


# ISTC IN PRACTICE

Lessons learned from  
an early implementation

Graham Bell, EDItEUR  
(*formerly* Head of Publishing Systems  
HarperCollins Publishers) 

***The Blue Train***  
**hardback**



**'product' with ISBN**

***The Blue Train***  
**paperback**

**'product' with ISBN**

***The Blue Train***  
**audiobook on CD**

**'product' with ISBN**

Agatha Christie's  
*The Blue Train*



'title'

*The Blue Train*  
hardback

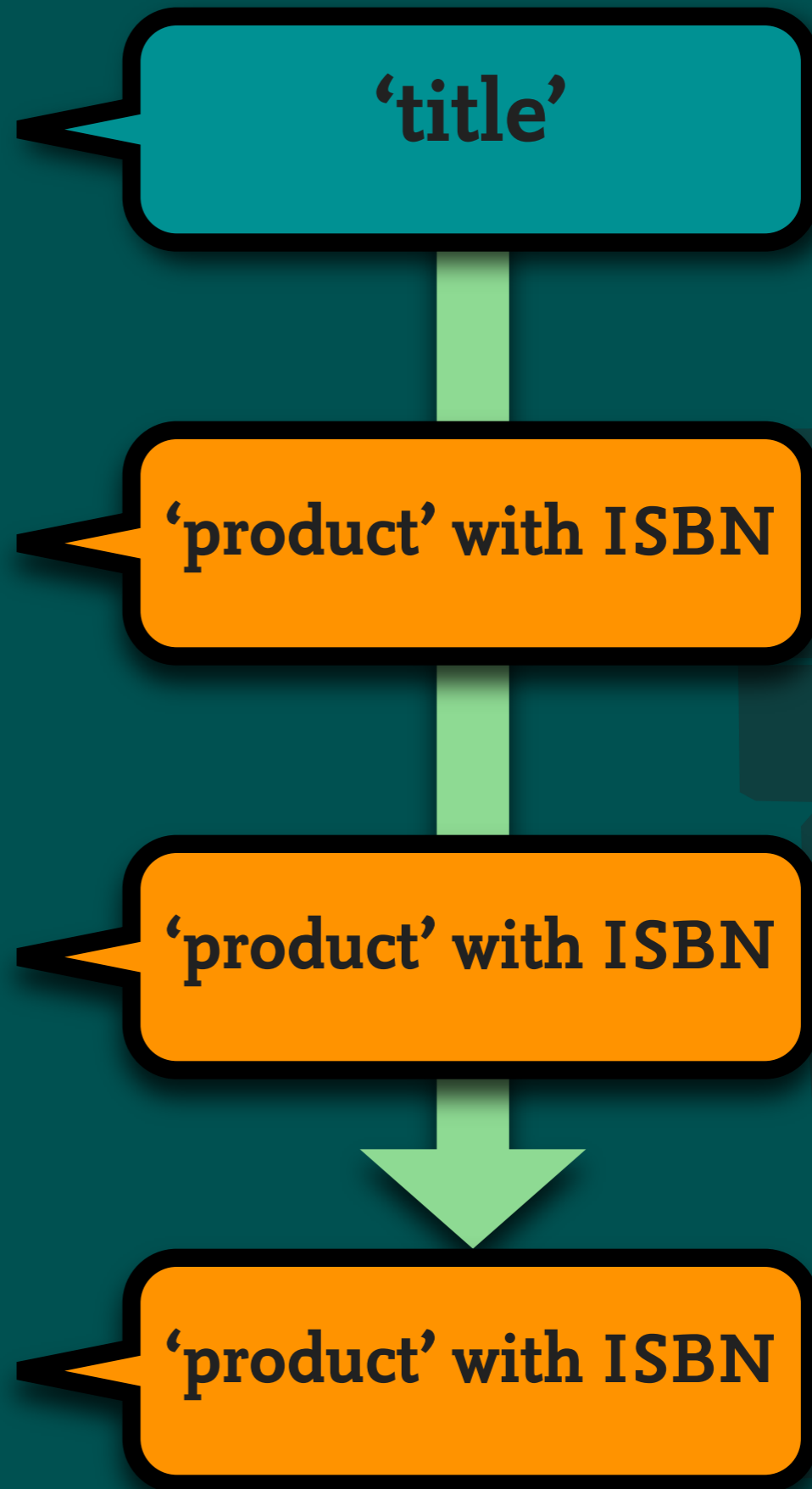
'product' with ISBN

*The Blue Train*  
paperback

'product' with ISBN

*The Blue Train*  
audiobook on CD

'product' with ISBN



Agatha Christie's  
*The Blue Train*



'work' with ISTC

*The Blue Train*  
hardback

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with ISBN

*The Blue Train*  
paperback

'manifestation'  
with ISBN

*The Blue Train*  
audiobook on CD

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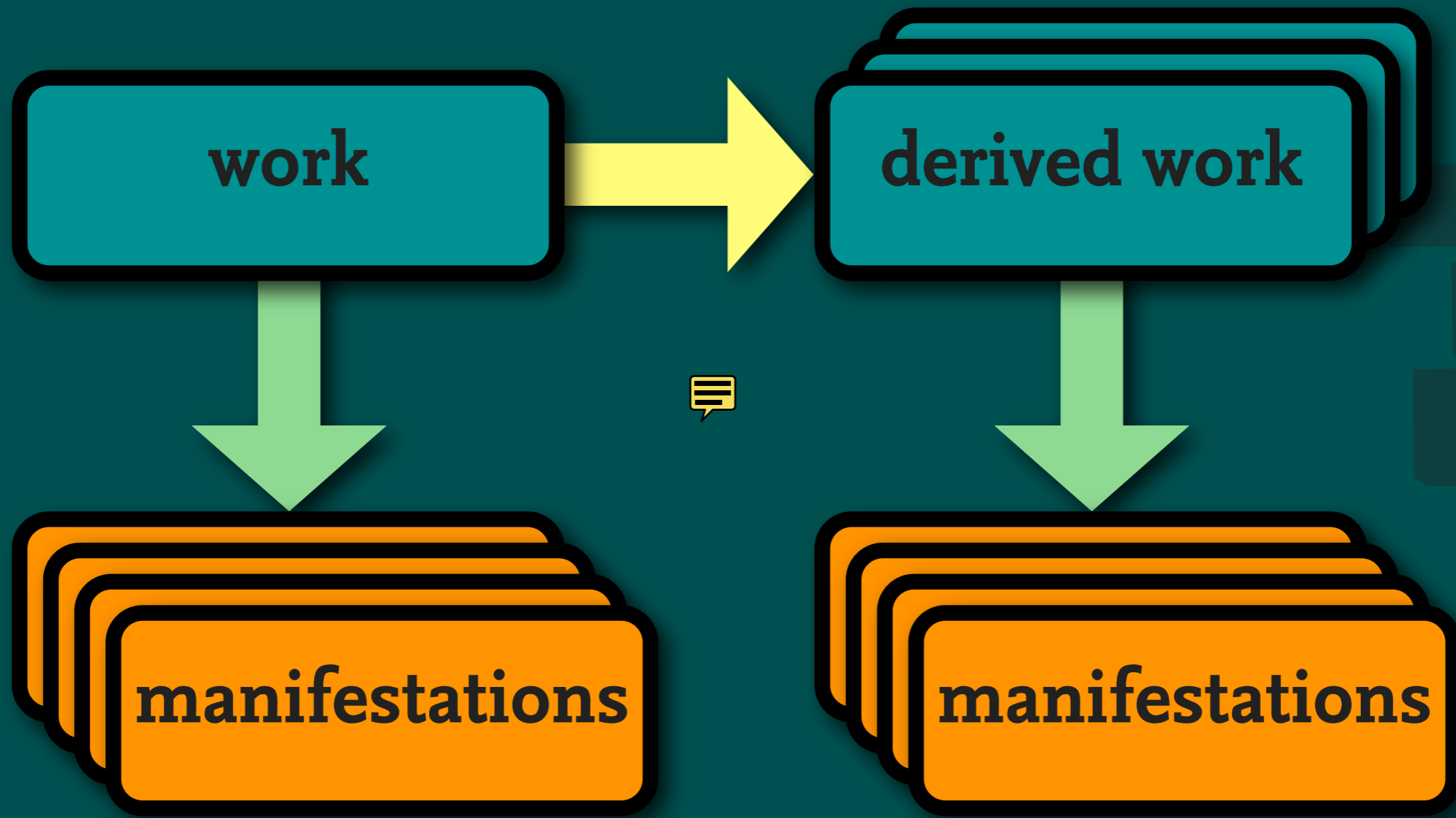


