

## MOTHERS

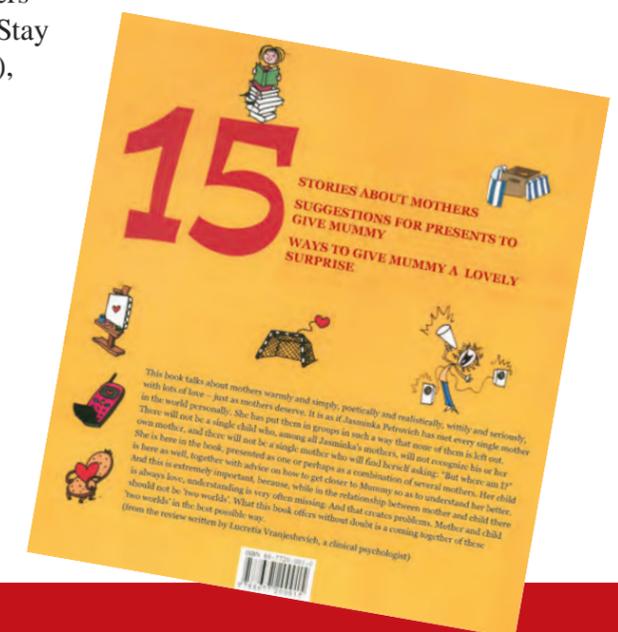
Author Jasminka Petrovich, illustrated by Lidija Taranovich, picturebook, 2004. F 22 x 22, Pages 32, Cyrillic, paperback, ISBN 86-7720-001-0

Jasminka Petrovic is widely awarded author whose books are translated into more than 20 languages. Mothers is one of her favorite. With her unique humor, touching and heartwarming, Jasminka describes 15 types of mothers in everyday situations. This book is made for children as well as for mothers, and most of all to those irreplaceable moments when they meet above the book.

### Author about the book:

"Very important book in my opinion is the book Mothers, because it overcomes the prejudices on mothers. My aim was to look at different types of mothers from different angles. It is usual for mothers to read about children but this book is written for children to help them understand their mothers. This is so important because even though there is always love in this relationship, understanding is very often missing. Mother and child should not be 'two worlds'. What this book offers is a coming together of these 'two worlds' in the best possible way."

Jasminka Petrovic was born in Belgrade, Serbia, in 1960. Worked for 16 years in marketing agencies and as a radio journalist. She was editor-in-chief of National Geographic Junior for Serbia. Married, with two children. Jasminka wrote ten books: "Giggy Makes a Sea" (anti-war story), "School" (humorous presentation of school days), Sex for Beginners (it is a book for young people about to enter the exciting and mysterious "world of sexuality"), Say "Good Morning to the lady" (an autobiography novel), "Bon Ton" (a funny and humorous approach to a serious subject), "Rainbow valley" (it's a two level story: at one it's a fairy tale about good and evil and on the other it's a story on chess), "Mothers" (fifteen stories about mothers), "How to Become and Stay Stupid" (a manual for children on learning techniques), "On the Button and Happiness" (a story about a boy suffering from cerebral paralysis), "This is the worst day of my life" (teenage novel).



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## CREAM-PUFF MUMMY

It's enough for her children just to think that they might like to eat something, for CREAM-PUFF MUMMY to dash into the kitchen. She puts a saucepan on one ring of the cooker, a frying pan on the other. She switches on the oven, and plugs in the mixer. She opens the fridge and closes the deep-freeze. She squeezes some fruit, slices some vegetables, fries some meat, bakes some cakes... While everything's cooking she lays the table, humming a little tune. If the children leave their plates untouched with cries of 'Ughhh!' – she is very sad. She is happiest when the children lick their plates and ask: "Is there any more?"

**CREAM-PUFF MUMMIES** like it:

- when you call all your friends round to eat her cream puffs.
- when you want to eat something she hasn't made for a long time.

**CREAM-PUFF MUMMIES** don't like:

- hamburger and pizza kiosks
- conversations about diets.

**They can never understand** anyone not being hungry at lunchtime.

She'll be grateful if:

- you lay the table,
- you clear the table,
- you help her decorate the cake.

