

RDA and Non-human Personages

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Agents in the LRM

#	Name	Definition	Constraints
LRM-E6	Agent	An entity capable of exercising responsibility relationships relating to <i>works, expressions, manifestations</i> or <i>items</i>	Superclass: <i>Res</i> Subclasses: <i>Person</i> , <i>CollectiveAgent</i>
	Scope notes	<p>The entity agent is a superclass strictly equivalent to the union of the entities <i>person</i> and <i>collective agent</i>. It is defined to reduce redundancy in the model by providing a single class to serve as the domain or range of certain relationships that apply to all specific types of <i>agents</i>.</p> <p>Being an agent requires having, or having had, the potential of intentional relationships with instances of entities of bibliographic interest (<i>works, expressions, manifestations, items</i>), whether that specific agent has ever done so or not. Human beings are directly or indirectly the motive force behind all such actions taken by all agents.</p> <p>Automatons (such as, weather recording devices, software translation programs, etc.), sometimes referred to as technological agents, are in this model viewed as tools used and set up by an actual <i>agent</i>.</p>	

Persons

- In the LRM, a *person* entity is defined as “an individual human being”
- Restricted to “real persons who live or are assumed to have lived”
- Proof of existence of a *person* is not required if there is general acceptance of their “probably historicity”
- Fictional, literary, or purely legendary figures are not *persons*

Collective Agents

- “Designates a wide range of named groups of persons that bear a particular name and act together as a unit”
- Organizations, associations, families, congresses, corporations, expeditions, exhibitions, festivals, fairs
- To be a collective agent, actions that reflect agency with respect to entities of bibliographic interest must take place (publishing, approving, sponsoring, etc.)

What about non-humans?

- In the LRM, agents must be human or collectives of humans
- Animals, legendary figures, spirits, fictional characters, muppets, gods, angels, etc.
CANNOT be agents under the LRM
- Bibliographical problem: many works claim to be the product of non-human creators, and many of our users search for non-human creators and agents to find relevant materials

RDA and Non-Human Personages

- The RSC Fictitious Entities Working Group was assigned this problem to work on
- Some assumptions:
 - Access points for non-human entities purporting to be creators of works of bibliographical interest are necessary
 - The principles of collocation and authority control need to be maintained
 - The LRM does not stipulate what kinds of names may or may not be included in an authority file



RDA and Non-Human Personages

- Some constraints:
 - Adding fictitious entities or non-humans as a new entity was not allowable
 - Replicating and modifying established relationship designators to fit fictitious or non-human personages was also not allowable
 - Solutions had to be compatible with linked data requirements
 - No “thinking in MARC” as RDA is supposed to be standard neutral

“Non-human personages”

- “Fictitious entities” became problematic
 - Not all non-human persons are fictitious
 - The fictitiousness of any given individual or body may vary between different user groups or cultural communities
 - “Entity” has a specific meaning in the LRM
- The FEWG suggested “Non-human personage” as a catch all description meant to be value- and model-neutral



Non-human personages as “agents”

- FEWG identified two main types of non-human personages in agent-type roles
 - Clear use of a non-human/fictitious personage as a pseudonym for a “real” person
 - Non-humans performing in an agent-like capacity
 - Animals performing in film, television, stage shows, etc.
 - Animal communication (blue whale and bird song, Koko the gorilla’s ASL)
 - Spirits, angels, gods etc. acting as creators of works

User Tasks and Expectations

- Users encompass all ages and educational levels
 - Pre-K children and adults with doctorates and everyone in between are all potential catalog users
 - Ranganathan's principles:
 - Every Reader their book
 - Every book its reader
 - Save the time of the reader

User task examples

- Preschool kid wants to find the latest Geronimo Stilton book (Geronimo Stilton as author)
- Researcher wants to find all stories written by Dr. John Watson about Sherlock Holmes
- Fan of dogs wants to read Millie Bush's biography
- Film buff wants to watch all movies with Asta the dog

Non-human personages as pseudonyms

- Non-humans clearly acting as pseudonyms, treat as pseudonyms
 - No qualitative difference between a person using a “person-like” pseudonym vs. a “non-human” pseudonym
 - Geronimo Stilton is a pseudonym for (probably) Elisabetta Dami
 - John Watson is a pseudonym for Nicholas Meyer
 - Millie is a pseudonym for Barbara Bush

Geronimo Stilton

THE CURSE OF THE CHEESE PYRAMID



Scholastic Inc.

