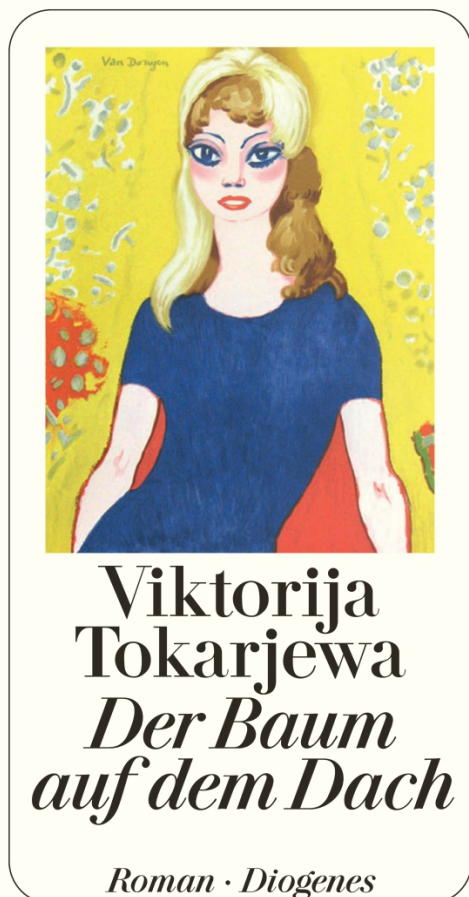


Viktorija Tokarjewa *The Tree on the Roof*

Published by Diogenes as *Der Baum auf dem Dach*
Original title: *Derevo na kryse*



Vera is an actress: blonde, blue eyes, as slim as a young birch tree. She looks delicate, but she is tough. Tough enough to survive the Siege of Leningrad when hundreds of thousands of people starved to death. In the Moscow theatre she plays mainly supporting roles, simple Russian girls. And her wants are simple too: enough to eat, a warm corner and love. And she finds all of this when she meets Alexander, ten years her junior, and an aspiring film producer. It's true that he hadn't wanted her to give birth to their son, but even so, they are almost a real family. Until Lena comes into their life: a screenplay writer and actually anything but a femme fatale. Vera, Alexander, Lena – a love triangle. But at its centre: Vera.

Book factsheet

Contemporary Literature
208 pages
11.6 x 18.4 cm
March 2010

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Movie adaptations

1999: Schwiegermutter
Director: Dagmar Hirtz
Cast: Christiane Hörbiger

1993: Ich bin. Du bist. Er ist.
Director: Stephan Polonski
Cast: Rosemarie Fendel, Mathias Hermann

Awards

- ka 1. Preis beim 11. Internationalen Moskauer Filmfestival für den Jugendfilm »Es ging ein Hund übers Klavier« (»Sla sobaka po rojale«).
- ka 1. Preis beim 10. Internationalen Moskauer Filmfestival für den Film »Mimino«.
- 1981 1. Preis beim Internationalen Dokumentarfilmfestival für den Film »Reden wir mal in meiner Sprache« (»Pogovorim na moem jazyke«).

Praise

Viktorija Tokarjewa

»As focused as Chekhov. Great art painted with a light hand, superb.« – Harald Ries / Westfalenpost, Hagen

»Viktorija Tokarjewa's short stories are X-rays of the soul.« – Literaturnaja Gaseta, Moscow

»Viktorija Tokarjewa writes like the Trans-Siberian Railway on ecstasy – full steam ahead to total catastrophe!« – Doris Dörrie



Photo: © Isolda Ohlbaum

Viktorija Tokarjewa, born in St. Petersburg in 1937, worked as a music teacher before studying scriptwriting at the Institute of Cinematography in Moscow. 15 films have been made from her scripts. She published her first story in 1964 and since then has devoted herself entirely to writing. Today she is one of Russia's most popular and bestselling authors. She now lives near Moscow.



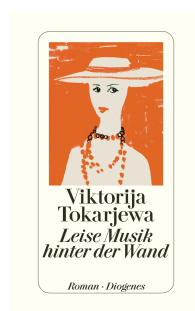
My Men
176 pages
2017



Even Bitches Deserve Pity
304 pages
2016



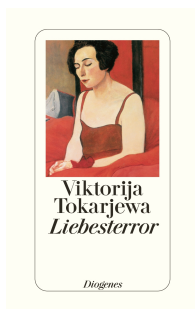
One of Many
208 pages
2014



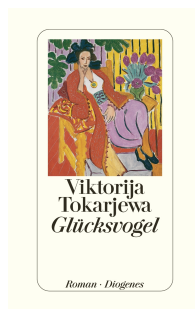
Soft Music Behind the Wall
176 pages
2013



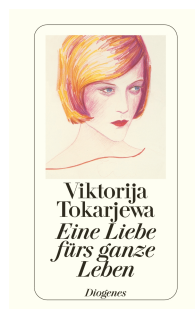
All my Enemies
256 pages
2011



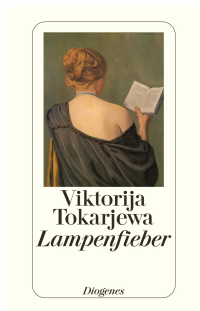
Love's Terror
224 pages
2008



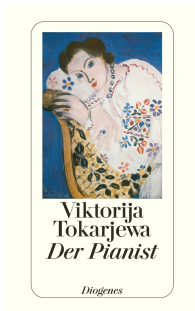
Under a Lucky Star
304 pages
2005



A Lifelong Love
160 pages
2003



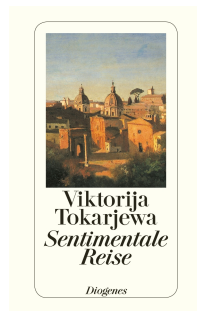
Stage Fright
272 pages
1999



The Pianist
176 pages
1997




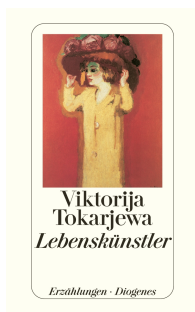
Diva
352 pages
1995



Sentimental Journey
192 pages
1994



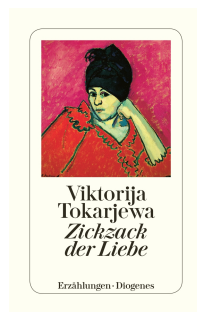
Should I or Shouldn't I?
304 pages
1993
 **Movie Adaptation**



The Hedonist
224 pages
1992



Mara
120 pages
1991



The Zigzag of Love
352 pages
1990