



## Mumu

ISBN 9780956116567

- **Title:** Mumu
- **ISBN:** 9780956116567
- **Category:** Classic Fiction, Romance, Drama
- **Format:** Audio CD, Audio Book
- **Language:** English (Unabridged)
- **Author:** Ivan Turgenev
- **Translator:** Constance Garnett
- **Narrator:** Max Bollinger
- **Imprint:** Sovereign
- **Running Time:** 74 min
- **On Sale:** 2010
- **RRP:** £16.45 (UK)

### Brief Description

An audio book adaptation of Turgenev's story set on the outskirts of Moscow, in the house of an old widow. The story was written in 1854 by Ivan Turgenev, a great Russian novelists of the nineteenth century. Read in English by Max Bollinger (unabridged).

### Tracks / Chapters List

01 Gander of The Steppes; 02 Injured Creature; 03 Marriage of Inconvenience; 04 Pretty Pass; 05 Little Nursling; 06 Flower Garden; 07 Prisoner of The Garret; 08 Cherrybay Drops; 09 Back to The Roots;

### Extended Description

Turgenev wrote Mumu with such vivid images and reflections of the state of the tsarist Russia that this piece together with his other stories was credited with having influenced public opinion in favour of the abolition of serfdom in 1861. Turgenev was the first of the great Russian novelists to win fame abroad. One of his great admirers was Henry James, who wrote that "Turgenev's merit of form is of the first order"

### About The Author

**Ivan Sergeyeovich Turgenev (Иван Сергеевич Тургенев)** 1818-1883, a Russian novelist, short story writer, and playwright. His short story collection entitled A Huntsman's Sketches, is a milestone of Russian Realism, and his novel Fathers and Sons is regarded as one of the major works of 19th-century fiction. Turgenev studied literature, philosophy and philology at the Universities of Moscow, St Petersburg and Berlin and in 1879 received honorary doctorate from the University of Oxford. Turgenev's artistic purity made him a favourite of like-minded novelists of the next generation, such as Henry James and Joseph Conrad.

### About The Translator

**Constance Clara Garnett** 1861 — 1946, an English translator of nineteenth century Russian Literature. Following her visit to Russia in 1893 where she met Leo Tolstoy, Constance started translating Russian literature, which became her life's passion and resulted in English language versions of dozens of volumes by Tolstoy, Pushkin, Turgenev, Chekhov and other prominent Russian writers. Russian anarchist Sergei Stepniak assisted in preparation of her early works.

Max Bollinger who speaks Russian fluently considers Garnett's work the most faithful to original Russian and most characteristic of the era. "As a native Russian speaker I can tell you that the elegance, wit and idiomatic composition of Garnett's work is of highest calibre. There are very few modern translators who can compete with Constance" wrote Max Bollinger in his introductory note.

Joseph Conrad compared Constance to a great musician interpreting a great composer (Turgenev). Katherine Mansfield wrote: "Constance Garnett transformed the lives of younger authors by revealing a new world." Without her translations, H. E. Bates believed, modern English literature itself could not have been what it is.

## About The Narrator

Max Bollinger is a Russian born British actor, producer and writer with credits including BBC's Doctor Who, ITV's Ghostboat TV film, Pan MacMillan's Easy English for Busy People audio training, Short Stories by Anton Chekhov audio series, Mumu by Ivan Turgenev audio book.

Prior to establishing career in performing arts held management posts at The Cambridge University Local Examination Syndicate (now Cambridge Assessment), various management and consulting posts in British Telecommunications Plc (BT), British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC)

## Reviews [more reviews >](#)

Mumu by Ivan Tergenev is a brilliant story superbly narrated by Max Bollinger. By turns tragic and comic the story concerns a deaf mute serf whose love for a laundress is unrequited and who instead befriends a dog, the Mumu of the title. This is a full length story of 74 minutes in which Tergenev delineates with great artistry the different characters of a serf-holding mistress. The comedy is delightful and the tragedy is poignant.

I had never heard of this story, so my grateful thanks to Max Bollinger for producing this superb Audio CD of this delightful and fascinating story. Anyone who has heard Max Bollinger's CD's of Anton Chekov will be absolutely thrilled by this latest production. He goes from strength to strength. Highly recommended.

**Alan Moreton (UK) ★★★★★**

Gerasim is a deaf mute servant in the household of a cantankerous old widow outside Moscow. He finds comfort in his isolated life of arduous work in his beloved dog, Mimi, but the widow orders the animal's destruction. A harrowing short story published in 1854, its vivid portrayal of callous cruelty towards serfs is believed to have influenced opinion in favour of the abolition of serfdom seven years later. The narration is Russian accented English communicates all of Turgenev's favour.

**Rachel Redford, The Observer (UK) [Download PDF >](#)**

An absolute classic, Mumu gives a wonderfully vivid picture of life for the poor in Russia, can't be faulted. It is great to have an audio book version, which really brought the story to life. I really enjoyed listening to this, but the real star is Turgenev's writing.

**Nikki Pierce (UK) ★★★★★**

MUMU By Ivan Turgenev, translated by Constance Garnett, read by Max Bollinger, Sovereign, 74 minutes on 1 CD, unabridged. Turgenev's story, set in a widow's house on the outskirts of Moscow in 19th-century Russia, is a searing portrayal of the Tsarist state, and is often credited with swaying public opinion in favour of the abolition of serfdom in 1861.

**The Globe and Mail (Canada)**

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