Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Co Form 4 April 13, 2015

### FORM 4

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

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

Expires:

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

**OMB APPROVAL** 

3235-0287

January 31,

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

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

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*

Cullinane Mary Johanna			Symbol Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Co [HMHC]					(Check all applicable)			
(Last)  C/O HOUGHARCOUS BERKELE						Director 10% Owner Other (specify below) See remarks.					
BOSTON,	Filed(Month/Day/Year)  A				5. 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	red, Disposed of,	or Beneficiall	y Owned	
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date any (Month/Day/Year)		Date, if	Date, if Transactiomr Disposed of (D) Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)  y/Year) (Instr. 8)  (A) or			(D)	5. Amount of Securities Ownership Indirect Beneficially Form: Beneficial Owned Direct (D) Ownership Following or Indirect (Instr. 4)  Reported (I)  Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) (Instr. 3 and 4)			
Common Stock	04/09/2015			M	13,744	A	\$ 12.5	63,303	D		
Common Stock	04/09/2015			M	1,256	A	\$ 13.48	64,559	D		
Common Stock	04/09/2015			S <u>(1)</u>	15,000	D	\$ 23.3765	49,559	D		

(2)

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

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	04/09/2015		M	13,744	(3)	06/22/2019	Common Stock	13,744
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 13.48	04/09/2015		M	1,256	<u>(4)</u>	07/25/2020	Common Stock	1,256

## **Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Cullinane Mary Johanna

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

See remarks.

BOSTON, MA 02116

### **Signatures**

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

04/13/2015

\*\*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.

Reporting Owners 2

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- The sale price represents the weighted average sale price for multiple transactions reported on this line. The prices of the transactions ranged from \$23.29 to \$23.50. 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.
- (3) 50% of this grant of employee stock options has vested and is currently exercisable. The remaining stock options vest in two equal installments on June 22, 2015 and June 22, 2016, subject to continued employment with the Company.
- (4) 25% of this grant of employee stock options has vested and is currently exercisable. The remaining stock options vest in three equal installments on July 25, 2015, July 25, 2016 and July 25, 2017, subject to continued employment with the Company.

#### **Remarks:**

Chief Content Officer and Executive Vice President, Corporate Affairs. William F. Bayers is the Executive Vice President, See Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.