



Quarterly Cupcake

Sweet news from around the globe in children's rights

HOLIDAY WISHES FROM LONDON, TORONTO AND NEW YORK CITY

We're delighted to welcome you to the second instalment of the Quarterly Cupcake and this time it's a festive one! The latter half of 2010 has been a very busy time for us here at Rights People, and we have had much to celebrate.

A new baby, Zoe Madeleine Devlin, arrived safely and soundly in Toronto this August and is absolutely gorgeous! Mother and baby are very well, and we're looking forward to welcoming Alexandra back in 2011.

And Allison Heiny became Allison Hellegers in New York this November, so we want to wish many congratulations to Allison and her new husband Neil!

As well as these momentous events, we are very pleased to announce four new clients for Rights People—Hothouse Fiction and Scott Treimel, for whom we represent various translation rights;

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, for whom we now represent UK & Commonwealth rights; and O'Brien Press, who we will represent in North America starting January 2011. More information will follow on our new clients, but please don't hesitate to contact us for further details.

Although it seems like a long time ago now, Frankfurt was another jam-packed event for us this year. Rights People moved to the Agents' Centre, and we had an easy transition there from Hall 8. (Although we will still have our regular stand in Bologna.) Our associate Rachel Richardson came along to help cover Alexandra Devlin's maternity leave, and we all had a bevy of productive meetings, dinners, and drinks with our clients and customers. It was great to see old faces and new, and to place lots



Festive Ice-skating in London at Somerset House

of our authors in new homes around the globe (see our highlights below).

We're now battenning down the hatches for a cold Northern hemisphere winter (we even have snow in all three cities!) and are looking forward to the festive season.

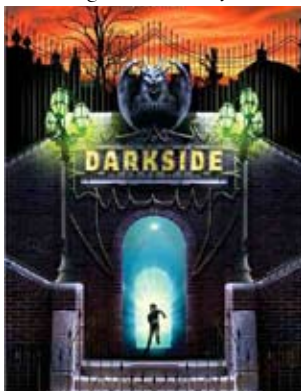
Rights People wishes our customers and clients all the best for the holidays, and we look forward to being in touch again in 2011!

—Alex Webb

NEW CLIENT FOCUS: HOTHOUSE FICTION

We're delighted to welcome Hothouse Fiction to the Rights People family, for whom we will be selling US and translation rights. Combining the creative powers of top-notch writers and editors with cutting-edge market research, Hothouse Fiction is a complete fiction creation and packaging service that produces outstanding new fiction for children. Hothouse Fiction's mission statement is to create stories. From the seed of an original idea they develop

characters, settings, and plots, and then collaborate with talented writers to turn their concepts into full manuscripts, which are then sold to major publishers. A Hothouse book can come into being in a number of ways—in response to a gap in the market, as the result of a specific request from a publisher or as a good old-fashioned flash of inspiration. Since its inception in 2006, Hothouse Fiction has originated and developed a portfolio of highly commercial children's fiction for a range of ages and tastes—from dark, brooding fantasy to cosy animal adventures to comical laugh-fests. The first book in their DARKSIDE series won the Waterstone's Children's Book prize in 2007, and they have gone on to have great success with DARKEACADEMY published by Hodder, DEMON DEFENDERS published by Puffin and THE SECRET KINGDOM published by Orchard, to name just a few.



DARKSIDE by Tom Becker: The first in the Hothouse series (Scholastic, February 2008)

