

# CATALOGUING ON THE EDGE

emerging standards for bibliographic data

# Acknowledgments



Thank You

Chris Oliver (McGill University)

Thomas Brenndorfer (Guelph Public Library)

Margaret Stewart (Library & Archives Canada)

Laura May (Library & Archives Canada)

# Today



- What will change and what we will gain by adopting RDA
- LAC activities and implementation
- How to prepare for implementation if/when you do
- Answers to your questions

# What is RDA?



a **content standard** to replace AACR2

designed for working online, and for  
describing all types of resources, including  
those accessed online

going to help us create well-formed  
metadata that will improve our systems  
and therefore the user experience

# well-formed data

- is based on a conceptual understanding of the bibliographic universe = **extensible**
- consists of elements that are used to  
**find identify select obtain**  
**find identify clarify understand**
- is accurate & precise & machine-usable

# new emphasis: accuracy & precision



- truthful representation balanced with accuracy
- specify relationships with designators to clarify
- record data elements in distinct and labeled chunks
- more controlled vocabulary

# RDA is not



- just a set of different rules, it is a new way to see the bibliographic universe
- Anglo-American, and does not assume we are either!
- meant for creating card catalogues
- going away

# RDA is not



[sic]

... [et. al.]

[S.I.]

[1 33] p. : ill. (some col.)

Aesop's fables. Polyglot

# a few practical differences



- transcribe as found on preferred source (warts and all)
- no rule of 3; option to summarize  
by Michael Crummey [and 5 others]
- do not introduce abbreviations  
[Place of publication not identified]  
133 unnumbered pages

# Group 1 entities in FRBR



I need to read the novel for an English exam

I want access to **the WORK**

I want an audio version for commuting

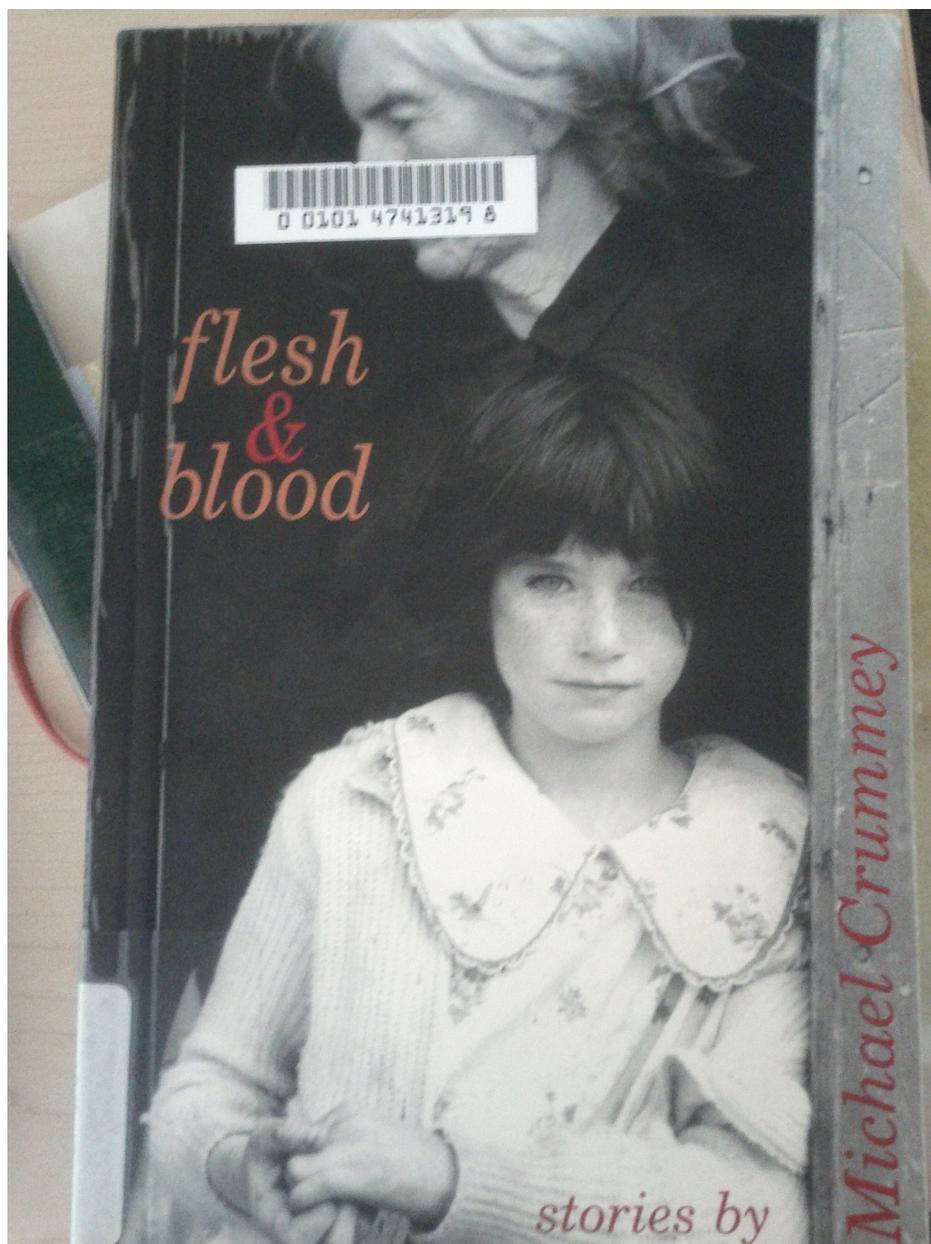
I need to find a particular **EXPRESSION**

