

- 0. TANIA CHERNOVA - Story Preface
- 1. STALINGRAD
- 2. SOVIET RESISTANCE
- 3. THE SIEGE OF STALINGRAD
- 4. VASILY ZAITSEV
- 5. TANIA CHERNOVA**
- 6. STALINGRAD SNIPERS
- 7. THE DUEL
- 8. IS IT TRUE?
- 9. OPERATION URANUS
- 10. HITLER FORBIDS SURRENDER
- 11. GERMAN SURRENDER
- 12. THE SWORD OF STALINGRAD

Ten days after he began targeting Germans in the rubble of Stalingrad, Vasha achieved 40 "kills." Looking for hero stories to bolster the morale of war-weary Soviet citizens, Igor Danilov, a Russian Commissar and journalist, wrote articles about Vasha's phenomenal results. The sniper was soon famous throughout the Soviet Union.

Danilov had another important mission for Vasily: to train other snipers. Soon Zaitsev (which means "hare" in Russian) had a group of snipers-in-the-making under his instruction. One of those trainees was Tania Chernova, a Russian-American.

Tania had returned to Russia when the war began. She wanted to be close to her beloved grandparents. When they, and many others in their town, were brutally murdered by invading Nazis, Tania became single-minded in her desire for revenge.

Concealing her American background, she became a partisan. Her mission was to kill as many Germans as she could. She wanted to "break them like sticks."

Learning to become an even better sharpshooter, she honed her skills under Vasily's instructions. She also became his lover.

Based on all available evidence, historians agree that Zaitsev was an amazing sniper with 242 Stalingrad "kills" to his credit. But historians differ whether the famous story of Vasily's duel with a German sniper was truth or Soviet propaganda.

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/TANIA-CHERNOVA-Enemy-At-The-Gates>

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/TANIA-CHERNOVA-Enemy-At-The-Gates>

Media Stream



Tania Chernova - Enemy at the Gates

Reported photograph of Tania Chernova, at the left of the picture, online courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Tania-Chernova-Enemy-at-the-Gates>