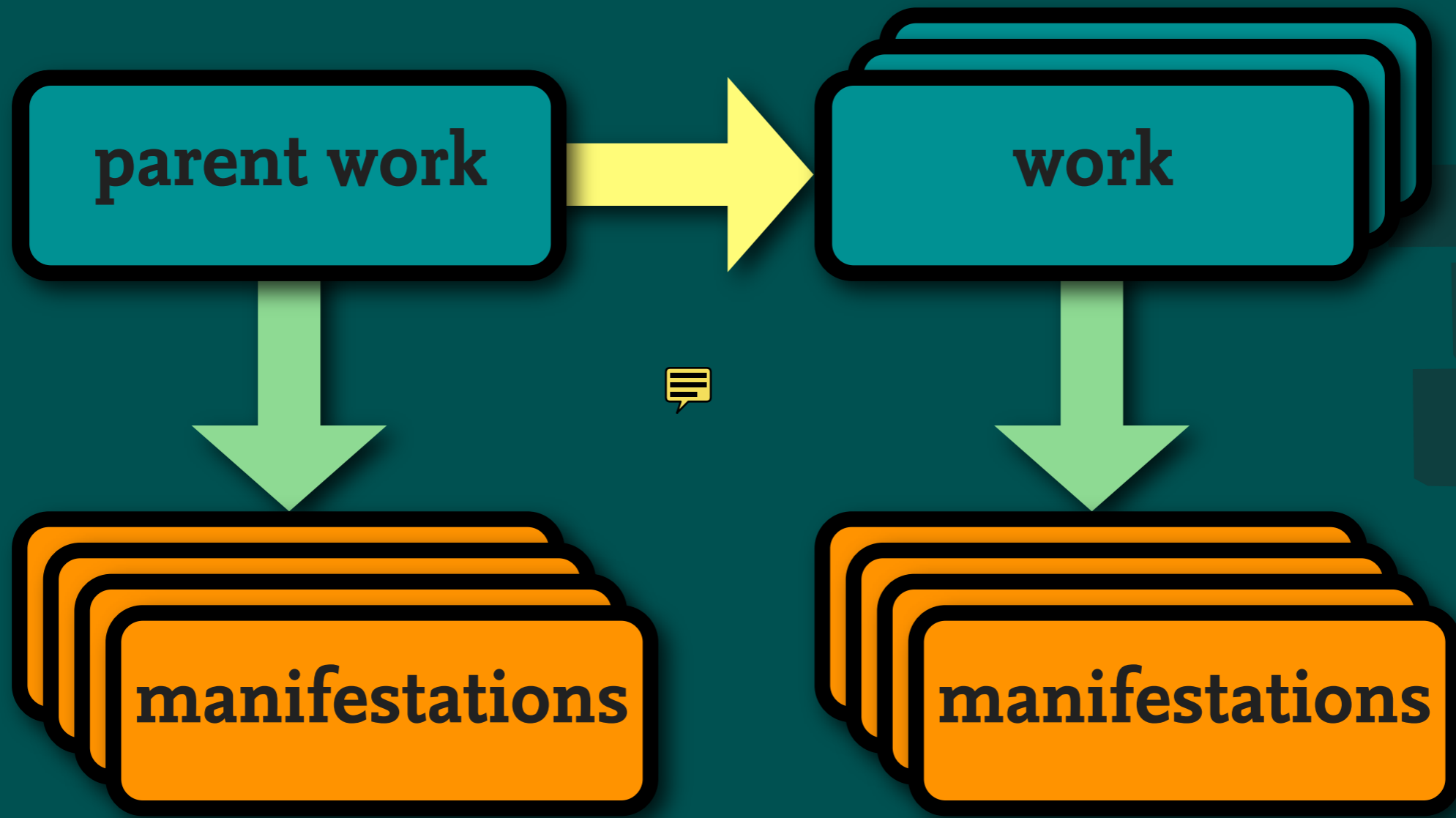
**work**

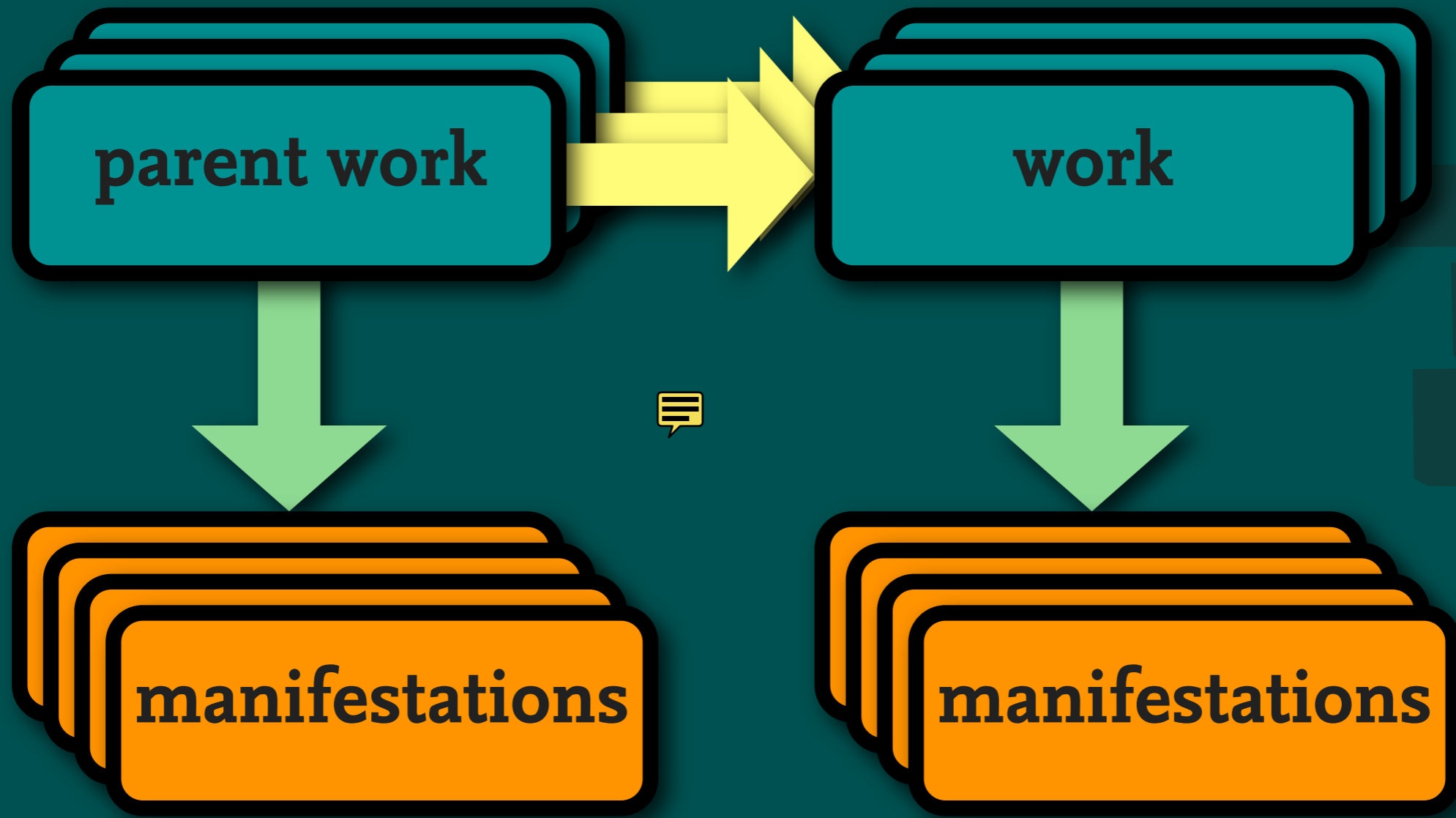


**manifestations**

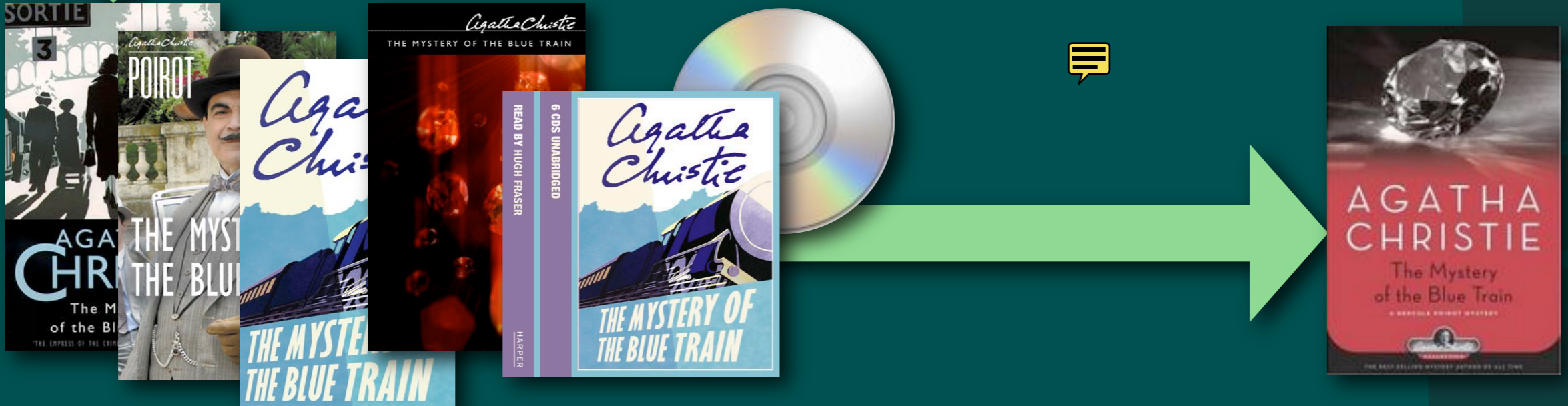
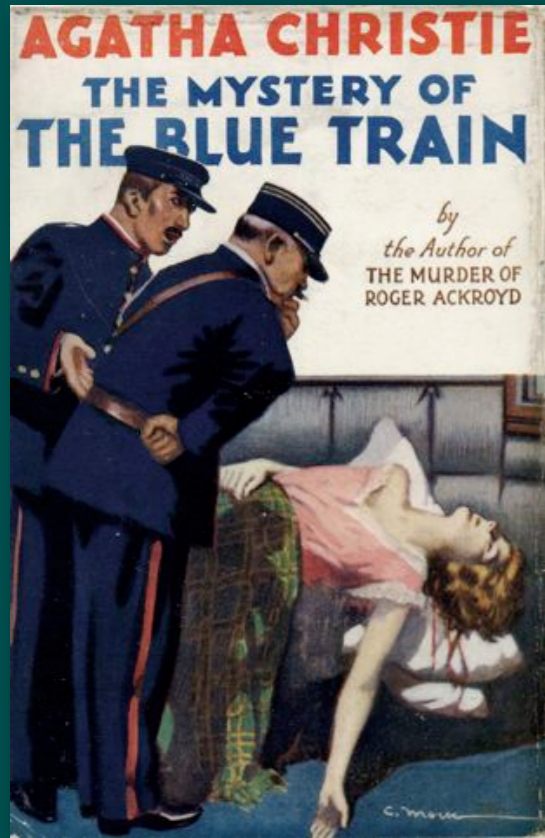








