

TO: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA

FROM: Dave Reser, LC Representative

SUBJECT: Revision to RDA 2.4.1.8 (Noun Phrase Occurring with a Statement of Responsibility)

ABSTRACT: The revision to 2.4.1.8 (Noun Phrase Occurring with a Statement of Responsibility) will clarify when a “noun phrase” should be transcribed as part of a statement of responsibility and when it should be transcribed as part of another element (e.g., other title information). The existing instruction is causing confusion for catalogers because it seems to suggest that ALL “noun phrases” appearing with a statement of responsibility should be treated as part of the statement of responsibility. No other instructions are impacted by this change.

Related documents: 5JSC/RDA/Part I/LC response
5JSC/RDA/Full Draft/ALA response

Background

AACR2 1.1F12 had an instruction to help catalogers understand the circumstances when a “noun phrase” should be transcribed as other title information and when it should be considered part of the statement of responsibility. This was the instruction:

1.1F12. Treat a noun phrase occurring in conjunction with a statement of responsibility as other title information if it is indicative of the nature of the work.

`Characters from Dickens [GMD] : dramatised adaptations / by
Barry Campbell`

If the noun or noun phrase is indicative of the role of the person(s) or body (bodies) named in the statement of responsibility rather than of the nature of the work, treat it as part of the statement of responsibility.

`Roman Britain [GMD] / research and text by Colin Barham`

In case of doubt, treat the noun or noun phrase as part of the statement of responsibility.

This instruction was confusing to some catalogers who had difficulty understanding the distinction between “indicative of the nature of the work” and “indicative of the role played by the person.” Thus, LC suggested simplifying the instruction in 5JSC/RDA/Part I/LC response. LC’s suggestion was adopted for the full draft of RDA, and the current wording of 2.4.1.8 is very similar to LC’s original suggestion. In the ALA representative’s response to the full draft of RDA that included LC’s suggestion, (see 5JSC/RDA/Full Draft/ALA response), it was noted that “This instruction isn’t at all

helpful, as the title proper and/or other title information could arguably be considered ‘a noun or noun phrase [that] occurs in conjunction with a statement of responsibility.’” In retrospect, LC agrees with this assessment and would like to correct the current problem with this proposal.

RDA 2.4.1.8 says to treat a noun phrase occurring with a statement of responsibility as part of the statement of responsibility and does not distinguish circumstances when a “noun phrase” might not be part of the statement of responsibility. Ambiguity in this instruction sometimes misleads catalogers to think that all noun phrases should be transcribed as part of the statement of responsibility. We think this has caused a misidentification of elements because other title information is often a noun phrase that precedes a statement of responsibility. A literal reading of this RDA instruction could also result in the title proper being transcribed as part of the statement of responsibility. Although this is partially a training issue, the amount of questions we have received about this as well as the amount of discussion on various cataloging discussion lists make us think more clarification is needed for this instruction.

ISBD describes a statement of responsibility occurring with a noun phrase thus:

“1.4.3.3 A statement of responsibility can include a noun or noun phrase as well as a names [sic] or names when such a phrase is indicative of the role of the person or corporate body. Other nouns or noun phrases are normally treated as other title information (see 1.3).”

It has been pointed out on discussion lists that AACR2 1.1F12, RDA 2.4.1.8, and ISBD 1.4.3.3 all lack instructions on using **presentation on the source of information** to help determine when a phrase is part of the statement of responsibility and when it is part of the title proper or other title information. Many instructions in RDA Chapter 2 instruct catalogers to use “sequence, layout, or typography” to aid in transcription of elements. This should also be a factor in determining whether these “noun phrases” are intended to be a part of a statement of responsibility or another element.

Our recommendations are:

- 1) To revise 2.4.1.8 to include language about sequence, layout, or typography *and* function performed by the person, family or corporate body named in the statement of responsibility;
- 2) To add new examples and delete an existing example;
- 3) To add a reference from 2.4.1.8 to 2.3.1.5.

Note: Appendix has three images of title pages illustrating different “noun phrase occurring with a statement of responsibility” situations.

Proposed Revision:

2.4.1.8 Noun Phrases Occurring with a Statement of Responsibility

If a noun or noun phrase occurs with a statement of responsibility, †Treat a noun or noun phrase as part of the statement of responsibility-if:

the sequence, layout, or typography on the source of information indicates the noun phrase is intended to be part of the statement of responsibility

and

the noun phrase is indicative of the function performed by the person, family, or corporate body named in the statement of responsibility.