* sales highlights *

- * The new series from author of #1 *New York Times* bestseller PRETTY LITTLE LIARS, Sara Shepard—THE LYING GAME—was snapped up in a pre-empt by HarperCollins UK at Frankfurt, and has since sold to Bertelsmann in Germany, Rocco in Brazil, Ergon in Bulgaria and Sharp Point in Taiwan.
- * German, Swedish, Norwegian, Finnish, Hungarian and Czech rights to the Working Partners' originated project SANCTUARY.
- * Loewe Verlag in Germany jumped in to make a two book pre-emptive offer for THE DARK INSIDE by Jeyn Roberts, due to be published by Simon & Schuster in the US next year, and we've also sold this in Hungary to PeopleTeam and to Pegasus in Turkey.
- * GIRLS AGAINST GIRLS, a non-fiction guide from Zest Books, to A&C Black in the UK and Nava in the Czech Republic.
- * FLUTTER by Erin Moulton was sold to Novo Conceito in Brazil in a pre-emptive offer at Frankfurt.
- * THE REPLACEMENT by Brenna Yovanoff continues to rack up the sales since Frankfurt selling to Michel Lafon in France, Zalozba Alicia in Slovenia, Znak in Poland, Kragozor in Bulgaria, and Copyright UK Press in Indonesia—for a total of 15 languages now!
- * Publishers in Turkey have been active this holiday season, and a few deals of note include Blythe Woolston's FREAK OBSERVER, Gillian Phillips' FIREBRAND, and Anna Carey's EVE TRILOGY to Pegasus; and Megan Miranda's FRACTURE and Rex Stone's DINOSAUR COVE, 1-19, to Artemis.
- * The new series from *New York Times* #1 bestselling author of the LUXE, Anna Godbersen's BRIGHT YOUNG THINGS, again to Albin Michel in France and Karisto in Finland.
- * Two new audio deals: WHAT HAPPENED ON FOX STREET to Brilliance Audio and KISSED BY ANGEL to Dreamscape.

A SPRINKLING OF REVIEWS

FIREBRAND by Gillian Philip (Strident, Aug 2010)

* "Once a year, a new novelist really blows me away. Last year it was Suzanne Collins with *The Hunger Games*, which came out of nowhere. This year it's Gillian Philip's *Firebrand*...A fantastically violent, utterly thrilling tale. If you have a child who adores *Across the Nightingale Floor*, *Wolf Brother* or even *Twilight*, this is the book for them...Philip's clear prose is as fiery as whiskey, but even as she makes you see atrocities through her hero, she springs clever shocks on the reader...This deserves prizes...The best fantasy novel of 2010." —Amanda Craig, *The Sunday Times*

BLACK RADISHES by Susan Lynn Meyer (Delacorte, Nov 2010)

* "First-time novelist Meyer builds the tension by using real-life events (detailed in an author's note), creating in Gustave a very believable boy struggling to learn to cover up his emotions, who behaves bravely when he must. Modern young readers may be surprised to learn about the difficulties of life in Vichy France as well as the distress felt by French citizens as their own government began to cave in on their hard-fought principles of *liberté, égalité, and fraternité*." —*Horn Book*

* "[R]aises important questions about nationalism, equality and identity and fills a void in Holocaust literature for this age group." —*Kirkus Reviews*

THE DARK SONG by Gail Giles (Little, Brown Books For Young Readers, Sept 2010)

* "Giles is a gifted writer of suspense. Her imagery sparkles, her character development is flawless, and this page-turner positively crackles with excitement. Giles's portrayal of Ames's gradual loss of faith in her parents and friends is intensely realistic. Ames's attraction to Marc is completely understandable, given the circumstances, but her levelheadedness and underlying love for her

family win out in the end. Suspense lovers will savor this fast-paced psychological thriller." —*Voya* (starred review)

FREAK OBSERVER by Blythe Woolston (Carolrhoda, Aug 2010)

* "A keenly observant narrator noticing life's small details, Lo holds nothing back, which is both riveting and heartbreaking. An auspicious debut for both the author and Carolrhoda's new Lab imprint." —*Kirkus Reviews*

* "A strong narrative voice and a wave of tragedies define this character-driven first novel." —*Horn Book*

* "A strong debut about learning to see yourself apart from the reflection you cast off others." —*Booklist*

THE LYING GAME by Sara Shepard (HarperTeen, Nov 2010)

* "This first in an intriguing new series reunites long-lost twins, but only after one has been murdered...Shepard keeps the action rolling and the clues confusing as she spends this installment uncovering the twins' characters but not solving the murder yet...a distinctive scenario that should appeal to many teen girls." —*Kirkus Reviews*

