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1 *Paris, France*



2 *My wedding dress*



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5 *My desk*



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# insider essentials

Model turned best-selling author Tara Moss reveals her favourite things

**1. Paris, France** My husband (philosopher Dr. Berndt Saltewitz) and I became engaged in Paris. We proposed to each other by exchanging diamond rings on Pont Neuf at sunrise. We hope to visit Paris again next year, with our baby-daughter Sapphira.

**2. Alex Perry gown** I love the femininity and glamour of Alex's work. He knows how to flatter the female curve. I have half a dozen of his gowns, including my wedding dress, which I'm looking for an opportunity to wear again. Because it's red, I think I'll get away with it.

**3. The Evolution Store, New York** I discovered this store years ago when I was modelling and have been fascinated by it ever since. It's like a mini museum, with everything from wedding to vintage fly trap plants to replica skulls.

**4. Juliette (like a Girl) Truly Impassioned perfume** This was a gift from my husband who knew it'd be it, in part because it took like a bullet. The scent is beautiful, complex, musky and sexy.

**5. Victorian writing desk** My writing often happens at this beautiful old desk, which I found in an antique store in the Blue Mountains, NSW. It's battered and broken in places, but I love the character that age brings.

**6. Jo Malone candles** I love candles and often write by candlelight. My house (in the Blue Mountains) is the kind of place that suits dipping candlelight.

**7. Chai tea** I'm a bit obsessed with chai - make it for me when I'm shooting (Foster shows) Tough Paul and Tara Moss in Conversation I have several brands in the cupboard including T2 and loose leaf variety from our local coop.

**8. Green Grace Organics Spirulina** Licorice is my treat of choice, but it has to be real, from Sicily (sorry, not just a licorice like sweet). I indulge in a good dose several times a month.

**9. Gothic literature** Some of my all-time favourite books are Bram Stoker's *Dracula*, The Picture of Dorian Gray by Oscar Wilde and Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*. They've very much an influence in my *Pandora* English series.

**10. A Tote. My happy bag** There is lots to love about this happy bag. It looks like a regular handbag, it's my favourite colour and it's extremely practical, with pockets for everything a new mum needs to carry.

\*Tara's latest book is *The Spider Goddess* (Pan Macmillan, \$22.95).