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# The Holy Innocents

*By Gilbert Adair*



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## The Holy Innocents By Gilbert Adair

In May 1968, a brother and sister, young, clever and aristocratic, and incestuously involved, become friends with an American who is studying film in Paris. When their parents go on vacation, they invite the American to stay with them in their flat, where they start to play games.



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## **The Holy Innocents By Gilbert Adair Bibliography**

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## **Editorial Review**

From Publishers Weekly

The title characters of this rich, furiously concentrated first novel, set in Paris during the student uprisings of 1968, are 17-year-old twins Guillaume and Danielle and their friend Matthew, a 19-year-old American film student studying at the Cinematheque Francaise. Living in a huge apartment and virtually unnoticed by their father and his new wife, bored sophisticates Guillaume and Danielle pursue an obsessive incestuous relationship that becomes even more complicated when sexually confused Matthew moves in; in the author's deft phrasing, he is in love "with the single person Guillaume and Danielle would have been had they not been born twins." On their own, the three explore avenues of homosexuality, rape, incest and sadism that pull them away from the outside world and into starved, frightened squalor. When they finally reemerge, the Paris they see is almost unrecognizable. Adair depicts this scorching sexual triangle and the games that lead into it with knife-point psychological precision and gorgeously spun prose, but he also portrays the teenagers with a compassion that keeps the title (a reference to Cocteau's *The Holy Terrors*, which parallels and clearly inspires this work) from being wholly ironic.

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## **Users Review**

**From reader reviews:**

**Diana Sturgill:**

The book *The Holy Innocents* will bring that you the new experience of reading a book. The author style to explain the idea is very unique. In the event you try to find new book to study, this book very suitable to you. The book *The Holy Innocents* is much recommended to you to read. You can also get the e-book through the official web site, so you can quicker to read the book.

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