

# Diogenes

**Viktorija Tokarjewa**  
***A Lifelong Love***

Published by Diogenes as *Eine Liebe fürs ganze Leben*  
Original title: *Svoja pravda*



**Viktorija  
Tokarjewa**  
*Eine Liebe  
fürs ganze  
Leben*

*Diogenes*

How many great loves can one have in a lifetime? One, according to Irina – if you're lucky. Just as, after two children and a failed marriage, she expects nothing more from life, she meets Kjamal. He is Azerbaijani, young, handsome – and smells of strawberries, black currant leaves and fresh hay. Kjamal lives with Irina, but cannot marry her – after all, she is not of his religion.

Years later, as civil war erupts in Azerbaijan and the hunt for Russians begins, Irina returns to Moscow, hoping to stay with her children. But they now have their own lives – tinged with dashed hopes, alcohol and bitterness. Irina battles on, as one illusion after another is destroyed. Until the day that Kjamal arrives in Moscow.

Book factsheet

Contemporary Literature  
160 pages  
11.6 x 18.4 cm  
September 2003

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(except Russian)

**Rights currently sold:**  
Korean (Zhan)

#### **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

›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



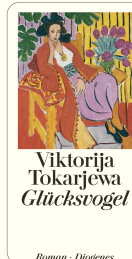
**All my Enemies**  
256 pages  
2011



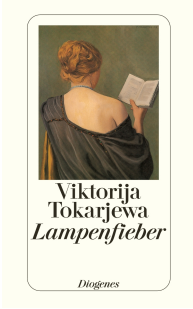
**The Tree on the Roof**  
208 pages  
2010



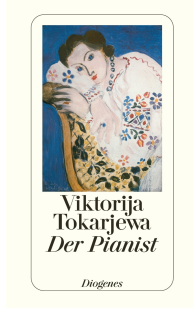
**Love's Terror**  
224 pages  
2008



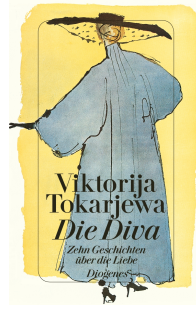
**Under a Lucky Star**  
304 pages  
2005



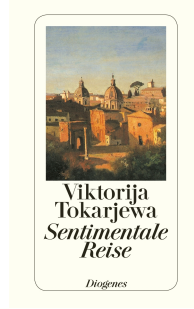
**Stage Fright**  
272 pages  
1999



**The Pianist**  
176 pages  
1997



**Diva**  
352 pages  
1995



**Sentimental Journey**  
192 pages  
1994



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

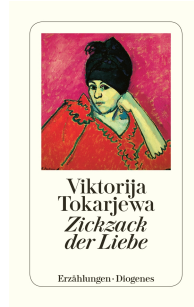
 **Movie Adaptation**



**The Hedonist**  
224 pages  
1992



**Mara**  
120 pages  
1991



**The Zigzag of Love**  
352 pages  
1990