EXAMPLE

research and text by Colin Barham

Title proper: Roman Britain

dramatised adaptations by Barry Campbell

Title proper: Characters from Dickens

the author John Milton

Title proper: Paradise lost

maps by Rand McNally

photographs by David Muench

Title proper: Rand McNally's America

a novelization by David Levithan

Title proper: The perfect score. On the source of information, "a novelization" appears on the same line and in the same font as "by David Levithan"

story written by Hans Christian Andersen

Title proper: The steadfast tin soldier. An audio disc containing a sound recording of Anderson's short story

a novel by John Rechy

Title proper: The Coming of the night. On the source of information, "a novel by" appears on one line and "John Rechy" appears on a separate line below

but

by Lord Byron

Resource described: Manfred : a dramatic poem / by Lord Byron. On the source of information, "a" and "dramatic poem" appear on separate lines, and "by Lord Byron" is printed between two horizontal bars

Georges Barrère

Resource described: Cadenzas for the Flute concerto in G major (K. 313) by Mozart / Georges Barrre. Flute cadenzas by Barrère for Mozart's concerto

For instructions on recording names appearing with noun phrases as part of the title, see 2.3.1.5.

Clean Copy:

2.4.1.8 Noun Phrases Occurring with a Statement of Responsibility

Treat a noun or noun phrase as part of the statement of responsibility if:

the sequence, layout, or typography on the source of information indicates the noun phrase is intended to be part of the statement of responsibility

and

the noun phrase is indicative of the function performed by the person, family, or corporate body named in the statement of responsibility.

EXAMPLE

research and text by Colin Barham

Title proper: Roman Britain

the author John Milton

Title proper: Paradise lost

maps by Rand McNally

photographs by David Muench

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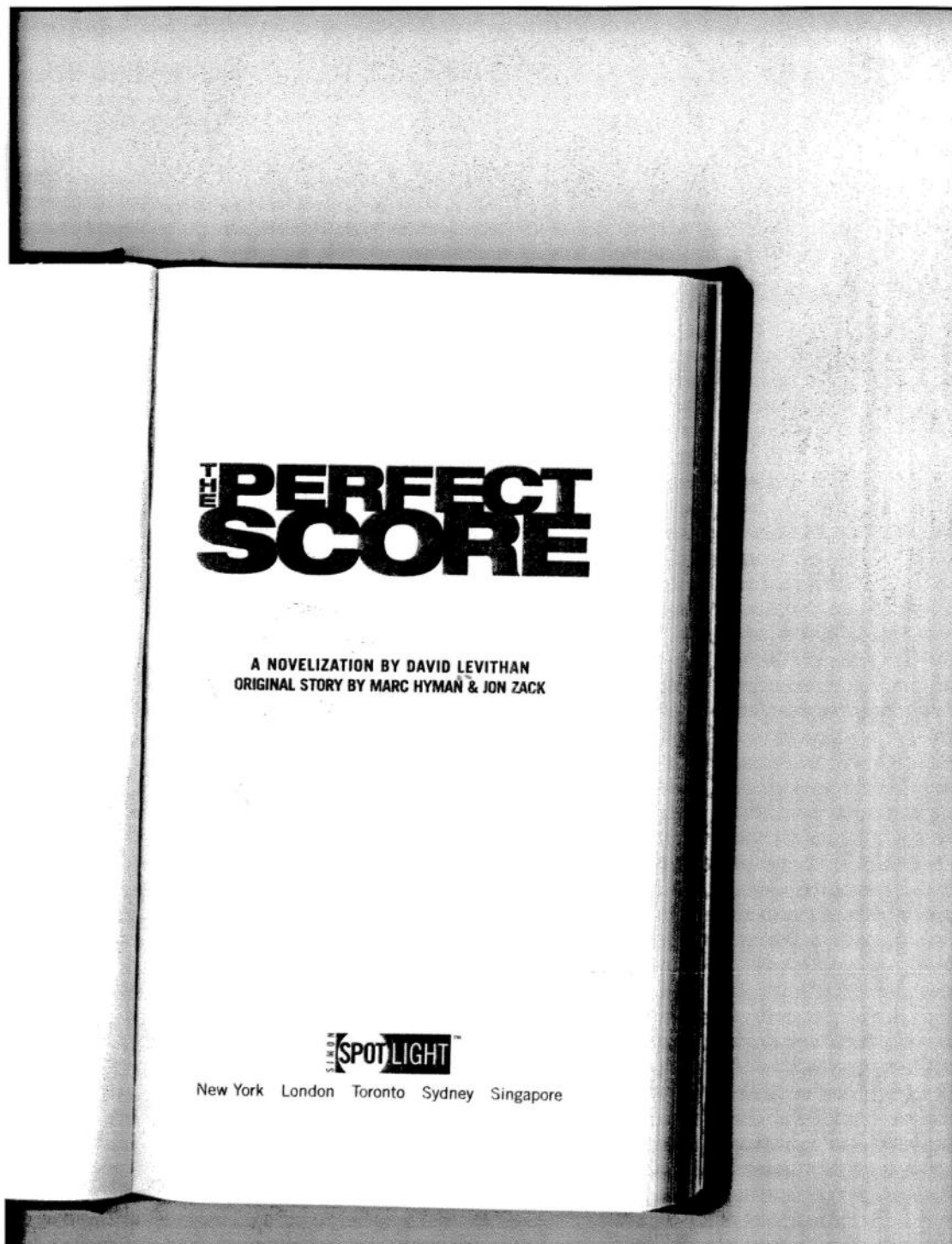
Georges Barrère

