

The Boys of Paul Street

(aka: "A Pál Utcai Fiúk")

Hungary / US : 1969 : dir. Zoltán Fábri :

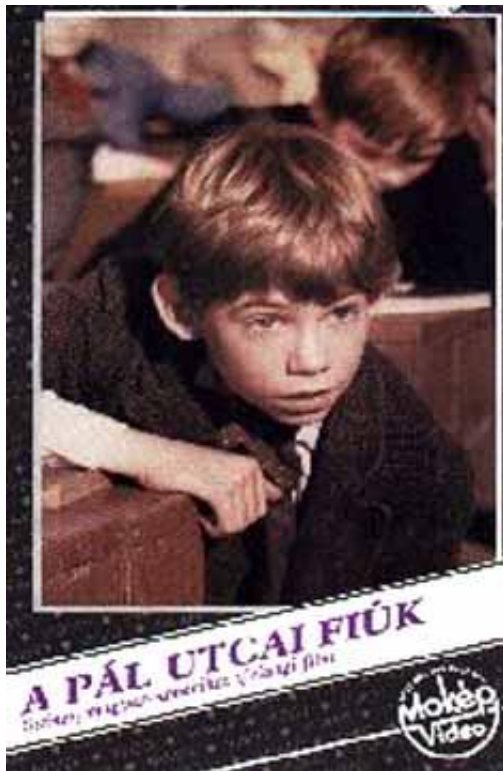
: 108 min

prod: : scr: Zoltán Fábri & Endre Bohém : dir.ph.:

[Anthony Kemp](#); [John Moulder Brown](#); [Martin Beaumont](#); [Earl Younger](#)

Robert Gefford; Gary O'Brien; Mark Collean; András Avar; János Zách; Orsolya Zeider; Paul Bartlett; William Burleigh; Péter Delmár; Imre Ebergeno; Julien Hoidaway; Miklós Jancsó; Sándor Kentner; Attila Némethy; László Paál; Sándor Pécsi; István Seri; Árpád Téry; Mari Töröcsik; György Vizi; László Zokák

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Words	Ω	8	€	M	♀	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
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Blut und ehre – the fascination of boys for warfare and battle has prompted many a little homilie on the futility of strife. This is perhaps the best known one.

Source for all colour stills: CVMC website



Leonard Maltin's Movie and Video Guide
1996 review:

"Allegory of children's battle for control of a vacant lot in Budapest, from Ferenc Molnar's novel. Eloquent statement on war in an effective film. Filmed before in Hollywood as "NO GREATER GLORY". Shot in widescreen Agascope. *** "

Movies on TV and Videocassette 1988-89
review:

"War's futility is examined in this story of boys squabbling over rights to a vacant lot. Points a moral, is well acted by the lads. *** "

CVMC video retail/rental website review:

"Two groups of pre- to mid-teen boys engage in a mock war..., which leads to tragic results. A rare Hungarian classic that could be said to be a more serious version of War of the Buttons. Recommended!



Left: Anthony Kemp prepares for
"an awfully big adventure"

Above right: Is *that* John Moulder
Brown? Does he look 18 to you??

Categories: Best Buddies, Boy Films, Little to Preteen, Adolescent, Drama
Black & White

In Hungarian with no English translation. The vast majority of the film is in colour; the print includes speckling and blotching, and some tracking glitches are to be found. "

[no listing in "Halliwell's Film Guide", "Speelfilm Encyclopedie", "The Critics' Film Guide", "The Good Film and Video Guide", "Rating the Movies (1990)", "The Sunday Times Guide to Movies on Television", "The Time Out Film Guide", "TV Times Film & Video Guide 1995", "Variety Movie Guide 1993", "Video Movie Guide 1993" or "The Virgin Film Guide"]

The Moving Picture Boy entry on Kemp:

"Anthony, a whimsical snub-nosed child with a wide mouth and expressive eyes, somewhat resembled a pocket version of Ian McKellen. After making a great impression as a lonely little boy in the TV play "**Toggle**", he won a lead as the wolf-crying hero of a Children's Film Foundation production. (His participation in "**OLIVER!**" was negligible.)

Anthony's biggest and best role, manfully taken, was as the gallant little Nemecsek – the character played, in former years, by Gyuri Faragó and George Breakston – in a new, dual-language version of Molnar's story "**THE BOYS OF PAUL STREET**". In "**CROMWELL**" he played the future protector's son Henry.