I prefer a paperback copy when traveling

I want a particular **MANIFESTATION**

I need to find the copy I borrowed, it is overdue

I need a particular **ITEM**



4 entities - 1 object

an item in R's collection

one example of the  
Beach Holme Pub'g  
manifestation

an embodiment of the  
original English  
expression

a realization of the work  
by M. Crummey

## 3 new elements



general material designations have been replaced by 3 new data elements

content type

media type

carrier type

# content Type



the fundamental form of communication in which the content is expressed and the human sense through which it is intended to be perceived

- spoken word
- text
- computer program

# media Type



a categorization reflecting the general type of intermediation device required to view, play, run, etc., the content of a resource

- ▣ audio
- ▣ unmediated
- ▣ computer

# carrier Type



a categorization reflecting the format of the storage medium and housing of a carrier

- ▣ audio disc
- ▣ volume
- ▣ online resource



Three servings : in which the reader is offered generous portions of boiled dinner / by Mary-Lynn Bernard, Michael Crummey and Andy Jones ; original linocuts by Tara Bryan.

content type: text  
media type: unmediated  
carrier type: volume



## Hope & Ruin / The Trews

content type = performed music

media type = computer

carrier type = audio disc

# mp3/WMA via booksonboard.com

## **Galore : novel / by Michael Crummey ; narrated by John Lee**

content type: spoken word -- expression  
media type: computer -- manifestation  
carrier type: online resource -- manifestation

Crummey, Michael, author -- work  
Lee, John, narrator -- expression

# relationships are specified

Bernard, Mary-Lynn, 1956- **author**

Three servings : in which the reader is offered generous portions of boiled dinner / by Mary-Lynn Bernard, Michael Crummey and Andy Jones ; original linocuts by Tara Bryan.

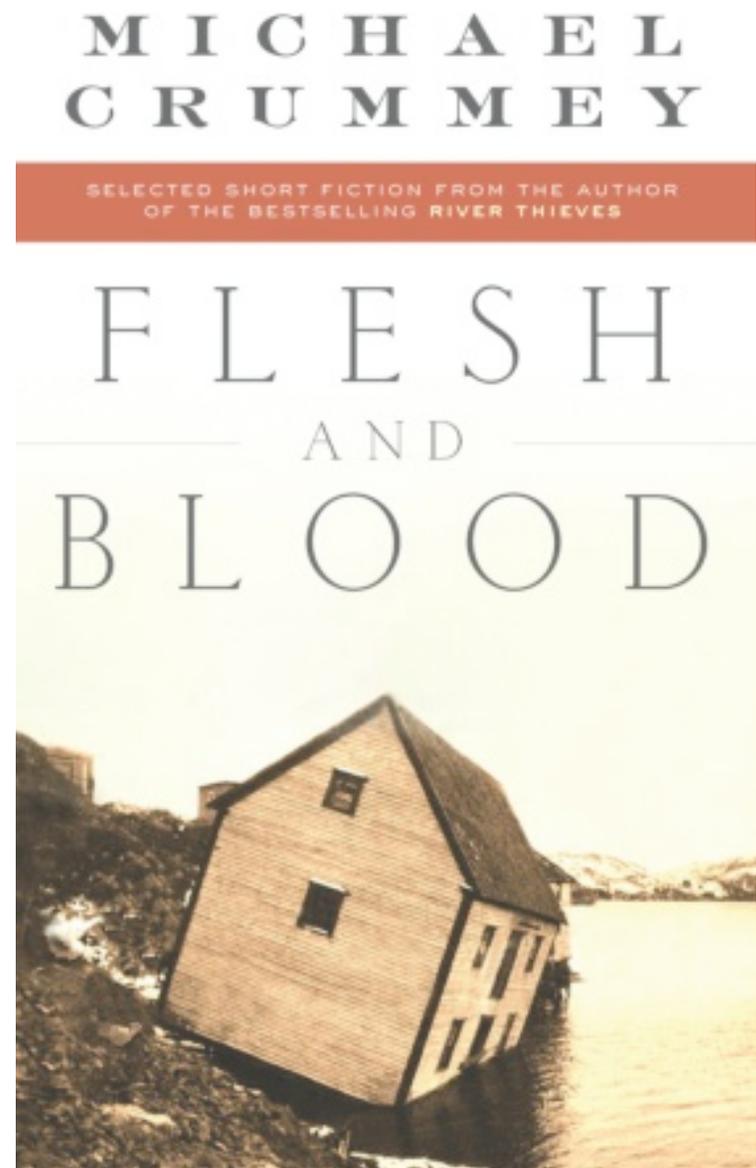
Crummey, Michael **author**

Jones, Andy **author**

Bryan, Tara **illustrator**

Flesh & blood :  
stories / by  
Michael Crummey.