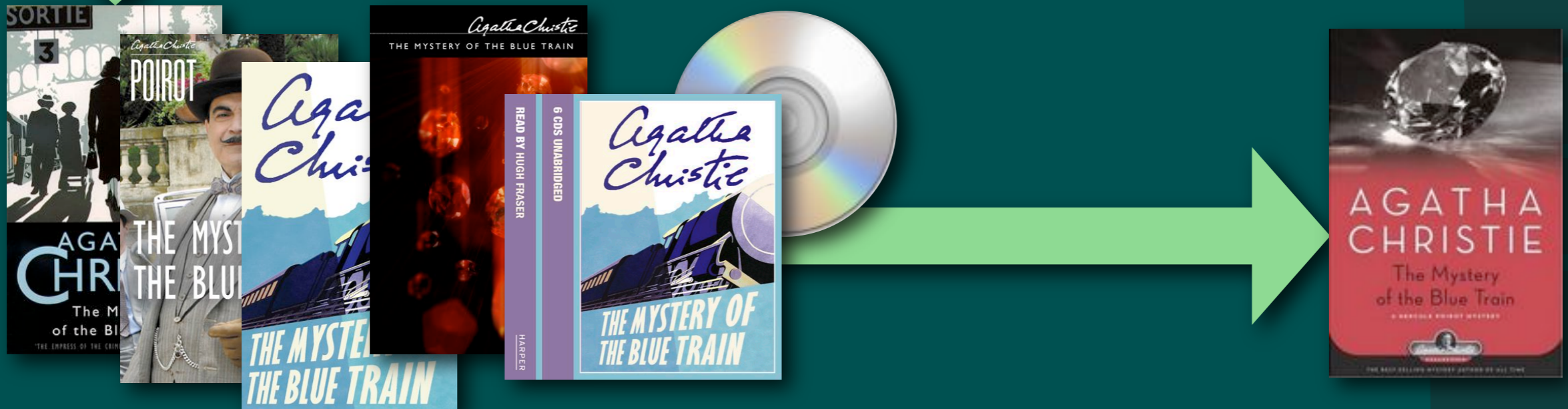
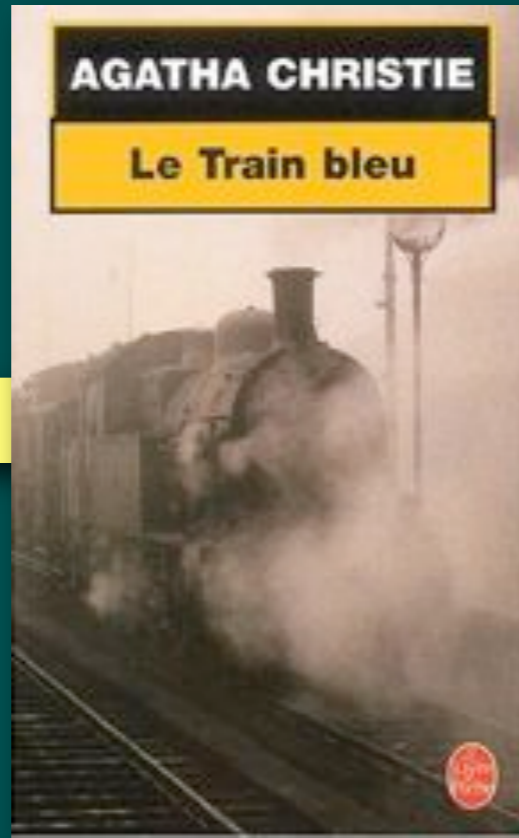
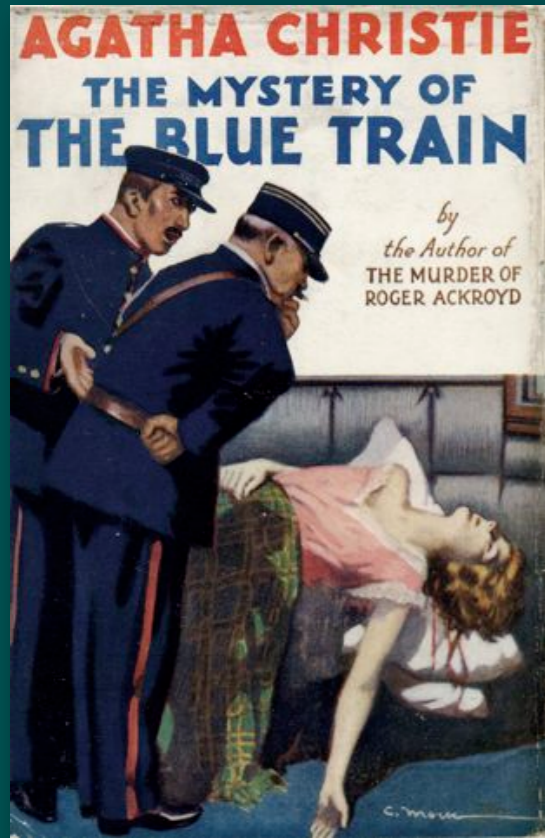
original work



many manifestations...

...and other publishers

original work translated



many manifestations...