At this point, like David Bradley before him, Anthony had to change his professional name because it duplicated that of an existing actor, and became instead "Jason Kemp". He was in one of BBC-TV's "**Wessex Tales**": "**BARBARA OF THE HOUSE OF GREBE**" (73), and then in "**THE SWORDSMAN**" (74)."



Hauled from his bed to review the troops, our hero Nemecsek nods off. Or does he?



No further information currently available. Normally the archive lists foreign-made titles under their original language, but although the director in this case was Hungarian, it seems the leads were all English, and their roles were presumably dubbed into Hungarian. If this film has ever been broadcast on UK television, I'm certainly not aware of it.

Anthony Kemp was 14. So was Earl Younger. Martin Beaumont had a small part in "if..." (68) and in two C.F.F. productions – "CRY WOLF" (68) and "BLINKER'S SPY-SPOTTER" (71), both with Kemp. John Moulder Brown, incredibly when you look at him, was 18. He's best known for his portrayal of the frustrated adolescent swimming pool attendant in "DEEP END", released the following year, in which he looks about 14/15. His first known film appearance was at age 8 in "DEATH OVER MY SHOULDER" (57). He was in "ROOM AT THE TOP", "55 DAYS AT PEKING", "BECKET", "THE HEROES OF TELEMAR" and yes, numerous C.F.F. films and serials besides.

See the original "A PÁL UTCAI FIÚK" (24), "[NO GREATER GLORY](#)" and subject index under [AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL TITLES](#), [THE CHILD AS POLITICAL SYMBOL](#), [DEATH / DYING CHILDREN](#), [EASTERN EUROPE / SOVIET BLOC](#), [FOLLOW THE LEADER](#) (Children's Gangs) and [WAR](#).

Martin Beaumont at bay, looking slightly as though his clothes have just fallen onto him in a heap. Source: The Moving Picture Boy



**THE MOST EXTRAORDINARY BATTLE
EVER FOUGHT BY THE BRAVEST
ARMY THAT EVER HAD TO
BE HOME FOR
DINNER.**



20th Century-Fox
presents

The Boys Of Paul Street

An extraordinary war film.

The General: Ready To
Fight For His Land.



The Kid: Who Wanted To
Be A Man-Sized Hero.



The Tutor: Who Betrayed
His Friends Out Of Jealousy.



A BOHEM, GROSKOPF AND HUNGAROFILM-MAFILM PRODUCTION STARRING ANTHONY KEMP • WILLIAM BURLEIGH • PRODUCED BY ENDRE BOHEM
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER BUD GROSKOPF • DIRECTED BY ZOLTAN FABRI • SCREENPLAY BY ENDRE BOHEM AND ZOLTAN FABRI
BASED ON THE NOVEL BY FERENC MOLNAR • COLOR BY DeLuxe



Virtually the identical tag-line was used to promote the 1994 remake of "THE WAR OF THE BUTTONS". But now let's talk about that boy's bottom ! Anyone who understands pictorial composition technique will recognise that all the elements in the above poster design – the staves, the fighting boys - lead the eye inexorably to that handsome backside. Look again before you deny it. Film poster art sends subconscious messages along with the conscious ones. We see and understand.

Source for all stills on following pages: Moviegoods.com

Radio Times Guide to Films review:

“Previously filmed in Hollywood by Frank Borzage as **“NO GREATER GLORY”** in 1934, this Oscar-nominated adaptation by Zoltán Fábri of Ferenc Molnár’s autobiographical novel returned to its original Budapest locations. Although intended as an allegory on the futility of war, the feud between two rival gangs over an unclaimed patch of land also has a Party angle, as it’s the benevolent forces of authority that eventually claim the lot for building work. This is slightly unusual for a director who prided himself on his critical realism, but the film still has the freshness that typified most Eastern

European cinema in the mid-sixties. A Hungarian/English language film. *** ”

Cast:

Nemecsek**Anthony Kemp**
Boka**William Burleigh**
Feriats**Julian Holloway**
Older PasztorPeter Delmar
Szabo Andras Avar
Nemecsek’s motherMari Torocsik
Professor RaczSandor Pecsí