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## 2009 London Book Fair Hotlist

### Fiction:

#### Jesse Bullington | *The Sad Tale of the Brothers Grossbart* (fantasy)

- Bullington is one of Orbit USA's "four new stars of fantasy fiction"
- The lively, bloody and fearsome tale of two philosophical grave-robbers who know enough about crusading to realize that if one is to make a living from the dead, what better destination than the fabled tomb-cities of Egypt?
- From the publisher of Stan Nicholls's *Orcs*, Brent Weeks's *The Way of the Shadows*, and Karen Miller's *The Innocent Mage*, *The Sad Tale of the Brothers Grossbart* is Bullington's utterly original first novel

Rights: Orbit USA (World)

Publication: November 2009, 125,000 words

Edited manuscript available, contact: [tracy.williams@hbgusa.com](mailto:tracy.williams@hbgusa.com)

#### Carole Enahoro | *Doing Dangerously Well* (commercial/literary)

- Bought in an aggressive two-book deal by Random House of Canada
- Set in Nigeria and the US, this dark comedy about disaster capitalism, cut-throat office politics, vicious sibling rivalry, and the corporatization of water immediately brings to mind the works of Douglas Coupland, Naomi Klein as well as John Kennedy Toole's *A Confederacy of Dunces*
- Currently based in the UK, Carole Enahoro has lived and worked all over the globe—as a producer in film and television and a lecturer in art history, filmmaking and writing—and is from a family of Nigerian diplomats

Rights: Random House Canada (World)

Publication: Spring 2010, 100,000 words

Manuscript available June 2009, contact: [reckel@randomhouse.com](mailto:reckel@randomhouse.com)

A Lee Martinez | Monster (humorous fantasy)

- Three previous novels optioned to major US filmmakers—*Gil's All Fright Diner* (Jim Henson/New Line Cinema), *In the Company of Ogres* (Rough Draft Studios), and *The Automatic Detective* to director David Fincher (*Fight Club*; *Panic Room*) and Tim Miller (Academy Award nominated Blur Studios)
- With *Monster*, Martinez has moved to Orbit USA in a two-book deal
- With Martinez's trademark humour on display, *Monster* is the boisterous story of Monster and Judy, two humans who don't like each other much but together, in suburban USA, must fight dragons, fire-breathing felines, trolls, Inuit walrus dogs, and a crazy cat lady for the future of the universe

Rights: Orbit USA (World English), Piper Verlag (Germany)

Publication: May 2009, 75,000 words

Finished books available

Shandi Mitchell | Under This Unbroken Sky (previously titled THE SKINS OF MEN AND WOLVES) (commercial/literary)

- Sold in an aggressive pre-emptive bid to Penguin Group (Canada), to Weidenfeld & Nicolson (UK) and at auction to HarperCollins (US)—to be simultaneously published as a lead fiction title by all three houses
- A tale of fathers, mothers, husbands, wives, sisters, and brothers whose desperate hands till the earth, while equally desperate minds plot much darker deeds
- Rich in emotion and anticipation, this sublimely crafted and deceptively simple first novel has already been endorsed by internationally acclaimed authors such as Joseph Boyden (*Through Black Spruce*), Stephen Galloway (*The Cellist of Sarajevo*) and Janice Kulyk Keefer (*The Ladies' Lending Library*)

Rights: Penguin Group Canada (Canada, English), HarperCollins (US), Weidenfeld & Nicolson (UK), Kinneret (Israel)

Publication: Fall 2009 (simultaneous English-language publication), 100,000 words

Edited manuscript available

Chantel Simmons | Love Struck (Romantic Comedy)

- A laugh-out-loud tale about personal stylist who discovers her husband is having an affair—just seconds before he is struck by lightning and loses his memory (including his memory of his philandering)—and must decide if she can forgive him even if she can't forget and he can't remember
- Not a typical shoes-and-shopping novel, *Love Struck* sits alongside Lolly Winston's *Good Grief* and Jennifer Weiner's *Good in Bed* with its perfect blend of physical comedy and grief
- As editorial director of sweetspot.ca, contributor to HGTV.ca, Foodtv.ca, WNetwork.com, and a former assistant beauty editor at ELLE Canada, Chantel Simmons is "industry insider"

Rights: Key Porter Books (Canada, English)

Publication: Spring 2010, 80,000 words

Edited manuscript available May 2009

Kate Taylor | A Man in Uniform (Historical Suspense)

- A seductive mix of mystery, romance and thriller, *A Man in Uniform* is a page-turner of the finest sort—and exactly what fans of international bestsellers Caleb Carr’s *The Alienist* and Matthew Pearl’s *The Last Dickens* want to read next
- Set in France at the turn of the twentieth century, *A Man in Uniform* is populated with real and fictional characters and bursts with double-crossing intrigues, political deceit and corruption, hard-nosed villains and femme fatales whose motives are murky
- A diplomat’s daughter, Kate Taylor was born in France, raised in Canada, and is the winner of the Commonwealth Best First Book (Canada-Caribbean) and The City of Toronto Best Book for her first novel *Madame Proust and the Kosher Kitchen*