Resource described: Cadenzas for the Flute concerto in G major (K. 313) by Mozart / Georges Barrre. Flute cadenzas by Barrère for Mozart's concerto

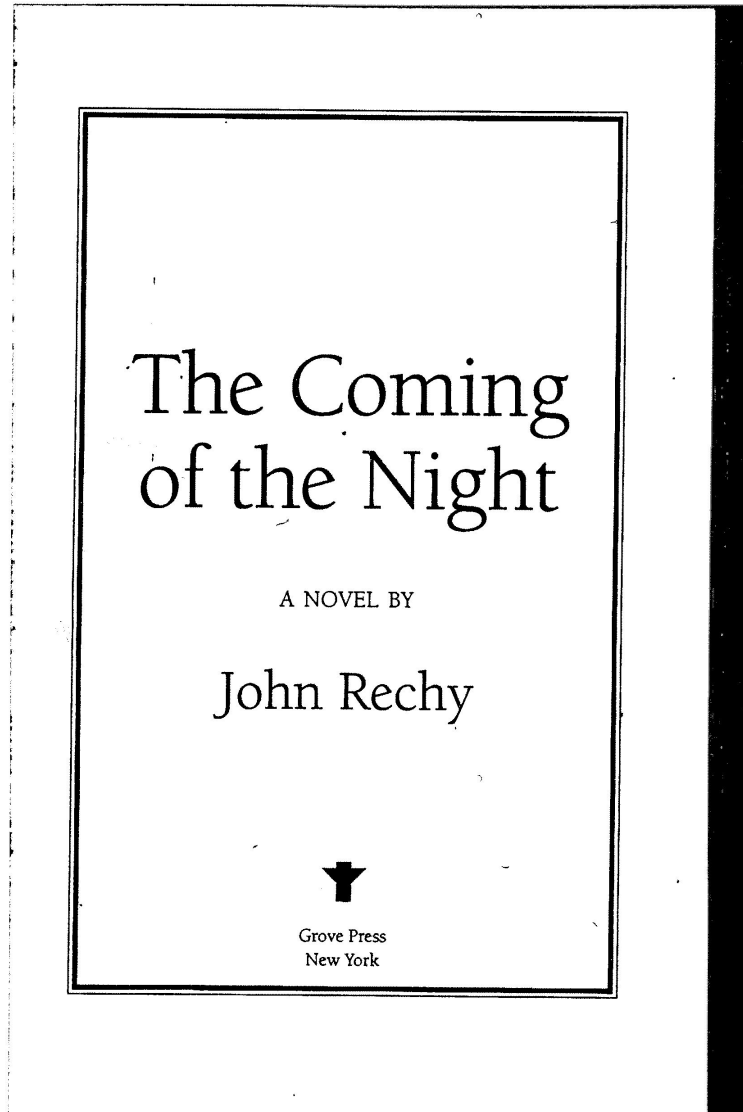
For instructions on recording names appearing with noun phrases as part of the title, see 2.3.1.5.

Appendix: Images of Title Pages

A novelization by David Levithan example



A novel by John Rechy example



M A N F R E D,

A

DRAMATIC POEM.

BY LORD BYRON.

LONDON:
JOHN MURRAY, ALBEMARLE-STREET.

1817.

url: http://www.oxfordjournals.org/doi/pdf/10.1093/ajph/101.10.1817
Title: Manfred / http://www.oxfordjournals.org/doi/pdf/10.1093/ajph/101.10.1817