



In the Illuminated Dark

By Tuvia Ruebner

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Dimensions: 9.5in. x 6.5in. x 1.2in. Loss defines the crossbeams and chronicles of Tuvia Ruebner's life. Born in 1924 into a semi-secular Jewish family in Slovakia, Ruebner was also born into the catastrophe that would follow the extermination of European Jewry and of his own family in the Holocaust. Hitler became chancellor of Germany on Ruebner's ninth birthday. Six years later, the race-laws enacted in Slovakia banned all Jewish students from school, and Ruebner's formal education ended with ninth grade. His involvement in the Socialist-Zionist youth movement bought him a ticket out to Palestine and, in 1941, the seventeen-year-old bid his family farewell at the Pressburg-Bratislava train station, unaware that he would never see them again. The disasters of the twentieth century swept Ruebner from Europe to Israel, from German to Hebrew, from the familiar to the strange. Despite his truncated formal education, he became a poet and man of letters in Israel's fledgling intellectual community alongside other Jewish immigrant-refugee-survivors like Ludwig Strauss, Werner Kraft, Lea Goldberg, and Dan Pagis, eventually gaining international esteem as professor of comparative literatures at Haifa University and as translator of Nobel prize winner S. Y....



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