



Quarterly Cupcake

Sweet news from around the globe in children's rights

LONDON, NEW YORK AND TORONTO—FULL OF THE JOYS OF SPRING!

Rights People celebrated our fifth birthday in January 2011 – hard to believe as it seems like only yesterday that we sat around the table in the old offices in Hammersmith and talked about how we could be a truly international agency. Our dream and ambition was to sell rights ‘in all directions’ – in translation and in the English language worldwide, including facilitating the translation of wonderful children’s books into English. Five years on and we’ve achieved much of what we set out to, learned a great deal, and had a lot of fun at the same time – and we aim to keep doing all these things!

Allison came over to London in February, via Caroline’s home in the Cotswolds, for our annual Rights People strategy meeting. We really enjoy these sessions as an opportunity to take stock at the beginning of what is looking to be a very busy year, to compare notes and experiences, and do some detailed planning for Bologna and London book fairs and other sales trips.

This year Alex is going to the Beijing Book Fair in August at which she’s looking forward to putting faces to names for lots of new customers not only from China, but also Korea, Japan, Thailand and

Malaysia where we’re seeing a dramatic increase in rights business as well. Allison is undertaking a Scandinavian trip meeting existing customers and smaller publishers who don’t attend the book fairs, and she hopes to go to Paris for meetings with

French publishers before this year’s Frankfurt.

We’re really looking forward to Alexandra’s return from maternity leave in April and, with Rachel’s continued involvement on the selling side, we’re setting our sights high for 2011 to be a year to remember – and we hope it will be for our clients, customers and friends too.

—Caroline Hill-Trevor



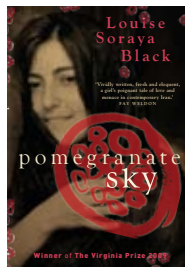
See the back/next page for the delicious lemon drizzle cupcake recipe from the kitchen of Caroline Hill-Trevor.

BOLOGNA HIGHLIGHTS

ALLOY ENTERTAINMENT *How to Rock Braces and Glasses* by Meg Haston: Publishing Fall 2011 by Poppy / Little, Brown US. In this hilarious reversal of the cool crowd versus the nerd herd, a popular girl finds herself in Loserville and realizes it’s about time she paid back all the bad karma she built up as Queen Bee. Will be a Nickelodeon TV series! (Translation)

AURORA METRO *Pomegranate Sky*

by Louise Soraya Black: Published with acclaim by Aurora in the UK Fall 2010. Beneath the polished surface of upper class Iranian life lies pain, fear and dark, dark secrets. (Translation; North American)



ARENA VERLAG *Unkissed for a Hundred Years: The Bittersweet Love Story of Sleeping Beauty* by Gabriella Engelmann: Published by Arena in Germany February 2011. A wonderful new version of Sleeping Beauty, which is drama, tragedy and comedy all rolled into one. (World English)

EDEN STREET *The Genius Files: Mission Unstoppable*: New series by mega-popular author Dan Gutman, launched by HarperCollins in January 2011. Before they turn thirteen, Coke and Pepsi McDonald will jump off a cliff, get trapped in a locked basement, chased by murderous lunatics and forced to decipher mysterious coded messages! (UK & Comm; Translation)



EGMONT USA *The Mephisto Covenant* by Trinity Faegan: Publishing with Egmont USA Fall 2011. A son of Hell, immortal, and bound to Earth forever, Jax looks for redemption in the Mephisto Covenant— God’s promise he will find peace in the love of a daughter of Eve. After a thousand years, he’s finally found the girl he’s been searching for: Sasha. (UK & Comm)

ERIN MURPHY *The Dark Mercy Trilogy* by R.L. LaFevres: Book 1 will be published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt US in Spring 2012. In 15th century France the convent of Mortain, the god of death, seeks acolytes to continue its work—as assassins. The trilogy is a trio of books, each focussing on one of

the girls at the convent—Ismae, Sybella and Annith. (Translation / UK & Comm)