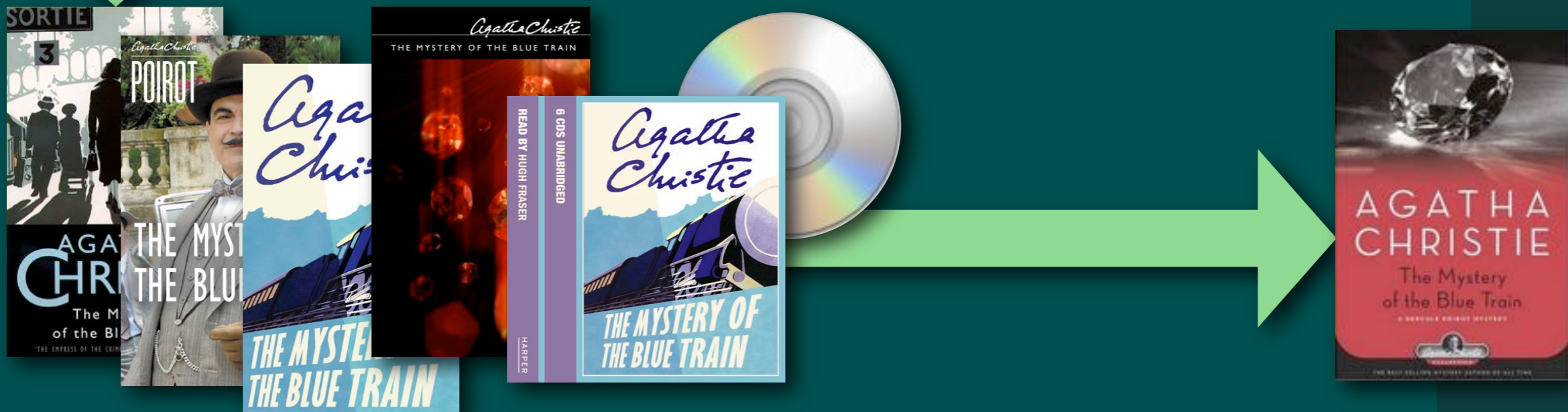
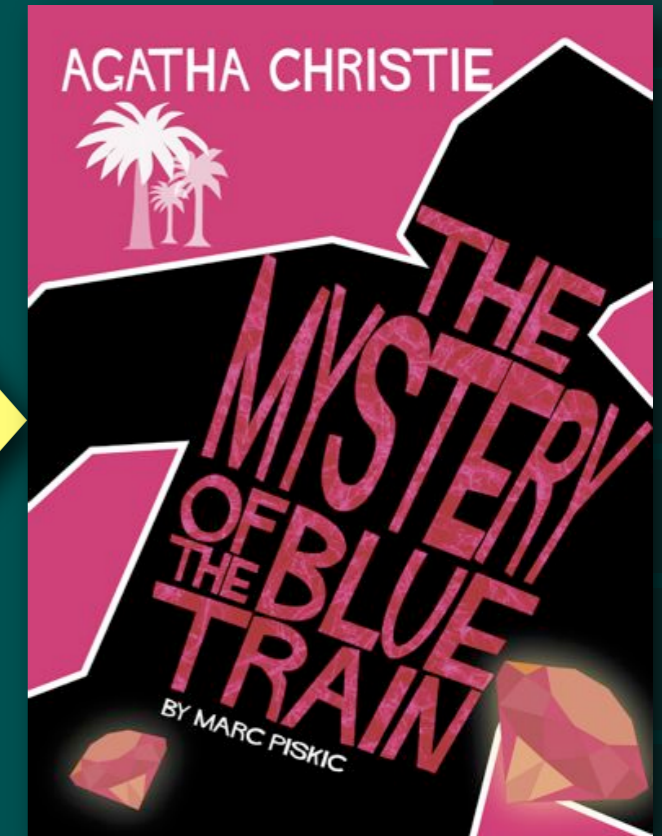
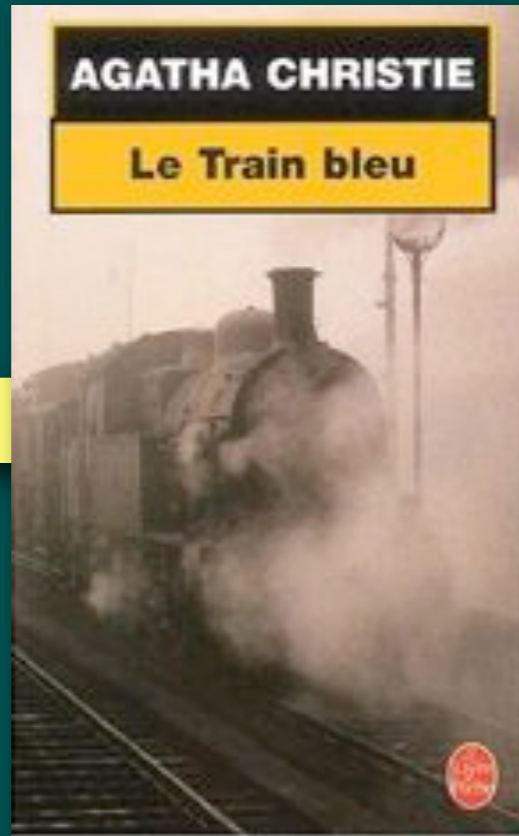
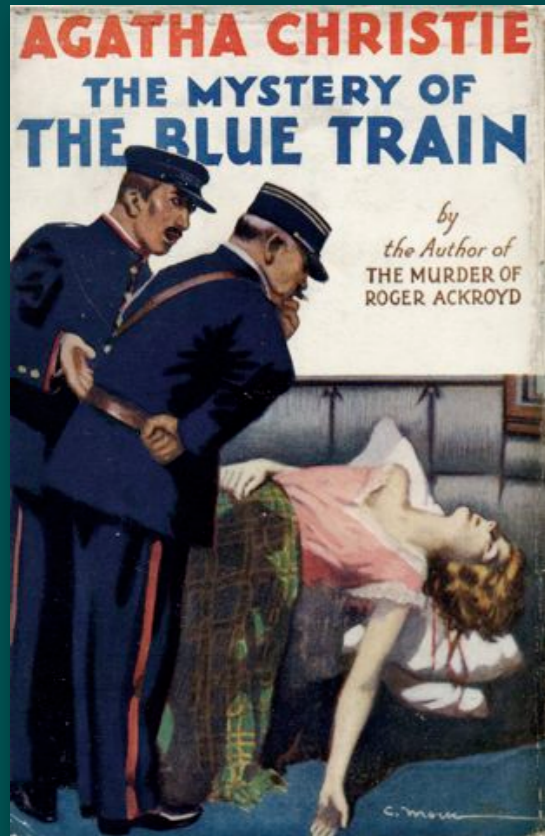
...and other publishers

original work

translated

adapted


translated



many manifestations...

...and other publishers

# ISTC REGISTRATION

- XML message from publisher or other party to registration agency 
- request/reply 'conversation' 
  - request contains work type, derivation, title, subtitle, edition, work date, author name(s) and role(s) plus info on one or more manifestations
  - reply will include ISTC – which may be brand new, or an ISTC previously issued to that work 

# ISTC REGISTRATION

- you can create an ISTC registration message from existing metadata
- for example, you can derive the ‘work type’ reliably from the BIC (but maybe not BISAC) subject codes you already have
  - mostly prose, but also lyrics, poetry, scripts
- but there are some tricky areas...

# IDENTIFICATION OF A 'WORK'

- you may already have a work identifier (eg ISBN of first published version) 🗨
- does your model match that of the ISTC?
  - are abridged audiobooks new works?
  - are illustrated editions new works?
  - is an annually revised publication a succession of new works?
  - do you model the concept of a parent work?

# IDENTIFICATION OF

- you may (eg ISBN)