contains (work) :  
Crummey, Michael.  
After image



# relationship designators



*afterimage* / by Robert Chafe ; adapted  
from the short story by Michael Crummey.

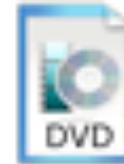
Chafe, Robert, author.

adaptation of (work) :

Crummey, Michael. *After image*

# what if?

- instead of long hitlists (in some kind of order based on your system's proprietary algorithms) we give people clear, visual clues to help them navigate results





**Crummey, Michael.**

**Crummey, Michael, 1965 -**

**<http://viaf.org/viaf/74089186>**

# the bad news



works, expressions, manifestations, items are all crammed into status quo bibliographic records

~ 12 different RDA data elements map to 300 \$b

~ 4 different types of dates map to 260 \$c

... stored in the MARC communication format, our data will still be **ambiguous** and imprecise, thus not optimized for machine processing

# database / format scenarios



[http://www.niso.org/news/events/2009/  
bibcontrol09/slide1.swf](http://www.niso.org/news/events/2009/bibcontrol09/slide1.swf)

# the future of library data



elements are distinct and precisely defined

- each element contains only one kind of data

- controlled vocabulary values for many

which can be interpreted by machines to

- return reliable results, limit results effectively

- automate processing, matching

- generate meaningful displays

# choices in RDA



- elements beyond **Core** and **Core *if*** that allow us to **find**, **identify**, **select**, **obtain**
- alternatives to do something different than instructed
- optional omissions
- optional additions
- continue using your existing policies

# going forward



- Learn FRBR basics
- Discuss your implementation options
  - ▣ now that rule of 3 is gone, how many is enough
  - ▣ what recon will you/can you do
  - ▣ index or display relationship designators
  - ▣ can your system display icons based on new 33X

## RDA records in LC's catalogue

<http://catalog.loc.gov/>

basic search **040e rda**

click Expert Search in the Search Type box

## RDA records in Connexion

<http://connexion.oclc.org>

command search **dx:rda**

combine with **and mt:kit** to see various formats

# RDA en français



Implementation at LAC will happen when the French language version is complete. ASTED, LAC, BnF, BAnQ are working on one, target date is November.

So far they've agreed on the translation of glossary terms, definitions, recurring phrases; they've divided the text up between them, and have established a review process.

The French translation will be incorporated into the Toolkit.

# What's happening at LAC

**Decisions on options and alternatives** - internal review & review with the BAnQ and CCC done.

Next step to translate document and launch online

**Policy statements replacing RI's** - document to go through internal review

**LC core elements** - internal review done. Next steps to discuss with BAnQ, have CCC review

□ JSC is forming an examples group

# Activities in Canada



Training module development

<http://rdaincanada.wikispaces.com>

Conference sessions, conference calls,  
Skype, Adobe connect

Planning for implementation late 2011 /  
early 2012

# Where are the vendors?



RDA is not just a set of rules; new MARC tags alone are not going to get this job done

“Somebody is going to eat your lunch!”

– Diane Hillman’s Code4Lib 2011 keynote

# Byrne and Goddard, 2010



- the semantic web relies on highly structured metadata that allow computers to understand the relationships between objects
- the technology is ready; it is now a matter of getting libraries and librarians ready as well

# Knight, 2011



Raising awareness in the library community of the potential of linked data and RDF as a data model is an important next step to ensuring the successful integration of the library catalogue into the potential benefit of the semantic Web of the future

# RDA is

□ **designed to**  
work in current  
catalogues,  
be compatible  
with AACR2  
records and  
co-exist well into  
the future

• **enabling us to**  
take advantage of new  
database structures  
create data that can  
function in linked data  
environment  
make library data visible in  
the web and play well  
with other types of  
metadata

# recommended watching



Using RDA: Moving into the Metadata Future

<http://www.alastore.ala.org>

Diane Hillman's Code4Lib 2011 keynote +

David McCandless: the beauty of data

visualization <http://www.ted.com/talks/>

<http://rdaincanada.wikispaces.com>



Thanks for listening!

Trina Grover

Ryerson University Library

tgrover@ryerson.ca