

HarperCollinsChildren'sBooks

PRESS RELEASE

HARPERCOLLINS CHILDREN'S BOOKS ACQUIRES WORLD RIGHTS FOR *HOW TO ROB A BANK* BY TOM MITCHELL

Press Release: June 26 2018

HarperCollins Children's Books is delighted to announce a pre-emptive, two-book deal for debut UK author Tom Mitchell. World rights were acquired by Harriet Wilson, Senior Editorial Director at HarperCollins UK, from Anna Carmichael at Abner Stein on behalf of Lauren Abramo at Dystel, Goderich & Bourret. The first book will be published in paperback in March 2019, by HarperCollins UK, HarperCollins Italia, and in Spanish and Portuguese by HarperCollins Iberica.

When Dylan accidentally burns down the house of the girl he's trying to impress, he thinks only a big gesture can make it up to her – like robbing a bank. Really, what's the worst that could happen? ***HOW TO ROB A BANK*** is a hilarious, heart-felt crime-caper for 11+ readers; a funny and filmic tour-de-force starring an unforgettable hero.

Harriet Wilson, Senior Editorial Director said: "An arresting concept, irresistible characters and a hilarious voice collide in a startlingly funny debut. It reminded me of everything I loved about John Hughes movies when I was younger: it's Ferris Bueller meets farcical heist."

Rachel Denwood, Publisher said: "For readers, particularly boys, there is limited choice moving on from funny middle grade fiction, and it can be a big leap to YA. We are completely captivated by Tom Mitchell's perfectly-pitched and wildly entertaining young teen debut – it's much needed!"

Author Tom Mitchell said: "Successful books, like bank robberies, are all about teamwork, so I'm really excited to be joining the HarperCollins gang."

Tom Mitchell is mostly father, partly writer. Growing up in the West Country, he settled in London after a brief interlude in the East Midlands. ***HOW TO ROB A BANK*** is his first novel, written during the school holidays of his teaching job. He lives in Orpington with his wife and two sons. He can be found tweeting at @cakesthebrain.



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NOTES TO EDITORS:

- HarperCollins Children's Books, unprecedented three times winner of Children's Publisher of the Year (2014, 2015, 2016) is one of the leading publishers of children's books, recognised for nurturing new talent as well as boasting a reputable list of established best-selling authors. Respected worldwide for its tradition of publishing quality, award-winning books for young readers, HarperCollins is home to many children's classics, including the Chronicles of Narnia, the Paddington stories, *The Cat in the Hat* and *The Tiger Who Came to Tea*, and to some of the biggest names in children's literature past and present, including David Walliams, Judith Kerr, David Baddiel, Lauren Child, Oliver Jeffers and Michael Morpurgo.
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