FELICITY BRYAN *The Things We Did For Love* by Natasha Farrant: Faber & Faber UK will publish in Spring 2012 this beautifully written, dramatic and evocative love story set in France during the dying moments of World War II. (North American)

GREENHOUSE *Slide* by Jill Hathaway: Harper US and Harper UK are planning a huge joint launch in Spring 2012. A riveting, dark crime thriller with psychological edge about a girl who can slide inside the consciousness of others. (Translation)

HERMAN AGENCY *The Classroom* by Robin Mellon: Book 1 will be publishing with Hyperion Spring 2012. A new four-book series pitched as ‘Modern Family’ for middle grade readers. (Translation)

HOLT BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS *The Grisha* by Leigh Bardugo: Inspired by Tsarist Russia of the early 1800s, THE GRISHA brings to life a world of superstition and science, saints and samovars, in which a lonely refugee girl must contend with assassins, court intrigue, and the consequences of falling for the wrong guy. (UK & Comm)

HOUGHTON MIFFLIN HARCOURT *Digit* by Annabel Monaghan: “Numbers” meets

Highlights continued from front/last page

“Heathers,” in which a popular Santa Monica high school senior dying of ennui gets her groove back when she unleashes her inner geek and starts code breaking for the FBI to catch a group of eco-terrorists. To be published Spring 2012. (UK & Comm)

LEARNER BOOKS *White Duck: A Childhood in China* by Andrés Vera Martínez and Na Liu, illustrated by Andrés Vera Martínez: Publishing with Lerner Fall 2010. Six short stories from the life of a girl growing up in China during the years of rapid social and economic change in the 1980s and 90s after the death of Chairman Mao, based on Na Liu’s own childhood and family tales. (UK & Comm; Translation)



MICHEL LAFON *Indiana Teller* by Sophie Audouin-Mamikonian: Published March 2011 with Michel Lafon in France: A new 4-volume series that weaves

the myths of werewolves and time-travelers while telling a deeply romantic and forbidden love story. (World English)

O'BRIEN PRESS *The Spirit of The Titanic* by Nicola Pierce: An eyewitness to the final days in the lives of rich and poor, crew and passengers, this is Samuel’s story—the story of the legendary ship’s first victim, the story of the Titanic ghost. Publishing Spring 2012. (North American)



PEACHTREE *The Cheshire Cheese Cat* by Carmen Agra Deedy and Randall Wright: publishing with Peachtree US Fall 2011 Skilley longs to trade his damp alley for the warmth of the Cheshire Cheese Inn. So when he learns that the innkeeper is looking for a new mouser, he comes up with an audacious scheme to install himself in the famous tavern and strikes a bargain with Pip, the intelligent mouse-resident, and his fellow mice. (Translation)

PIPPIN PROPERTIES *Pie* by Sarah Weeks: Is there more to life than pie? It’s up to Alice to

discover the ingredients that really matter. Like family. And friendship. And enjoying what you do. A story about love and friendship... with a little side serving of pie. To be published by Scholastic Fall 2011. (Translation / UK & Comm)



STIMOLA LITERARY STUDIO *Don’t Stop Now* by Julie Halpern: Josh has a car and his dad’s credit card. Lil has her cellphone and a hunch about where their friend Penny is hiding. There’s something else she needs to find: Are she and Josh meant to be together? Publishing with Feiwel & Friends Summer 2011. (UK & Comm)

SCOTT TREIMEL NY *The Hunchback*

Assignments by Art Slade: Steampunk fantasy in an alternate Victorian London. In the third book, talk of ancient Egyptian ruins in the midst of the Australian rainforest has been swirling around London. Rights sold in Canada, Australia, Germany, and France. Winner of the 2010 TD Children’s Literature Award. (Translation)



STRIDENT *Bloodstone: Rebel Angels book 2* by Gillian Philip: The sequel to the highly-acclaimed FIREBRAND published August 2011 with Strident UK. For centuries, Seth and Conal have hunted for the Bloodstone Kate wants, without success. In the collision of two worlds, conflict and tragedy are inevitable — especially when treachery comes from the most shocking of quarters. (North American; Translation)

