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„Effective strategies in students' reading education”

Promotion of an interesting book

„Silva Rerum”

Kristina Sabaliauskaitė

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Select



An illustration of a woman with long, wavy red hair and purple-rimmed glasses. She is wearing a teal-colored top and is sitting at a desk. She is looking down at an open book in front of her, with her hands resting on the pages. To her right, there is a stack of several books with various colored spines (blue, red, green). The background is a dark, textured blue.

Select and read a
book called
"Silva Rerum"
Author - Kristina
Sabaliauskaitė

It was a very large multinational country of 990,000 square kilometers, with 4.5 million Poles, 0.75 million Lithuanians, 5 million(!) Ruthenians (Ukrainians), as well as Latvians, Germans, Jews, Armenians, Tatars, Scots, English, Mennonites from Switzerland and the Netherlands, Czechs and Swedes.

In 1648, Zaporozhian Cossacks and Ruthenian peasants led by Bohdan Khmelnytsky revolted against the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. They were victorious in several battles and defeated in others. However, after losing the Battle of Beresteczko, Khmelnytsky realized that he would not win Ukraine's independence on his own. He asked the Czar of Russia to incorporate the rebellious Rus (Ukraine) into his state(?).

In 1654, two Russian-Cossack armies entered the Republic. One of these armies attacked Lithuania. In 1655, after defeating the Lithuanian army, it captured Vilnius. The massacre of the population lasted three days, and the city burned for 17 days.



Vilnius







Thus begins the plot of Kristina Sabaliauskaitė's novel *Silva Rerum*.

Elizabeth and John Matthias Narvojsz flee the burning city of Vilnius for their native village of Milkonty in Žemaitija.

There, Elizabeth gives birth to her sixth child and says goodbye to her fourth, who dies prematurely: during childbirth, after childbirth or in early childhood.

These were bad times for young children and their parents.

John Matthias farms in his home village and respectfully maintains the park on his property. He describes the most important events in his family chronicle. Elizabeth redesigns the interior of the manor, giving it a more modern look. They also raise their remaining children, the twins Ursula and Casimir.

A major event in the twins' lives is the death of their beloved cat Morris.





Taip tikriausiai atrodė Elžbietos ir Jono Motiejaus Norvaišų sodyba Milkontuose. Čia pavaizduotas Steklinos dvaras. Šaltinis: <https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Szteklin#/media/Plik:Sztekli>
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Elizabeth and John Matthias Narvojsz with a deceased child?

Portrait of a noble family. Portrait of an anonymous artist, circa 1760 (from the collection of the National Museum in Warsaw, inv. no. MP 149 MNW). Source: <http://cyfrowe.mnw.art.pl/dmuseion/docmetadata?id=41201>.

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Fencing exercises of young boys using training sticks (palcats).

This is probably how young Casimir practiced.

Such fighting skills will be very useful in the future, as he will have to fight many opponents during his studies.

Martino Altomontès paveikslo detalė, Sejm elekcyjny 1697 m. Paveikslas iš Varšuvos karališkųjų rūmų kolekcijos. Šaltinis:

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Altomonte_Election_Diet_in_1697_\(detail\)_01.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Altomonte_Election_Diet_in_1697_(detail)_01.jpg)

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The twins, their parents' hopes to prolong the family, increase their wealth and secure their old age, grow up healthy, but make their own plans for their lives, ignoring the dreams of Elizabeth and John Matthias.





Ursula has grown into a beautiful girl, but decides to become a saint. She forces her parents to let her enter a convent.



**Benedictine church and
monastery in Vilnius.
It was in this monastery
that Ursula wanted to
become a nun in
Kristina
Sabaliauskaitė's novel.**

Source:

<https://www.radzima.org/pl/object-photo/5706.html>

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Talented, but completely lacking ambition, Casimir begins his studies at the Jesuit Academy (now University) in Vilnius. However, instead of studying diligently, he takes an active part in fights between two student groups. His friend is an educated bachelor, the wealthy but not particularly pious Jan Kirdej Biront, with whom his sister Ursula, who is staying at the convent, falls in love.



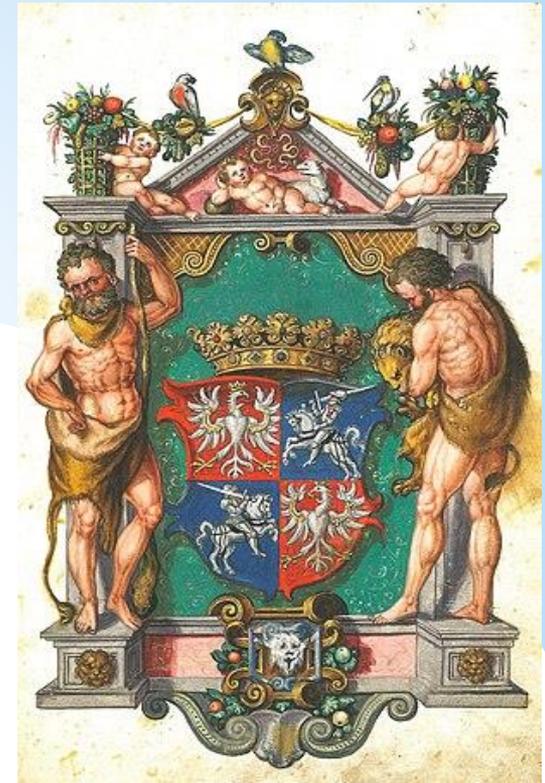
Former Jesuit Academy Vilnius University, Sk
courtyard, St. John's Church, Columned Hall
[/wiki/Uniwersytet_Wile%C5%84ski#/media/F
atCourtyard.jpg](#)

Author: Album Wileński J. K. Wilczyńskiego, 1850
[Publiskais ģpašums](#)



"Silva Rerum is a story about ordinary people, Lithuanian nobles who speak Lithuanian and perhaps Polish, peasants, Jews and a Frenchman, people who are usually good but sometimes behave badly.

About everyday, difficult life in 17th century Lithuania, during the time of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth.



Coat of arms of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth

Author unknown.

Source:

https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Herb_Rzeczypospolitej_Obojga_Narod%C3%B3w

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It is worth reading.

Please remember!

"Silva Rerum"

Author. Kristina Sabaliauskaitė

**This novel is written in
Lithuanian.**

**But it has already been
translated into Polish and
Latvian.**

Silva Rerum
Kristina Sabaliauskaitė

**For reading I borrowed this
book from the public library
in Gizycko.**

**I am sure you will find this
book in your libraries as
well.**

I highly recommend it.
Casimir Ambroziak



**Read this
book!**



**It is really
worth it.**

More information

I created descriptions of military battles based on Wikipedia.

In this presentation, these descriptions have been greatly simplified from the actual data. This is a deliberate procedure, adapted to the purpose of this presentation, which is to present only the historical context of the novel.

I wanted to present the circumstances of the encroachment and burning of Vilnius by the Russian and Cossack armies.

I recommend a careful reading of these passages from Wikipedia or history books.

Wikipedia also provides details of the army and population of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth in the early 17th century.

Illustrations without labels are from the pixabay collection <https://pixabay.com/pl>.

I also added two photos of myself and the cat I take care of.

Gifs or cartoons I copied from <https://www.gify.net/>

Enjoy reading