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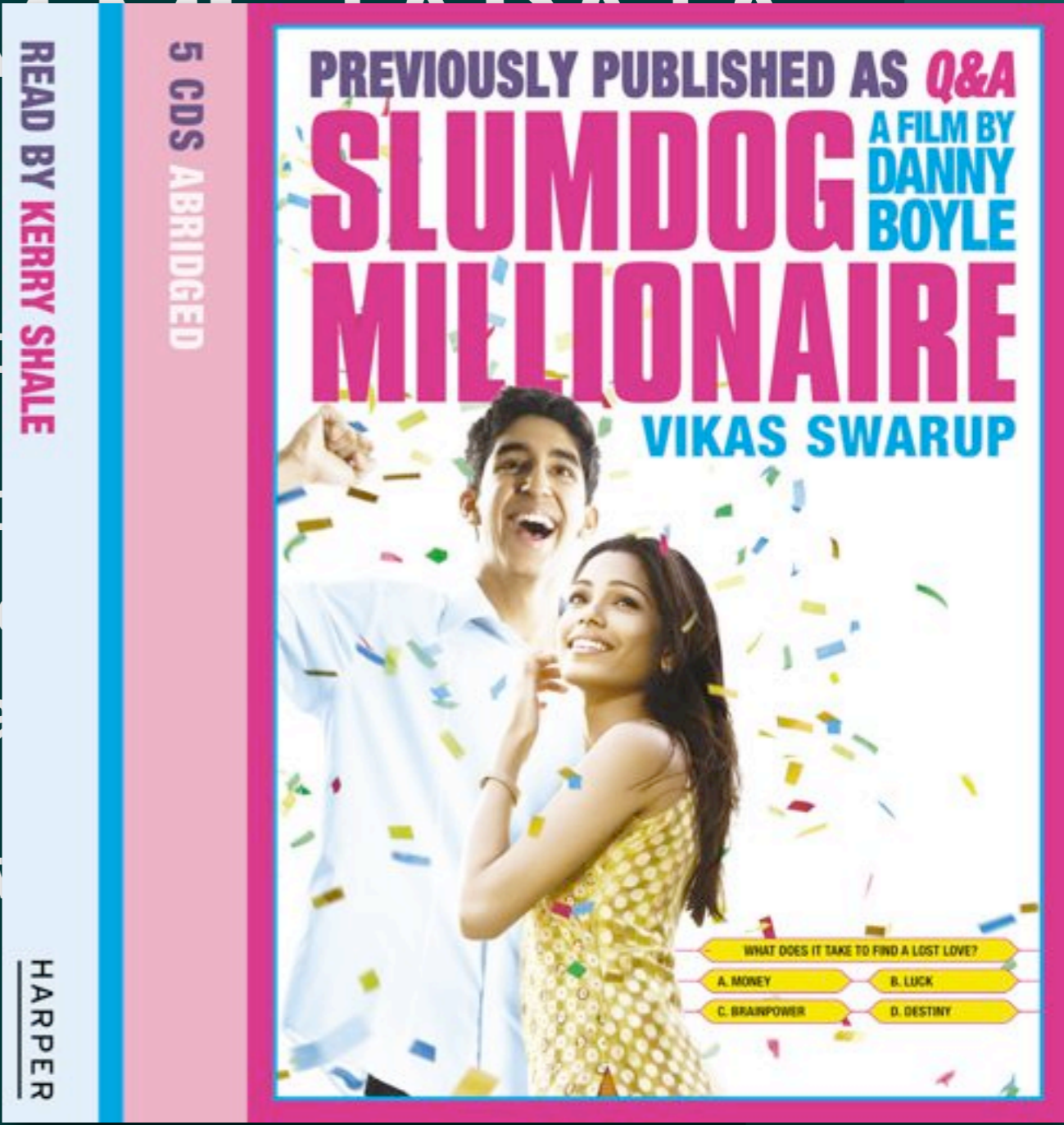
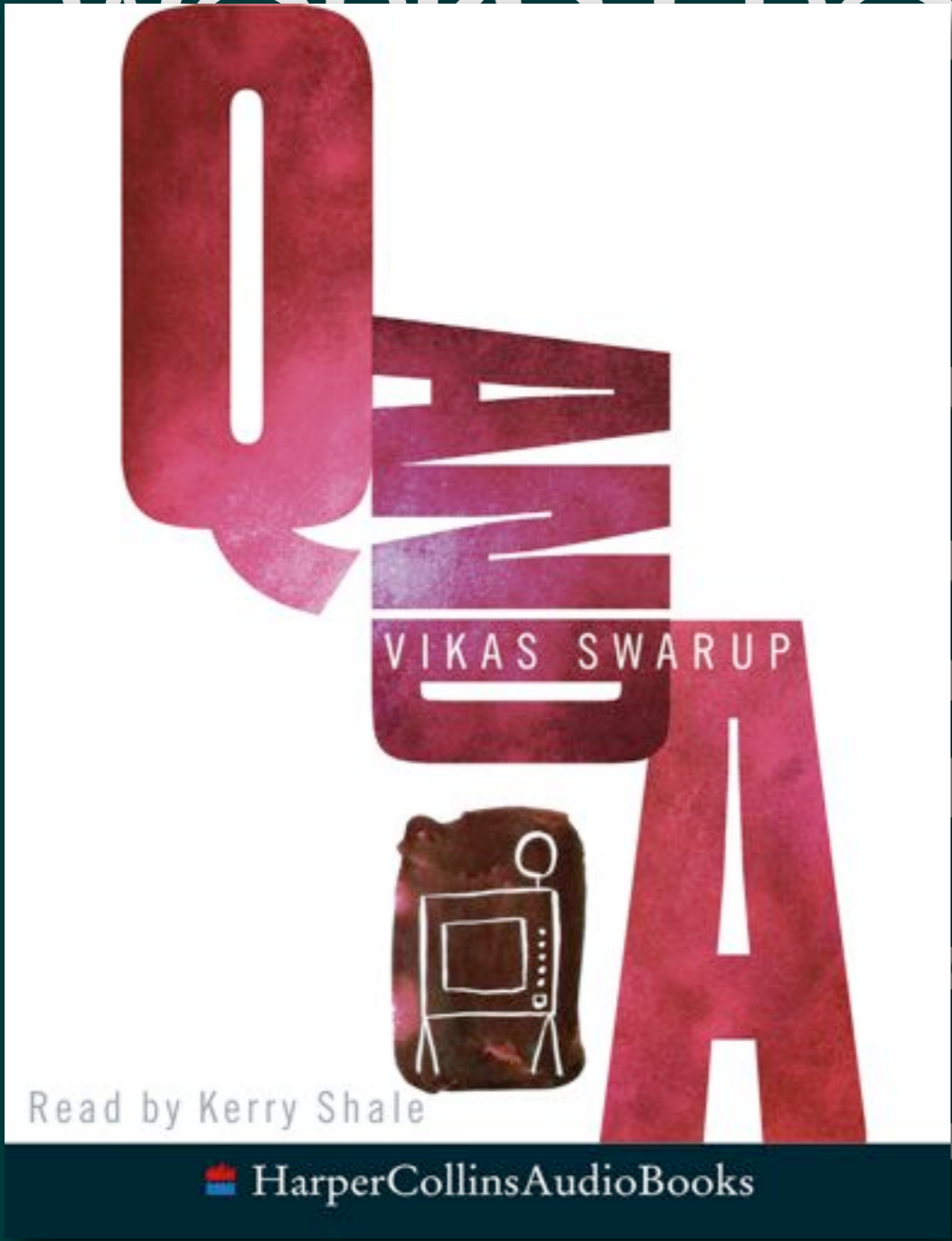
# RECOGNISING DERIVED WORKS FROM METADATA

- same title, same contributors (but what about subtitle?) 🗨️
- derived works have translators, abridgers, multiple parent works *etc*
- three sets of Onix for Books edition types
  - abridged, adapted, enlarged imply derived
  - facsimile, unabridged, tie-in, Braille do not
  - new? revised? special? 🗨️

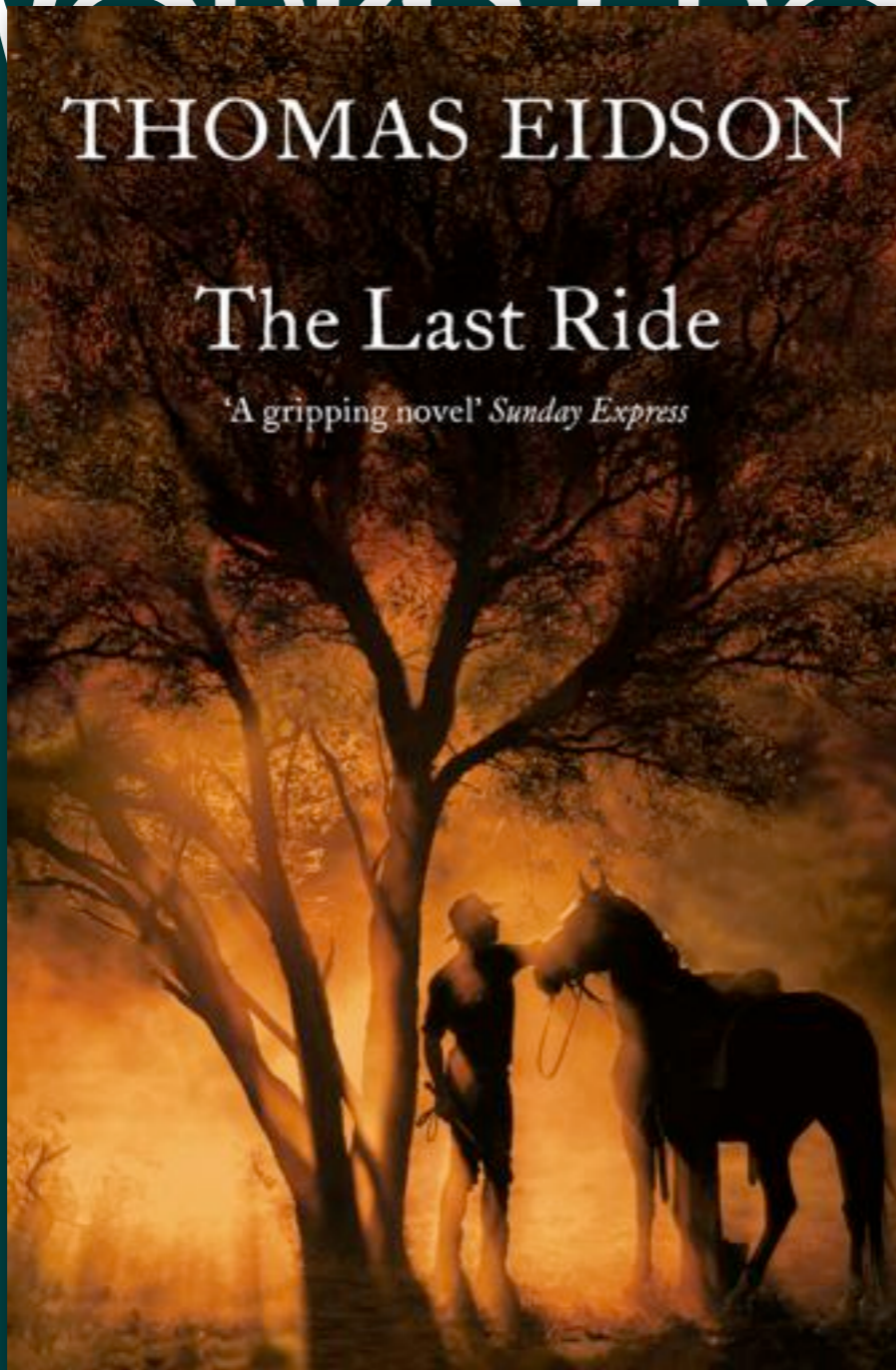
# RECOGNISING DERIVED WORKS FROM METADATA

