

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Co  
 Form 3  
 November 13, 2013

**FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0104  
 Expires: January 31, 2015  
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**INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 * Â Karimi Joanne (Last) (First) (Middle)  222 BERKELEY STREET (Street)  BOSTON,Â MAÂ 02116 (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (Month/Day/Year) 11/13/2013	3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Co [HMHC]	4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  (Check all applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Other (give title below) (specify below) See Remarks	5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person
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**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
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Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

SEC 1473 (7-02)

**Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.**

**Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)  Date Exercisable      Expiration Date	3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)  Title      Amount or Number of Shares	4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
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Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	Â (1)	01/30/2020	Common Stock	40,000	\$ 12.5	D	Â
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	Â (2)	07/25/2020	Common Stock	160,000	\$ 13.48	D	Â

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Karimi Joanne 222 BERKELEY STREET BOSTON, MA 02116	Â	Â	Â See Remarks	Â

## Signatures

/s/ Joanne M.  
Karimi

11/13/2013

\*\*Signature of  
Reporting Person

Date

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 5(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) Ms. Karimi's stock options vest in four equal installments on January 30, 2014, January 30, 2015, January 30, 2016 and January 30, 2017, subject to Ms. Karimi's continued employment with Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Company (the "Company").
- (2) Ms. Karimi's stock options vest in four equal installments on July 25, 2014, July 25, 2015, July 25, 2016 and July 25, 2017, subject to Ms. Karimi's continued employment with the Company.

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### Remarks:

Executive Vice President, Human Resources

Exhibit 24.1: Power of Attorney

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.