

# Diogenes

Viktorija Tokarjewa  
*The Tree on the Roof*

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



Viktorija  
Tokarjewa  
*Der Baum  
auf dem Dach*

*Roman · Diogenes*

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 Polomski  
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« (»Pagovorim na moem jazyke«).

### Praise

Viktorija Tokarjewa

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

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

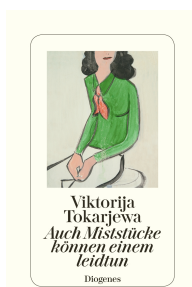
»Viktorija Tokarjewa's short stories are X-rays of the soul.« – Literaturnaja Gaseta, Moscow



Viktorija Tokarjewa, 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.



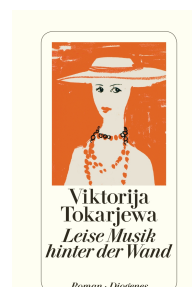
*My Men*  
176 pages  
2017



*Even Bitches Deserve Pity*  
304 pages  
2016



*One of Many*  
208 pages  
2014



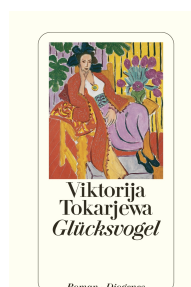
*Soft Music Behind the Wall*  
176 pages  
2013



*All my Enemies*  
256 pages  
2011



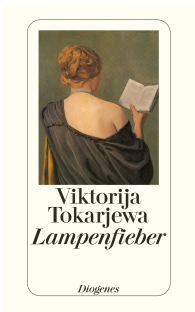
*Love's Terror*  
224 pages  
2008



*Under a Lucky Star*  
304 pages  
2005



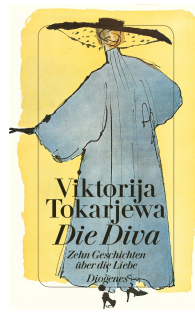
*A Lifelong Love*  
160 pages  
2003



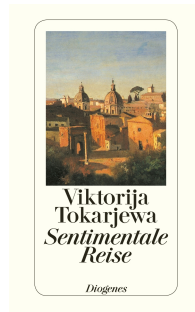
**Stage Fright**  
272 pages  
1999



**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