- does your metadata include previous title? 
- does your metadata include 'excerpted from', or any indication of the original language title of a translated work?
- be realistic – just how clean is your data?
- but also possible to submit too much data...

# RECOGNISING DERIVED WORDS FROM META DATA



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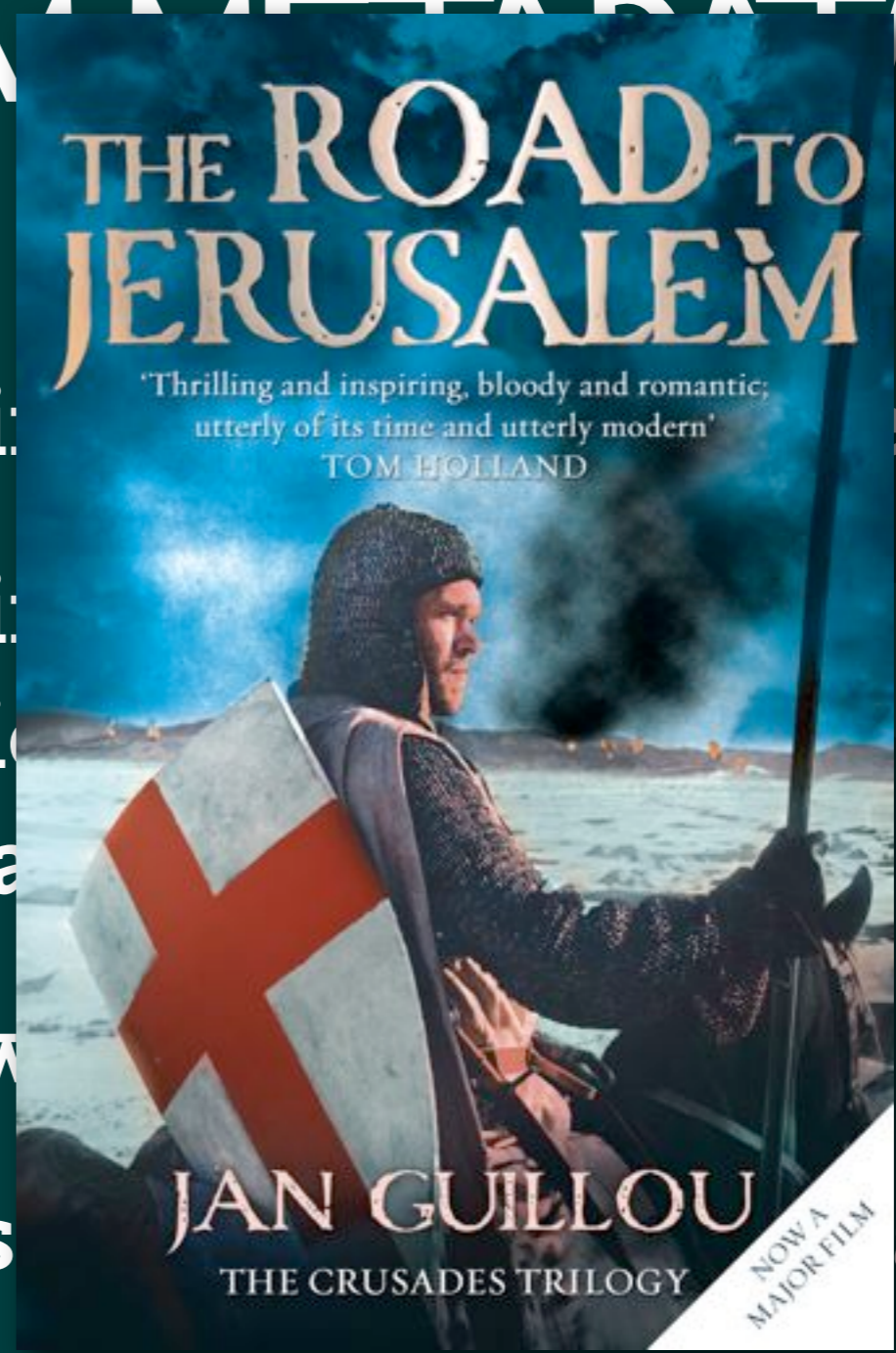