New York Toronto London Auckland Sydney
Mexico City New Delhi Hong Kong Buenos Aires

The Seven-Per- Cent

Solution

*Being a reprint from the
reminiscences of JOHN H. WATSON, M.D.
as edited by NICHOLAS MEYER*



W. W. Norton & Company
New York • London

For Sally

MILLIE'S



B · O · O · K

As Dictated to Barbara Bush

*With best wishes -
Barbara Bush
and*



November 1999

William Morrow and Company, Inc.
New York

Geronimo Stilton

THE CURSE OF THE CHEESE PYRAMID



Schol
New York Toronto L
Mexico City New Delhi Hong Kong Buenos Aires

100	1		Stilton, Geronimo, ≠e author.
245	1	4	The curse of the cheese pyramid / ≠c Geronimo Stilton ; illustrations by Matt Wolf.
264	1		New York : ≠b Scholastic, ≠c [2004]

100	1		Stilton, Geronimo
368			Fictitious characters ≠2 lcsh
372			Children's fiction ≠a Journalism
374			Authors ≠a Journalists ≠2 lcsh
375			male
377			ita
400	1		Stilton, Geronimo ≠c (Fictitious character)
670			Stilton, Geronimo. Rumble in the jungle, ©2013: ≠b t.p. (Geronimo Stilton) p. facing t.p. (a learned and brainy mouse; editor of the Rodent Gazette) back cover (lives in New Mouse City) t.p. verso (original title Grosso guaio in Mato Grosso)
670			Wikipedia website, Apr. 15, 2013 ≠b (Geronimo Stilton is a best-selling children's book series published by Edizioni Piemme of Milan, Italy, since 2000. Scholastic Corporation has published the English version of the series since February 2004. Although the series credits its title character as the author, the idea was originally thought of by Elisabetta Dami.)
678			Geronimo Stilton is a mouse and fictitious author.

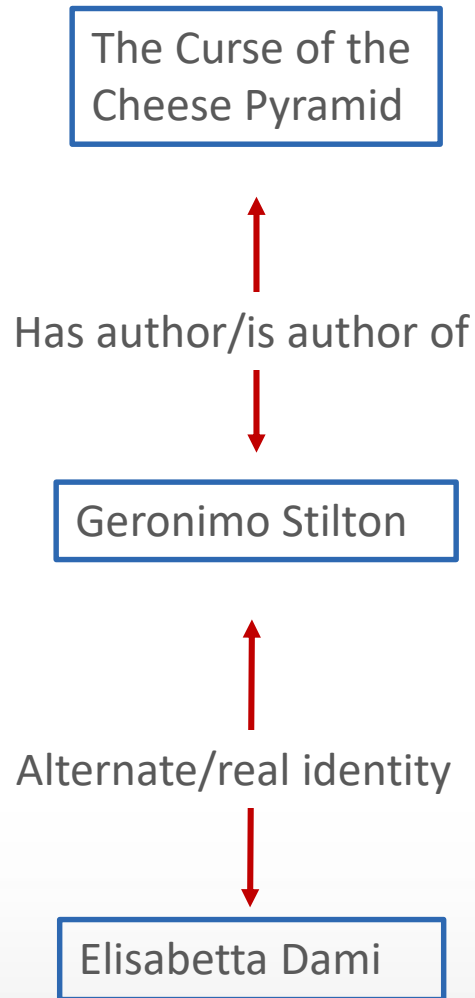
500 1 ≠i Real identity: ≠a Dami, Elisabetta



010		no2008068999
040		CoCr #b eng #e rda #c CoCr #d IIMpPL
100	1	Dami, Elisabetta
372		Children's literature #2 lcsh
374		Authors #a Ghostwriters #2 lcsh
670		AMICUS, May, 6, 2008 #b (Dami, Elisabetta)
670		All business WWW site, May 5, 2008: #b Bologna, the fair with flair, Friday, May 14, 2004 (Elisabetta Dami, ghost-writer for children's book series, Geronimo Stilton)

500 1 #i Alternative identity: #a Stilton, Geronimo.

