

# Thomas de Waal

ARMENIA AND AZERBAIJAN  
THROUGH PEACE AND WAR

# black garden

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In November 1987, two freight cars arrived at the Baku train station containing Azerbaijanis who had just fled Kafan as a result of interethnic violence. Very little is known about the incident, and it was not reported at all in the

media, but there are witnesses to what happened. Sveta Pashayeva, an Armenian widow from Baku, told the story of how she saw the refugees arrive in Baku and brought them clothes and food:

People came and said that two carriages had come from Kafan with naked unclothed children, and we went there to look . . . They were Azerbaijanis from Kafan. I was at the station. There were two freight cars. The doors were open and there were two long planks, like floorboards, nailed over them so that people wouldn't fall out. And they said that people should bring what they could to help. And I—not just me, lots of people—collected together old children's dresses, things like that. I saw it myself. There were men, dirty country people, with long hair and beards, old people, children.<sup>15</sup>