

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Co  
 Form 4  
 December 04, 2015

**FORM 4** UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
 Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
**DRAGOON JOHN**

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
**Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Co [HMHC]**

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 12/02/2015

\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 \_\_\_X\_\_\_ Officer (give title below) \_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
 See remarks.

**C/O HOUGHTON MIFFLIN HARCOURT CO., 222 BERKELEY STREET**

(Street)

4. If Amendment, Date Original 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

**BOSTON, MA 02116**

(City) (State) (Zip)

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|--|
|                                 |                                      |  | Code                           | V Amount (A) or (D) Price   |   |  |  |
| Common Stock                    | 12/02/2015                           |  | M                              | 25,000 A \$ 12.5  | 37,567  | D  |  |
| Common Stock                    | 12/02/2015                           |  | S <sup>(1)</sup>               | 25,000 D \$ 19.3453   | 12,567  | 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. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of Derivative 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) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)       | \$ 12.5  | 12/02/2015                           |  | M                              | 25,000  | <sup>(3)</sup> 06/22/2019                                | Common Stock 25,000   |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address  | Relationships |           |         |              |
|---|---------------|-----------|---------|--------------|
|   | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer | Other        |
| DRAGOON JOHN<br>C/O HOUGHTON MIFFLIN HARCOURT CO.,<br>222 BERKELEY STREET<br>BOSTON, MA 02116 |               |           |         | See remarks. |

## Signatures

/s/ William F. Bayers, 12/04/2015  
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 \$19.25 to \$19.57. Upon request of the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt 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.
  - (2)
  - (3) These employee stock options have vested and are currently exercisable.

### Remarks:

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

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