

## Viktorija Tokarjewa *Mara*

Published by Diogenes as *Mara*  
Original title: *Pervaja popytka*



## Viktorija Tokarjewa *Mara*

*Diogenes*

Ambitious Mara has two goals: power and money. Since there is no direct path to neither due to her lack of education, she has to achieve her goals indirectly through men. Madame Pompadour is her unequalled idol. But then she unexpectedly falls in love with a young musician who, however, only exploits her feelings. From then on she sells her own grandmother... Tokarjewa draws a psychologically sensitive and tragicomic picture of a modern Russian ›femme fatale‹.

## Book factsheet

Contemporary Literature  
120 pages  
11.6 x 18.4 cm  
March 1991

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**Translation rights currently sold:**  
Korean (Zhan)

### **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‹ (›Pogovorim 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



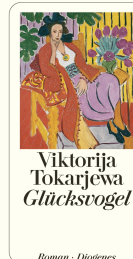
**All my Enemies**  
256 pages  
2011



**The Tree on the Roof**  
208 pages  
2010



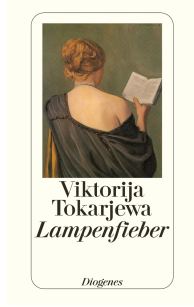
**Love's Terror**  
224 pages  
2008



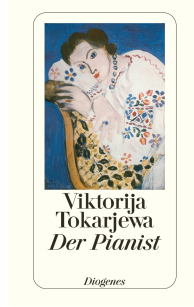
**Under a Lucky Star**  
304 pages  
2005



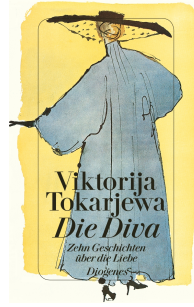
**A Lifelong Love**  
160 pages  
2003



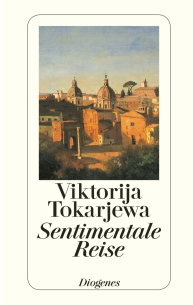
**Stage Fright**  
272 pages  
1999



**The Pianist**  
176 pages  
1997




**Diva**  
352 pages  
1995



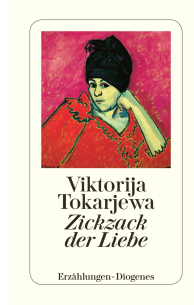
**Sentimental Journey**  
192 pages  
1994



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



**The Hedonist**  
224 pages  
1992



**The Zigzag of Love**  
352 pages  
1990