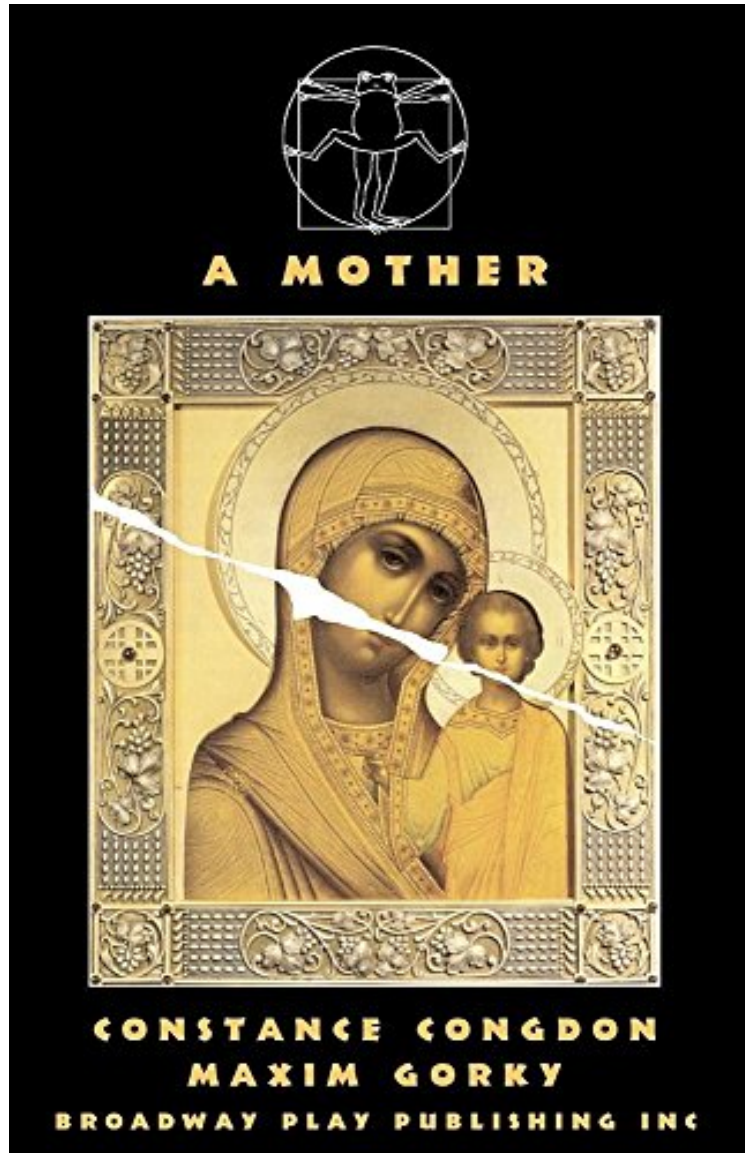


(Download pdf) A Mother

## A Mother

*Constance Congdon, Maxim Gorky*  
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**Constance Congdon, Maxim Gorky : A Mother** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Mother:

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. best offer everBy AKThis is my favorite book. I read it in another language but have been looking for an english translation that was as good in expression as the translation. This is perfect and the price was unbeatable. It was in very good condition, just looked a bit old but the book did not have any wear and tear or markings on it.3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Great Russian Literature!By

corazonA magnificent historical novel concerning the grim fate of those few people who speak out against thuggish authority! This book should be read by people throughout the world. "Churches in the towns were filled with silver and gold for which God had no use..." Class struggles---Wisconsin in 2011--are paralleled by events in Russia a century ago. Substitute "teachers" or unionized EMS, police, and other state employees for the word "proletariat."

An adaptation of Gorky's classic black comedy, VASSA ZHELEZNOVA, A MOTHER concerns a family's stern, penny-pinching matriarch who will do anything for her family. ..". Dark, invigoratingly sardonic...Constance Congdon's MOTHER is as uncompromisingly savvy as it is bitinglly funny... MOTHER is an exhilarating blend of one of Chekhov's dysfunctional provincial families run through the wringer of Joe Orton's iconoclastic comedy. It's also Maxim Gorky through and through, providing a canny look at Gorky as a dramatic bridge between Chekhov and Brecht. Congdon's A MOTHER is adapted from Gorky's play VASSA ZHELEZNOVA...MOTHER [is] as much an enlightening rediscovery as an exciting new play. Vassa, a kind of proto-Mother Courage, is the head of a family one generation removed from serfdom and facing a crisis. The husband with whom she's built a fairly successful peat-mining and tile-making business is dying upstairs. Without a will, all their possessions will pass to their two sons-the uselessly self-pitying Pavel and the slothful, self-indulgent Semyon, a man who can no longer fit into any of his clothes except pajamas. Congdon's dialogue is crisp, her Gorky-derived characters captivating and her wit devilishly sharp..." Robert Hurwitt, San Francisco Chronicle

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