of work now published posthumously for the first time.

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