

Viktorija Tokarjewa
Should I or Shouldn't I?

Published by Diogenes as *Sag ich's oder sag ich's nicht?*
Original title: *Skazat' - ne skazat'*



**Viktorija
Tokarjewa**
***Sag ich's
oder
sag ich's nicht?***

Erzählungen · Diogenes

»Shall I say it or not?« is the fraught question which accompanies the life of a young woman like a leitmotif. Now a mature woman, she looks back on the many opportunities she lost through her indecision - and when a last opportunity arises she finally takes the plunge. »I am, you are, he is« is the story of an unmarried mother whose whole life revolves around her son. One day, he brings a girl home. His mother does not take to the young woman and waits impatiently for the visitor to leave. Then her son tells her that she is here to stay - if she leaves, he will leave too since he married her a few days previously... »Kirka and the officer« would, in the normal course of events, hardly have got to know each other since Kirka the painter would have been unlikely to have anything to do with such an ideologically minded old fossil who still believes in the uprightness of the communist party. But a postcard that went to the wrong address brings about a collision between two people with diametrically opposed philosophies.

Book factsheet

Contemporary Literature
304 pages
11.6 x 18.4 cm
March 1993

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(except Russian)

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

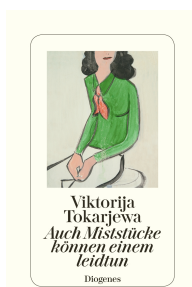
»Viktorija Tokarjewa's short stories are X-rays of the soul.« – Literaturnaja Gaset, Moscow



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.



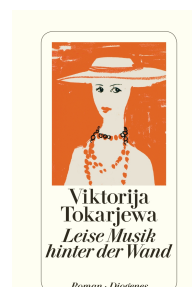
My Men
176 pages
2017



Even Bitches Deserve Pity
304 pages
2016



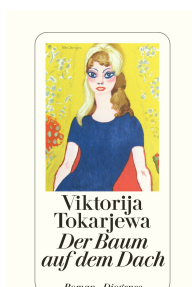
One of Many
208 pages
2014



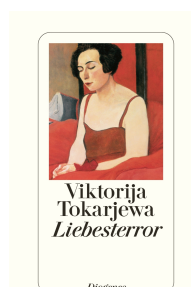
Soft Music Behind the Wall
176 pages
2013



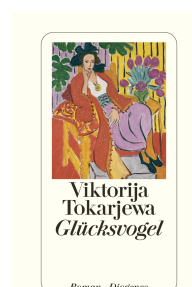
All my Enemies
256 pages
2011



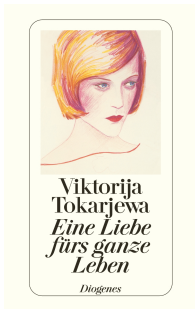
The Tree on the Roof
208 pages
2010



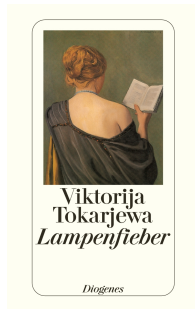
Love's Terror
224 pages
2008



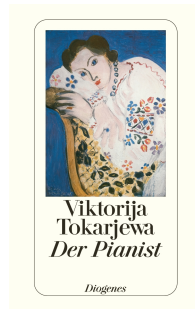
Under a Lucky Star
304 pages
2005



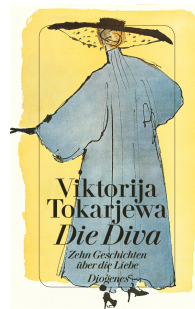
A Lifelong Love
160 pages
2003



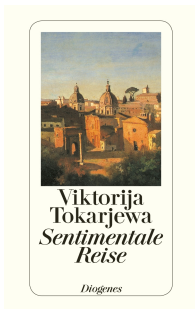
Stage Fright
272 pages
1999



The Pianist
176 pages
1997



Diva
352 pages
1995



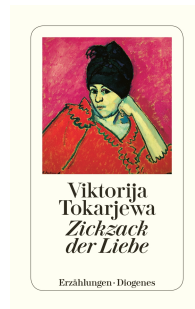
Sentimental Journey
192 pages
1994



The Hedonist
224 pages
1992



Mara
120 pages
1991



The Zigzag of Love
352 pages
1990