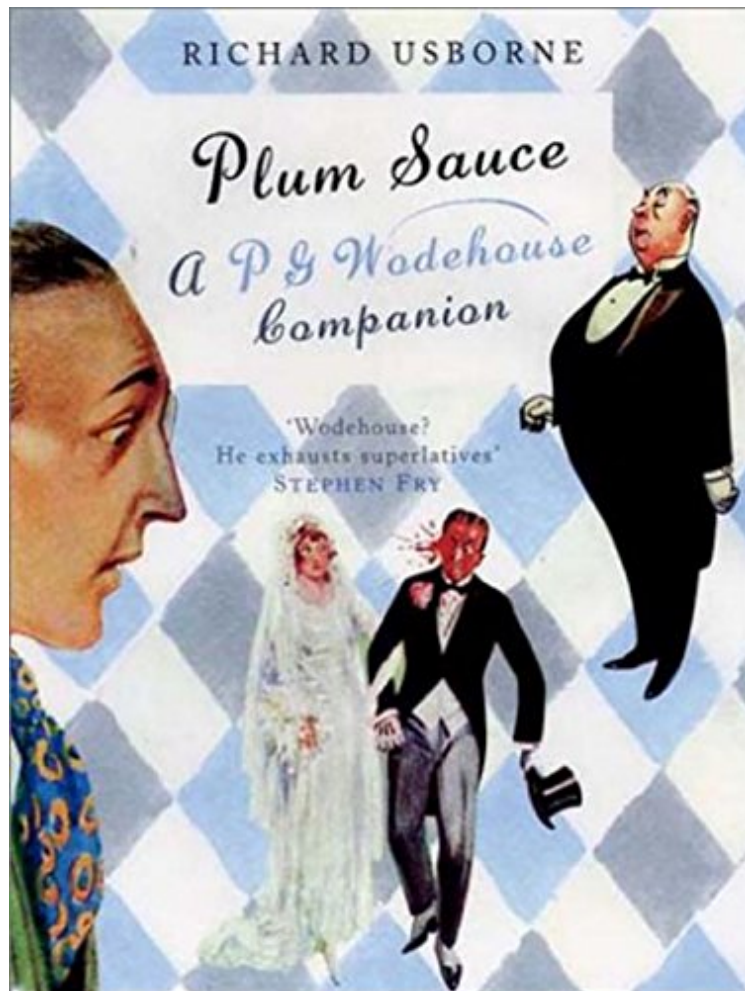


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Fortune's Fool: Trade Edition

Ivan Turgenev

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Ivan Turgenev : Fortune's Fool: Trade Edition before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Fortune's Fool: Trade Edition:

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. An Unexpected Family By S. Smith-Peter This taut, interesting play is cut down from a much longer play of Turgenev's by Mike Poulton. I enjoyed reading it, even though I don't usually like reading plays. The story is set in a Russian country house at the start of a new era. The new owners of the house are a young married couple. The central character is Kuzovkin, who is a hanger on at the house and had been subject to many kinds of humiliation under the rule of the old owner but who is unexpectedly part of the family of the house. The second act has a fascinating twist that makes us reevaluate what happened in the first. The characters are all complex and able to change, even the negative ones. Before I picked this up, I hadn't heard of this play by Turgenev. Turgenev himself was a sort of hanger on during his life in Paris, so there's probably some of his own experience incorporated into this. Definitely worth reading.

Fortune's Fool had its Broadway premiere a century and a half after it was written (1848) and proceeded to win two Tony Awards for the highly acclaimed performances of its stars, Alan Bates and Frank Langella, as well as a Tony nomination for best play. Set in the Russian countryside of grand houses and serfs, the play depicts the tragicomic events precipitated by the return of a young heiress to her family estate. As the members of the household bait and react to each other, the first act ends in a stun

"Reshaped in Mike Poulton's well-spoken adaptation . . . Fortune's Fool is blessed with the sort of dazzling, quick-stroke character portraits one associates with Turgenev." (Ben Brantley, The New York Times)"A mix of wit and heart that many of today's comic writers would do well to study." (Elysa Gardner, USA Today)About the AuthorIvan Sergeyevich Turgenev was born in 1818 in the Province of Orel, and suffered during his childhood from a tyrannical mother. After the family had moved to Moscow in 1827 he entered Petersburg University where he studied philosophy. Whe