

**Viktorija Tokarjewa**  
***Even Bitches Deserve Pity***

Published by Diogenes as *Auch Miststücke können einem leidtun*  
Original title: *Svoloczej toze zalko*



**Viktorija  
Tokarjewa**  
***Auch Miststücke  
können einem  
leidtun***

Diogenes

Viktorija Tokarjewa tells stories of life at the country dacha and the struggle to survive in the city, about bohemians and rural poverty, about blows of fate and fortuitous turns, about the serenity of old age and the impetuosity of youth. And about how strange love can be.

Is he a scoundrel, the screenwriter Stasik, who fathers a son with young Lara but can not do without his wife Lida? Is he a fool, 70-year-old Viktor Petrovich, who falls head over heels in love again? And is she a bitch, the doctor who tells a concerned mother that her little daughter has a brain tumour, knowing full well it is not true? Human beings are a mystery, and love no less of one – that has always been the subject of the great Russian storyteller Viktorija Tokarjewa. She brings poetic justice even to scoundrels, fools and bitches – just as to the other unhappy lovers, lenient keepers of secrets and dauntless women in these new short stories.

## Book factsheet

General Fiction  
304 pages  
11.6 x 18.4 cm  
November 2016

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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 10. Internationalen Moskauer Filmfestival für den Film ›Mimino‹.  |
| ka   | 1. Preis beim 11. Internationalen Moskauer Filmfestival für den Jugendfilm ›Es ging ein Hund übers Klavier‹ (›Sla sobaka po rojale‹). |
| 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

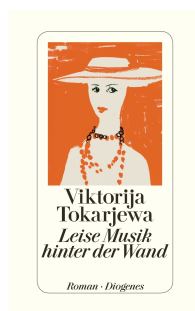
Viktorija Tokarjewa, born in St. Petersburg in 1937, worked as a music teacher before studying scriptwriting at the Institute of Cinematography in Moscow. 15 films have been made from her scripts. She published her first story in 1964 and since then has devoted herself entirely to writing. Today she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



**My Men**  
176 pages  
2017



**One of Many**  
208 pages  
2014



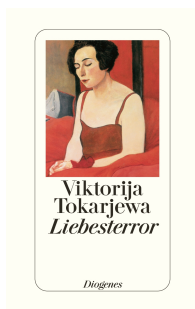
**Soft Music Behind the Wall**  
176 pages  
2013



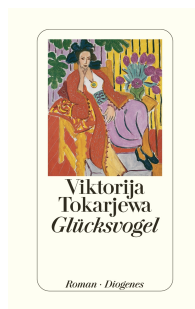
**All my Enemies**  
256 pages  
2011



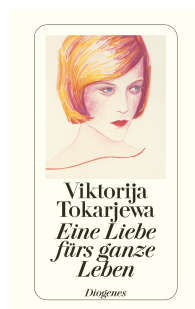
**The Tree on the Roof**  
208 pages  
2010



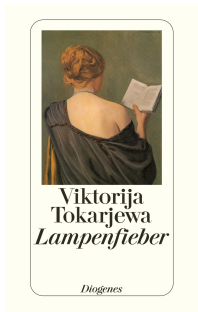
**Love's Terror**  
224 pages  
2008



**Under a Lucky Star**  
304 pages  
2005



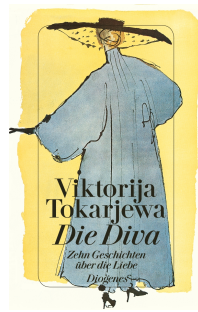
**A Lifelong Love**  
160 pages  
2003



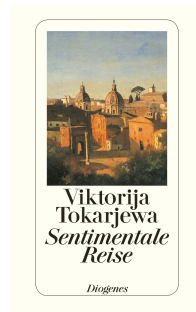
**Stage Fright**  
272 pages  
1999



**The Pianist**  
176 pages  
1997




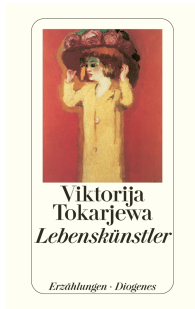
**Diva**  
352 pages  
1995



**Sentimental Journey**  
192 pages  
1994



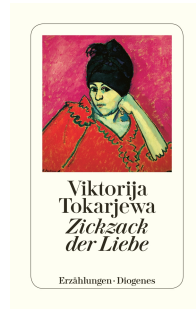
**Should I or Shouldn't I?**  
304 pages  
1993  
 **Movie Adaptation**



**The Hedonist**  
224 pages  
1992



**Mara**  
120 pages  
1991



**The Zigzag of Love**  
352 pages  
1990