WORKING PARTNERS *The Witch of Turlingham* series: ANGUS, THONGS AND FULL FRONTAL SNOGGING meets THE WORST WITCH! Sophie is the only day girl at Turlingham boarding school and her world is turned upside down when a new girl Katy, a witch hunter, arrives. Sophie agrees to help her to find the witch, but soon enough realizes that she’s the witch Katy’s looking for! Publishing with Little, Brown UK Spring 2012. (Translation)

*SALES HIGHLIGHTS

- * UK & Commonwealth rights in Holt’s THE GRISHA trilogy by Leigh Bardugo was sold to Orion for a six figure pre-emptive offer, and will be a lead title on their newly launched Indigo YA imprint
- * French rights to GOSSIP GIRL PSYCHO KILLER (Alloy Entertainment)—a GOSSIP GIRL mash-up novel by the original author Cecily von Ziegesar —to Fleuve Noir in France
- * WILLOW KING by Chris Platt (Peachtree) to Stabenfeldt for publication in Hungarian, Norwegian, Swedish, Finnish and Czech
- * Danish rights in THE LYING GAME by Sara Shepard (Alloy Entertainment) to Politikens and WARRIORS 1 – 6 to Forlaget Sohn
- * Hachette Phoenix Cultural Development in Beijing continue with more BEAST QUEST titles and are also going to publish sequel series THE AVANTIAN CHRONICLES
- * Spanish/Catalan and Brazilian rights to THE PROBABILITY OF MIRACLES by Wendy Wunder (Alloy Entertainment) to La Galera and Novo Conceito, respectively
- * ANZ rights to JESSICA RULES THE DARK SIDE (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt) to Penguin Australia
- * Galicien rights to THE LITTLE RED FISH (Pippin Properties) to Kalandraga Editora
- * Swedish rights to SNEAKY SHEEP (Lerner Publishing) to Rabén & Sjögren
- * Turkish rights to MORTLOCK and THE DEMON COLLECTOR (Greenhouse Literary Agency) to Artemis

SITES WE’RE VISITING

For this Cupcake we’ve chosen a couple of really invaluable reference sites for children’s books:

www.booksforkeeps.co.uk ‘the most important periodical in the world of British children’s books’ —Philip Pullman

www.childrenslibrary.org/servlet/WhiteRavens Each year the language specialists at the International Youth Library in Munich, Germany, select newly published books from around the world that they consider to be especially noteworthy. This list of books is compiled into the annual White Ravens Catalogue, which is introduced each year at the Bologna Children’s Book Fair. The White Ravens Online Catalogue includes all titles from 1993 through 2007 and is available on the ICDL website.

*LEMON DRIZZLE CUPCAKES

INGREDIENTS

125g (4 oz) butter, softened
200g (7 oz) caster sugar
Finely grated zest of two lemons
2 large eggs, beaten
200g (7 oz) self-raising flour (or add a pinch of salt if using plain flour)
1/2 teaspoon baking powder
100 ml (4 fl oz) milk

conversion note: 1 cup = 8 ounces

INSTRUCTIONS

Preheat oven to 180 degrees Celcius or 350 Fahrenheit. Put 12 cupcake cases into a muffin tin. Cream butter and sugar until light and fluffy and then add lemon zest and stir in. Beat in eggs, bit by bit. If the mixture looks as if it will curdle beat in some of the flour. Sift together flour and baking powder together, then fold into the mixture with the milk. Spoon into the cases and bake until golden brown and firm to touch.

Whilst cooking prepare lemon drizzle:

Juice of 2 lemons
100g (4 oz) granulated sugar

When cupcakes come out of the oven, prick surface with a fork then pour over lemon juice and sugar mixture directing it in the holes. It should seep right in but leave a crusty sugar topping as the cakes cool. You can leave plain or decorate with crystallised flowers or lemon slices.