**In her handbag, CREAM-PUFF MUMMY has:** at least two sandwiches, a small carton of fruit juice, a packet of sweets, two or three chocolates, paper napkins, moist handkerchiefs...

**You're ashamed** when she packs you a piece of lemon meringue pie for elevenses, and crispy chicken wings for the school outing.

**Make puppets from Mummy's old wooden spoons:**

You will need: wool for the hair, a felt-tip pen for drawing the face, a piece of material for the clothes, cardboard for the various details, glue...

When you've made the puppets, call your friends round and together think up a story from which you can make a theatre performance. Then invite all your mothers to the première!



**Recipe:** CREAM-PUFF MUMMY with kisses topping:

Ingredients:

One CREAM-PUFF MUMMY

One armchair

All the members of your family (including the pets).

Instructions: When you have settled Mummy comfortably in the armchair, all the members of the family (including the pets) kiss and hug her.

N.B. The more affectionate the kisses, the happier the CREAM-PUFF MUMMY will be, and, accordingly, the more successful the recipe.

## A LITTLE SNIPPET FROM LIFE:

Dear Mummy,

It's really super here. There's loads of snow. My sledge broke, so our teacher gave me her son's sledge. He skis more than he sledges. I'm in a room with Dushan, Pavle, Dragan and Pera. We've eaten all your meringues and pastries. There's just a bit of apple pie left. Everyone sends their regards, especially our teacher's son. He absolutely adores fried chicken legs. We'll be back by lunchtime on Sunday. Can you make me some red soup, mashed potatoes, hamburgers and poppy-seed strudel? It was great that you packed the carrot and prunes. Our snowman was by far the best!

Lots of love,

Joca



## MUMMY THE LADY



**M**UMMY THE LADY loves to try on dresses in front of the mirror. She adores going round shops and so always knows where you can buy good value yellow tights, a tracksuit with a hood or a black handbag for every occasion. She is good at receiving but also at handing out compliments. Everyone in her home is always clean, tidy and sweet-smelling. She loves it when the whole family dresses up and goes out for a walk. Thanks to MUMMY THE LADY, on the school excursion the whole class has a hair dryer, sun-tan cream, make-up for the fancy dress party, shampoo and soap.

**When she's satisfied with how you look, she always says:** "Mummy's little cutie!"

**When she leaves the house, she reminds you:** "Mummy's little pet, mind you don't get dirty!"

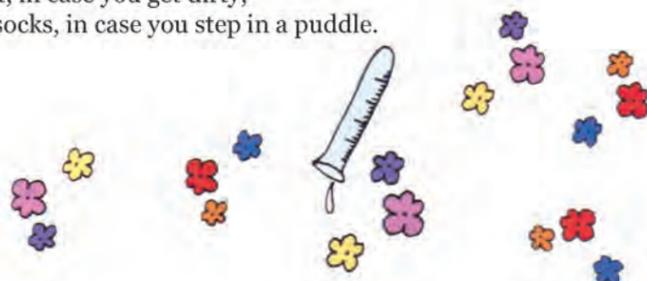
**When she compliments one of your friends, she says:** "She's a real doll!"



**She's happy** when you give her the most precious necklace in the world, an affectionate hug.

**In her handbag MUMMY THE LADY always has:**

- a spare T-shirt, in case you get dirty,
- a new pair of socks, in case you step in a puddle.



**You're ashamed** because when you go out visiting, MUMMY THE LADY makes you put on: a bow tie (if you're a boy) or a hat (if you're a girl).

**You love it** when she kisses you and leaves lipstick on your cheek.

**You're happy** because she always goes to the parents' meeting well-dressed and perfumed.



**Make some perfume** for MUMMY THE LADY by choosing some of the following alternatives: 1) the scent of violets 2) the scent of milk 3) the scent of chocolate 4) the scent of wool 5) the scent of clean sheets 6) the scent of the first snow 7) the scent of vanilla ice-cream 8) the scent of Plasticene 9) the scent of apples 10) the scent of honeydew melons. From the above, choose the one that best suits your mother.