JUST DESSERTS by Hallie Durand (Atheneum, July 2010)

* "Here, as in *Dessert First* (2009), Durand does a good job of portraying the ups and downs of childhood through the adventures of a believably self-centered yet vulnerable protagonist. Lively black-and-white drawings add to the appeal of this beginning chapter-book series." —*Booklist*

THE REPLACEMENT by Brenna Yovanoff (Razorbill, Sept 2010)

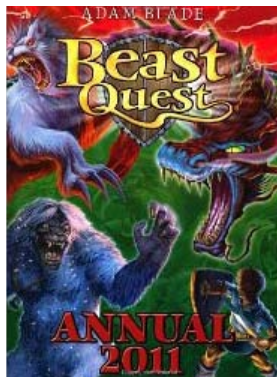
* "Yovanoff's innovative plot draws on the changeling legends from Western European folklore. She does an excellent job of creating and sustaining a mood of fear, hopelessness, and misery throughout the novel, something that is lightened only occasionally by Mackie's dry humor and the easy charm of his friend Roswell. . . teens who enjoy horror and dark fantasy novels will no doubt flock to the shelves for Mackie's story." —*School Library Journal*

A BEAST QUEST MILESTONE!

BEAST QUEST has now sold over 5 million copies of the UK edition alone and has been translated into 24 languages. It has become a true publishing phenomenon. The books are highly collectable and keep readers on the edge of their seats!

Chris Snowdon, Managing Director of Working Partners, said "BEAST QUEST is proving a massive success wherever it launches. It is proving to parents, teachers, and booksellers around the world that boys will read fiction if you give them something they engage with!"

Working Partners are currently in discussion over film rights, so BEAST QUEST's success is certain to continue. Watch this space!



THE BEAST QUEST ANNUAL (2011) is just one of the many new titles BEAST QUEST has to offer!

SITES WE'RE VISITING

At Rights People, we not only like our titles to be in the news, we like to read what is going on with other books and trends in the industry, too!

Here are some of our current favorites:

www.lovereading.co.uk: A UK reading site with a fantastic area dedicated to children's and YA books —a great place to catch up with an overview of the industry.

www.publishingperspectives.com: An international online publishing newsletter, Publishing Perspectives delivers daily opinion about the industry from top members of the global publishing community, a look at the innovators and issues who are shaping the future of the business, as well as news and links from around the Web and the world.

E-mail us a good blog site or weblink that you are enjoying! info@rightspople.com

*CHRISTMAS CUPCAKE RECIPE

(makes approx 24 cupcakes)

INGREDIENTS

280 g (10 oz) unsalted butter
280 g (10 oz) Demerara sugar (brown sugar)
5 large eggs
1 tbsp black treacle (or dark molasses)
1 tsp mixed spice (pumpkin pie spice in the US, or a mix of cinnamon, nutmeg and allspice)
1 tsp cinnamon
280 g (10 oz) plain flour
1 tsp salt
400 g (14 oz) currants
280 g (10 oz) sultanas (dried white grapes)
280 g (10 oz) raisins
50 g (1 3/4 oz) cut mixed peel (citrus zest)
250 ml dark rum or brandy (can use more if you like)

METHOD / INSTRUCTIONS

1. Soak the dried fruit overnight in the rum or brandy.
2. Preheat the oven to 150°C / 300°F / Gas mark 2.
3. Cream the butter and sugar together. Add the beaten eggs, treacle, mix in the sifted spice, flour and salt, then add all the fruit and mix well.
4. Pour the mixture into heavy, foil cupcake cases.
5. Bake for about an hour and 30 minutes—although check often, as the cakes are ready when a skewer inserted into the middle comes out clean.
6. Cool on a wire rack, then wrap in greaseproof paper and store in an airtight tin.
7. When ready to eat, decorate with Christmas treats!



Photo of Christmas Cupcakes courtesy of Karen Ball at Working Partners

*recipe courtesy of the kitchen of Alex Webb