Rights: Doubleday Canada (Canada, English)

Publication: 2010, 100,000 words

Edited manuscript available June 2009

Dianne Warren | The Oasis Café (Literary)

- *The Oasis Café* is the first novel in a two-book deal—bought on exclusive—by Phyllis Bruce of HarperCollins Canada
- A compelling novel about the inhabitants of a blink-and-you-miss-it town, where an unanticipated inheritance, a stumbling love, a desperate loss, and a teenage marriage belie the belief that nothing of consequence takes place there
- A debut novel from an multiple award-winning playwright, short story writer and *Globe and Mail* “Best 100” that is sure to appeal to fans of Anne Tyler

Rights: HarperCollins/Phyllis Bruce (Canada, English)

Publication: Spring 2010, 100,000 words

Edited manuscript available May 2009

## Non-Fiction:

### John DeMont | Coal Black Heart (history)

- As David Macfarlane did in the internationally acclaimed *The Danger Tree*, bestselling author John Demont uses a personal story to bring history alive in this tale of his coal-mining family and the tycoons, miners, moonshiners, union organizers, pulpit preachers, whores, and villains who peopled their lives and times
- John DeMont is the bestselling and award-winning author of two works of non-fiction, and he has written for the *Financial Times*, *Canadian Geographic*, *The Walrus*, and *Maclean's*, where he was Atlantic bureau chief for ten years

Rights: Doubleday (Canada, English)

Publication: Spring 2009, 100,000 words

Finished books available

### Cathy Gildiner | After the Falls (memoir/humour)

- From internationally published novelist and memoirist Cathy Gildiner comes *After the Falls*, the much-anticipated sequel to her childhood memoir *Too Close to the Falls* (71 weeks on Canadian bestseller charts!)
- A perfect balancing act of hilarity, poignancy and storytelling verve, *After the Falls* is one part Augusten Burroughs, one part Woody Allen's *Zelig*—all Cathy Gildiner, a woman coming of age in the 1960s alongside America, whose personal high and low notes are closely intertwined with an America at war with the world and its own people
- Gildiner's first book *Too Close to the Falls* was published in Canada, the US and the UK to wide acclaim; her first novel *Seduction*, was published in five languages

Rights: Knopf (Canada, English)

Publication: Spring 2010, 100,000 words

Edited manuscript available June 2009

## Juvenile Fiction:

### Joan Clark | Road to Bliss (Young Adult)

- Set in the heart of a cloistered religious sect, Joan Clark's latest YA is a gripping tale of intolerance, a young boy's discovery of his own strength, a daring rescue, and the stirring of first love
- When fifteen-year-old Jim, a "city" boy, and Miriam, a member of an obscure sect, befriend one another, Miriam reveals the cruelty of her home and community—soon, Jim and Miriam are plotting her escape, and in doing so risking everything, including their lives
- With elegance and intelligence, this multiple award-winning author of fiction for adults and young adults perfectly captures the moral complexities of modern society—*Road to Bliss* will appeal to fans of Sally Rippin's *Chenxi and the Foreigner*

Rights: Doubleday Canada (World)

Publication: Fall 2009, 75,000 words

Edited Manuscript available May 2009, contact: [reckel@randomhouse.com](mailto:reckel@randomhouse.com)

### Erin Dionne | The Total Tragedy of a Girl Named Hamlet (Middle Grade/Tween)

- Erin Dionne's first novel, *Models Don't Eat Chocolate Cookies*, has sold 175,000 copies!
- *The Total Tragedy of a Girl Named Hamlet* is the second book in an aggressive, pre-emptive two-book deal by Dial Books for Young Readers (Penguin US)
- Eighth grader Hamlet Kennedy wants nothing more than to blend in, but her genius seven-year-old sister, Elizabethan era-obsessed parents, and the Salute to Shakespeare project at school are set to make the year a total tragedy—and make Hamlet a major player
- With a heroine whose foibles and farces will resound with all middle-grade girls, *The Total Tragedy of a Girl Named Hamlet* is sure to appeal to fans of Lauren Myracle's *Eleven, Twelve and Thirteen* series and Julia DeVillers' *How My Private, Personal Journal Became a Bestseller*

Rights: Dial Books for Young Readers (North America)

Publication: Spring 2010, 58,000 words

Edited manuscript available May 2009

### Winnie Mack | After All, You're Callie Boone (Middle Grade/Tween)

- In the spirit of Lois Lowry's bestselling *Anastasia Krupnick* series, Winnie Mack's middle-grade debut *After All, You're Callie Boone* captures the ordinary, extraordinary and very funny moments in the life of a rather special 11-year-old girl
- Even though she's been ditched by her bestfriend for someone more "awesome" and is unlikely to live down her recent humiliation at the community pool, Callie Boone's summer is looking up—but even Callie's secret Olympic dream and a new friendship can't stop disaster from striking, and soon Callie has to grab on tight to those she loves
- Simultaneous English-language publication in North America

Rights: Feiwel + Friends (US), Scholastic (Canada)

Publication: Spring 2010, 58,000 words

Edited manuscript available May 2009