**Give Mummy a lovely surprise!** Make her a scented pouch.

**You will need:** some dried rose petals, some crushed stems of basil, rosemary or other sweet-smelling plants, a piece of cloth or a handkerchief and some coloured ribbon. **Instructions:** Place the dried petals in the middle of the piece of cloth, gather the four corners of the cloth and tie them together with the ribbon.



### A SNIPPET FROM LIFE:

**VLADA:** Mummy, we're putting on a play at the end of the school year!

**MUMMY:** How lovely – what is it?

**VLADA:** 'The Princess and the Pea'.

**MUMMY:** And how are the rehearsals going?

**VLADA:** Not bad.

**MUMMY:** And which part are you playing, my darling?

**VLADA:** I'm playing the pea.

**MUMMY:** A fascinating role!

**VLADA:** Yes, but I've got a bit of a problem!

**MUMMY:** Oh, what's that, my pet?

**VLADA:** I haven't got a costume, so I was thinking... Could you lend me that green sweater of yours?

**MUMMY:** The new one?

**VLADA:** Yes, that one.

**MUMMY:** (hesitatingly) Well... It wasn't all that expensive. But even so... Oh, all right – seeing it's for the school play, yes you can!

**VLADA:** (giving his mother a big hug) I knew you'd agree – I just knew it! I just knew it!

**MUMMY:** Gently, Vlada! Gently!

**VLADA:** (taking a piece of paper from his pocket and showing it to her) Look, Mummy, there are one or two more little problems. The princess hasn't got a costume either, nor has the prince, nor the courtiers, and we haven't got a silk mattress either, or any pillows, or curtains... We've jotted down everything we need. When you've got everything together, bring it to us at school – I've got to dash off to the rehearsal now!





## MUMMY WITH RESPONSIBILITIES

She gets up early and goes to bed late. She's always in a hurry and permanently has a telephone in her hand. Whatever job she starts, she always successfully finishes it. She arrives at meetings bang on time. Her only regret is that a day has only 24 hours. Her motto is: "Time is money!" MUMMY WITH RESPONSIBILITIES is very ambitious, and accordingly expects a lot from her children. She enrolls them at music school, as well as on courses in a foreign language, ballet, drama, karate, dancing... She organizes private lessons in maths for them. She only gives them pocket money if they regularly empty the rubbish bin and go to the shops.

**She doesn't like** it when you're late.

**She loves** it when you read your set books during the holiday.

**She helps you and your friends to:**

- sell Christmas cards you've made yourself.
- collect as many old newspapers and bottles as possible.

**She leaves messages all over the house:**



**Bad points:**

- she's often out of the house,
- she's continually checking up on you over the phone.

**Good points:**

- she brings you back interesting presents from business trips,
- you often eat out in restaurants.

**In her handbag MUMMY WITH RESPONSIBILITIES carries:**

two mobile phones, an engagements diary, an address book, your photograph in her purse, little presents.



You long for Sunday. Then the whole family is together!

**Make Mummy a picture frame:**

**A SNIPPET FROM LIFE:**

to: Mummy

subject: home news

Hi, Mummy!

Everything's great, it's just that it takes us a long time to get dressed in the morning as Daddy doesn't know where anything is. Just imagine - this morning he gave me two different socks to put on. Don't forget to buy me that game! Let us know when you're coming home so that we can be here to meet you.

Lots of love from Daddy and me.

Hi, Mummy!

It's raining here, too. This morning Daddy didn't wake me up on time, so I slept through the first lesson. What annoys me most of all is that he goes to bed before me, so I have to switch off the TV and light. In the Nature Study oral test I got an A. I'm doing my piano practice but not so much as usual as my teacher's off sick. Have you bought me that game yet? Lots of love from Daddy and me.

Hi, Mummy!

It's wonderful that you're coming home tomorrow! We've eaten everything you left in the deep-freeze and so every day Daddy goes out to buy hamburgers from Cocky's. I'm getting fed up with them! It's great that you've bought me that game! There's nothing new at school, except that Darko's got measles. And just imagine - the Petrovich's budgerigar has escaped! If there's a second part to the game, be sure to buy it for me.

Lots of love from Daddy and me.