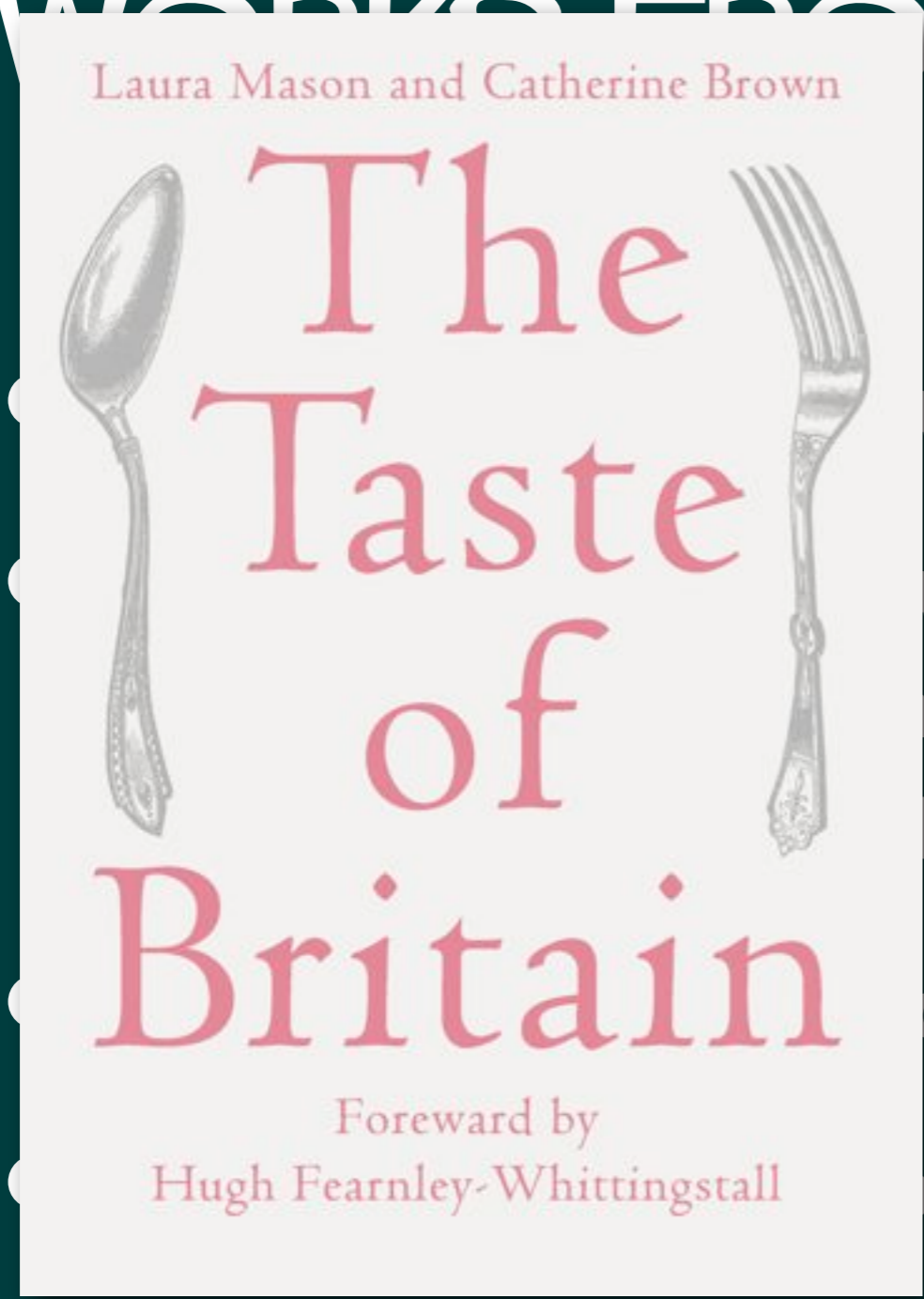
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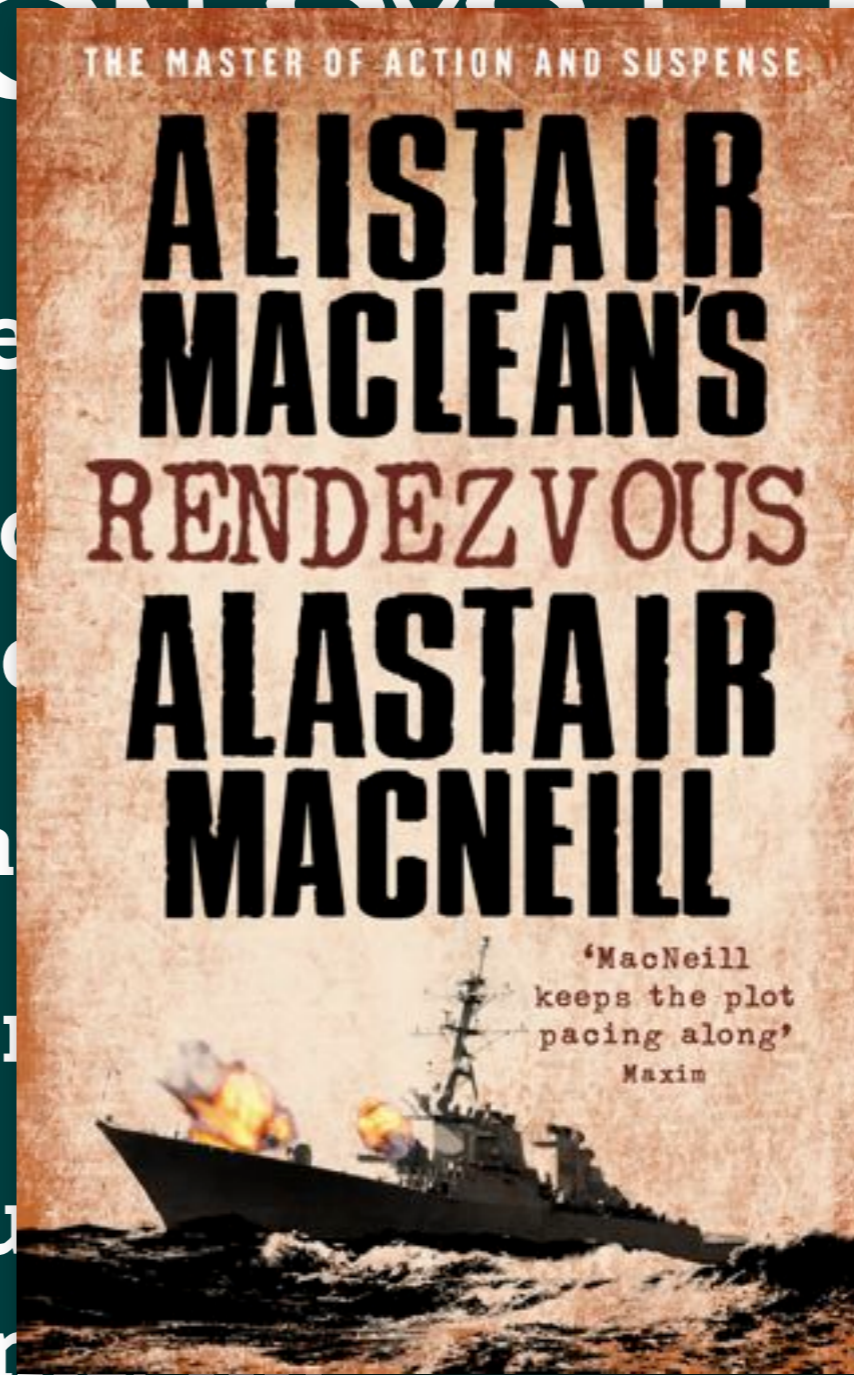
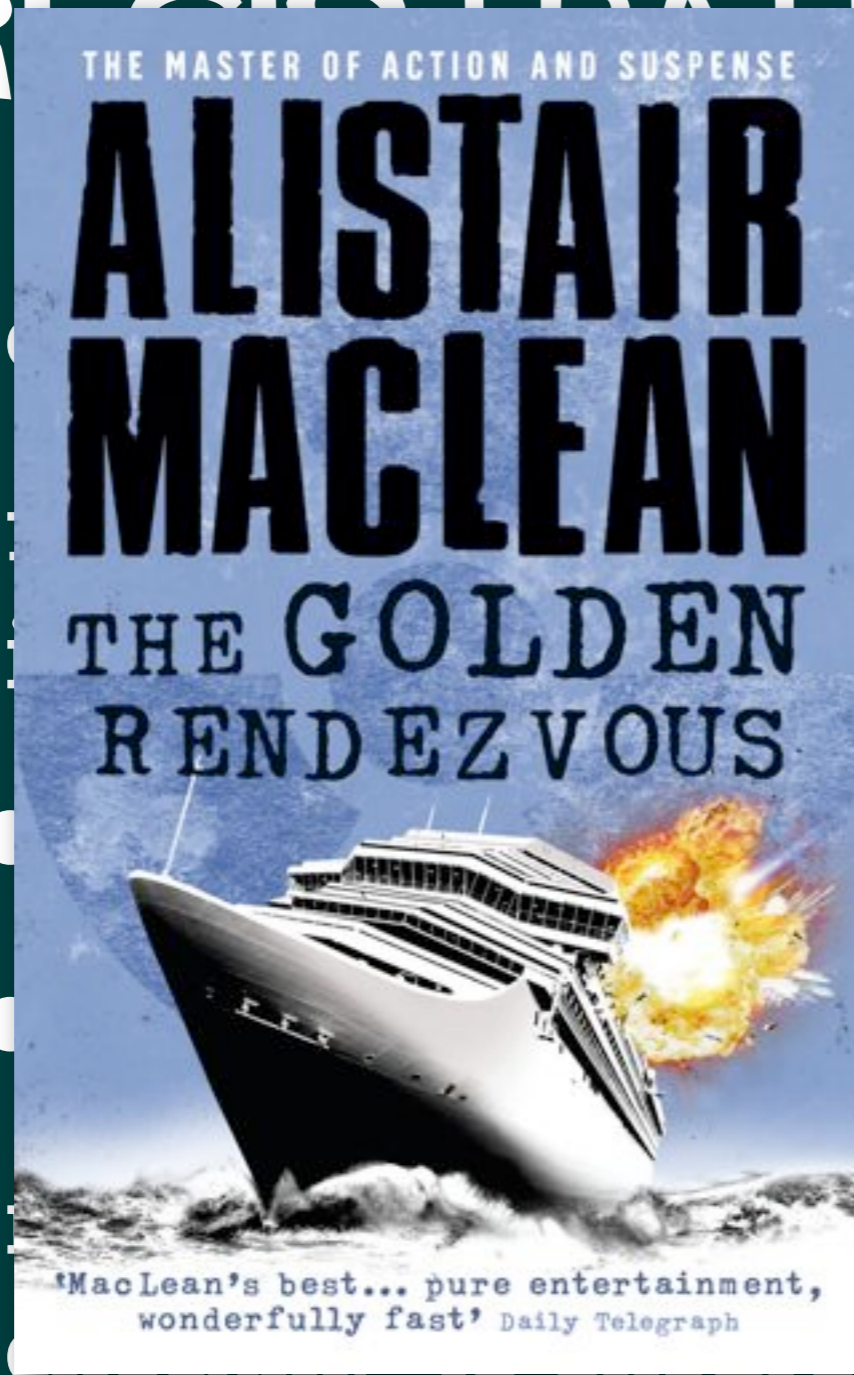
- does your work have a previous title?
- does your work have a 'from', or a language to original work?
- be realistic about your data?
- but also pay attention to much data...



