Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Co Form 4 November 19, 2015

## FORM 4

### UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

**SECURITIES** 

**OMB APPROVAL** 

OMB Number:

3235-0287

Expires:

January 31, 2005

0.5

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subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

obligations

may continue.

See Instruction

if no longer

Check this box

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Shuman Er	2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Co [HMHC]				s	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  (Check all applicable)				
HARCOU	(Last) (First) (Middle)  C/O HOUGHTON MIFFLIN  HARCOURT CO.,, 222  BERKELEY STREET			3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 11/18/2015				Director 10% Owner X Officer (give title Other (specify below) See remarks.		
(Street) BOSTON, MA 02116			Filed(Month/Day/Year)				6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person			
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	Tab	ole I - Non-	-Derivative	Secui	rities Acqui	ired, Disposed of,	or Beneficial	ly Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Da (Month/Day/Year		Date, if	3. Transacti Code (Instr. 8)	omr Dispos (Instr. 3,	sed of (		5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	11/18/2015			M	50,000	A	\$ 12.5	133,163	D	
Common Stock	11/18/2015			S <u>(1)</u>	50,000	D	\$ 19.1469	83,163	D	

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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#### number.

# Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of orDerivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 12.5	11/18/2015		M	50,000	(3)	06/22/2019	Common Stock	50,000

### **Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
•	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		

Shuman Eric Lon C/O HOUGHTON MIFFLIN HARCOURT CO., 222 BERKELEY STREET BOSTON, MA 02116

See remarks.

### **Signatures**

/s/ William F. Bayers, Attorney-in-Fact

\*\*Signature of Reporting Person Date

# **Explanation of Responses:**

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 4(b)(v).
- \*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) These shares were sold pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan.
- The sale price represents the weighted average sale price for multiple transactions reported on this line. The prices of the transactions ranged from \$18.91 to \$19.36. Upon request of the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt
- (2) Company (the "Company") or a security holder of the Company, the reporting person will provide full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price.
- (3) These employee stock options have vested and are currently exercisable.

#### **Remarks:**

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer. William F. Bayers is the Executive Vice President, Secretary and General

Reporting Owners 2

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