Pseudonyms and linked data





Animal and non-human performers

- Non-human/animal performers/creators present a special case
 - They cannot be agents, BUT
 - They are also clearly not pseudonyms of a “real” person in an agent capacity
 - They DO perform tasks and roles that we would normally attribute to an agent

Animal Performers

- Example: Skippy the dog was an animal performer in many films in the 1920s
- According to the LRM, he cannot be listed as an “actor” which is an agent relator
- However, he clearly acts in films and he is clearly not a pseudonym for a human agent
- The FEWG suggested putting animal performers in a separate category, and using the Nomen entity with appropriate relationship designators

010		no2015024426 #z sh 85072813
040		WaU #b eng #e rda #c WaU #d DLC
046		#f 19710704
100	0	Koko #c (Gorilla), #d 1971-
368		#c Gorilla #2 lcsh
370		San Francisco Zoo (San Francisco, Calif.) #2 naf
370		San Francisco (Calif.) #e Woodside (Calif.) #2 naf
372		Sign language #2 lcsh
375		female
400	0	Hanabi-Ko #c (Gorilla), #d 1971-
400	0	花火子 #c (Gorilla), #d 1971-
400	0	Hanabiko #c (Gorilla), #d 1971-
400	0	Fine Animal Gorilla, #d 1971-
400	0	Koko #c (Gorilla), #d 1971-
400	0	-#c (Gorilla), #d 1971 קוקו
400	0	ココ #c (Gorilla), #d 1971-
400	0	可可 #c (Gorilla), #d 1971-
400	0	Keke #c (Gorilla), #d 1971-
667		Non-Latin script references not evaluated.

245	0	0	Koko : #b the gorilla who talks / #c a BBC production with PBS ; producer, Bridget Appleby ; filmed and directed by Jonathan Taylor.
246	1		#i Title following credits: #a Koko
264		1	[Arlington, Virginia] : #b PBS, #c [2016]
264		2	[Arlington, Virginia] : #b Distributed by PBS Distribution, #c [2016]
264		4	#c ©2016
300			1 videodisc (56 min.) : #b sound, color with black and white sequences ; #c 4 3/4 in.
336			two-dimensional moving image #b tdi #2 rdacontent
700	1		Appleby, Bridget, #e film producer.
700	1		Goritsas, Demetri, #e narrator.
700	0		Koko #c (Gorilla), #d 1971- #e on-screen participant.
700	1		Patterson, Francine, #e commentator, #e on-screen participant.
700	1		Cohn, Ronald H., #e commentator.

Koko #c (Gorilla), #d 1971- #e animal performer

Other slippery non-human type things

- Figures like gods, angles, spirits and the like may not clearly fall into one of these two categories
- Whether or not a non-human personage is seen as a pseudonym for a “real” person or not will eventually have to be determined by the cataloging agenc(ies) maintaining authority files
- Different culture groups may have differing opinions on what constitutes “real” and/or “living or may have lived”
- RDA is deliberately non-directive to accommodate these views

HISTORICAL REVELATIONS

OF THE RELATION EXISTING BETWEEN

CHRISTIANITY AND PAGANISM

SINCE THE

Disintegration of the Roman Empire.

BY THE

ROMAN EMPEROR JULIAN

(Called the Apostate).

John C. Buddington




BOSTON:

COLBY & RICH, PUBLISHERS,

Corner Bosworth and Province Streets.


1886.



040			NLE #b eng #c NLE #d OCLCQ
096			#b
049			MMUA
100	0		Philomena.
245	1	0	Bernard's mission. [Bernard Robinson's journey into the spirit world. With portraits.].
260			London, #c 1961.
300			85 pages ; #c 8vo
336			text #b txt #2 rdacontent
337			unmediated #b n #2 rdamedia
338			volume #b nc #2 rdacarrier

What's next?

- FEWG has presented their recommendations to the RSC+ committee
- Final decisions and approval are the RSCs prerogative—they can take or leave our suggestions as they wish
- The FEWG has more or less finished its work and will be dismissed at the official conclusion of the RSC+ experiment



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QUESTIONS? ASK ME!