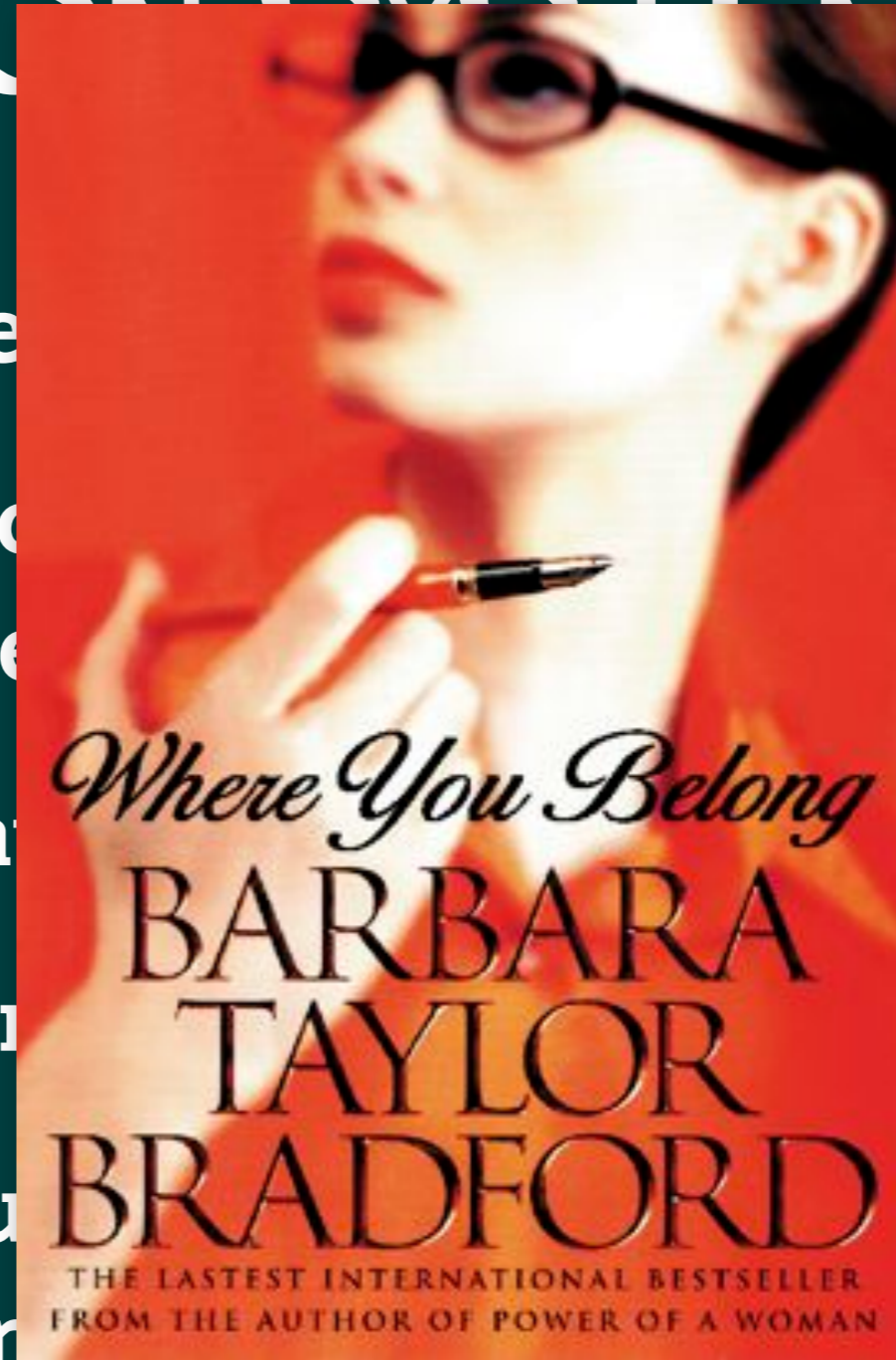
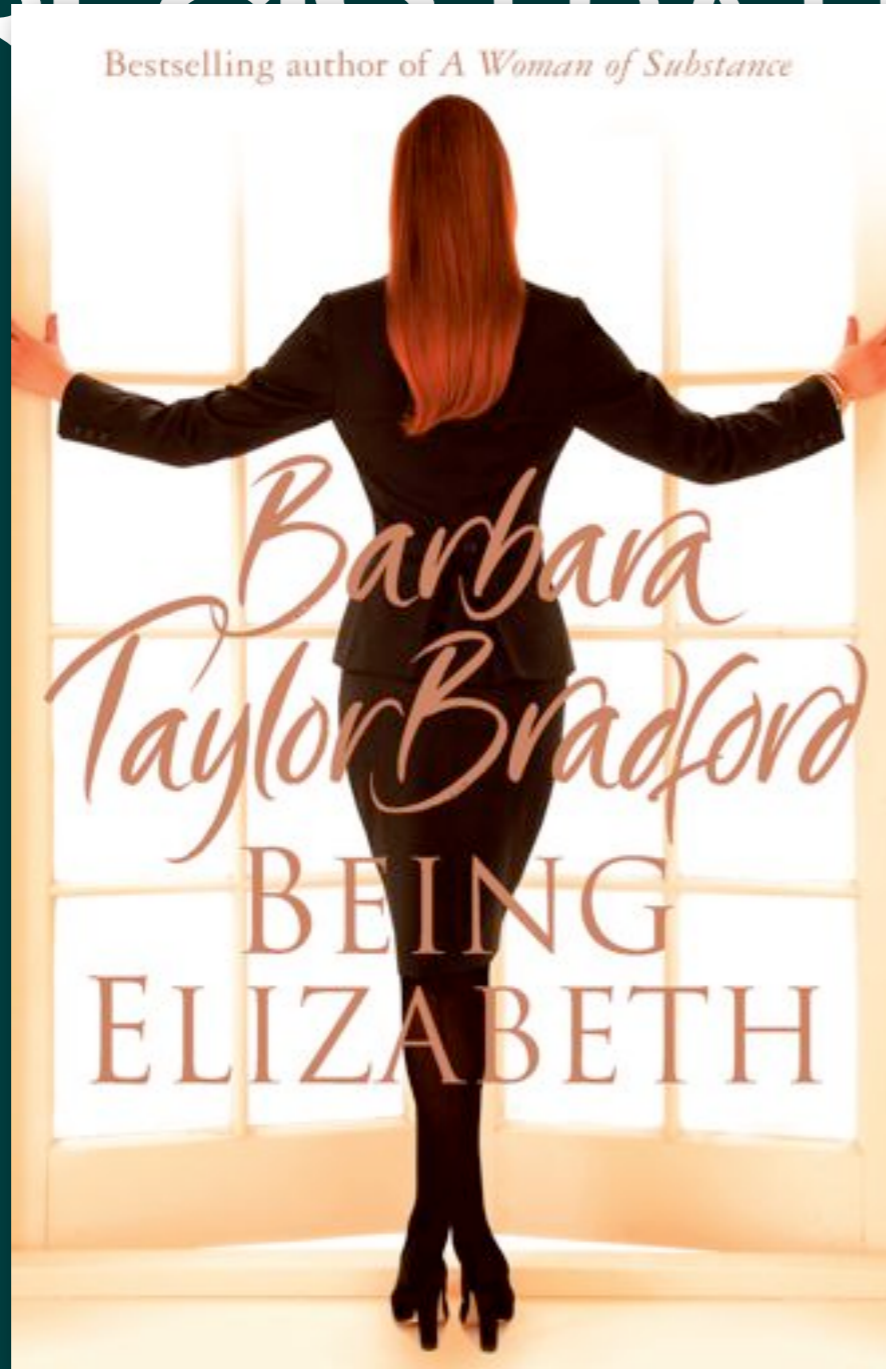
# MATCHING IN THE REGISTRATION SYSTEM

- exact matches of title, contributors *etc*
- fuzzy matches to account for minor errors in metadata embedded in request message
  - fuzzy matches not at all 'smart' (eg Soundex)
  - and some are downright mystifying!
- moral of the tale – currently needs manual checking to ensure integrity 


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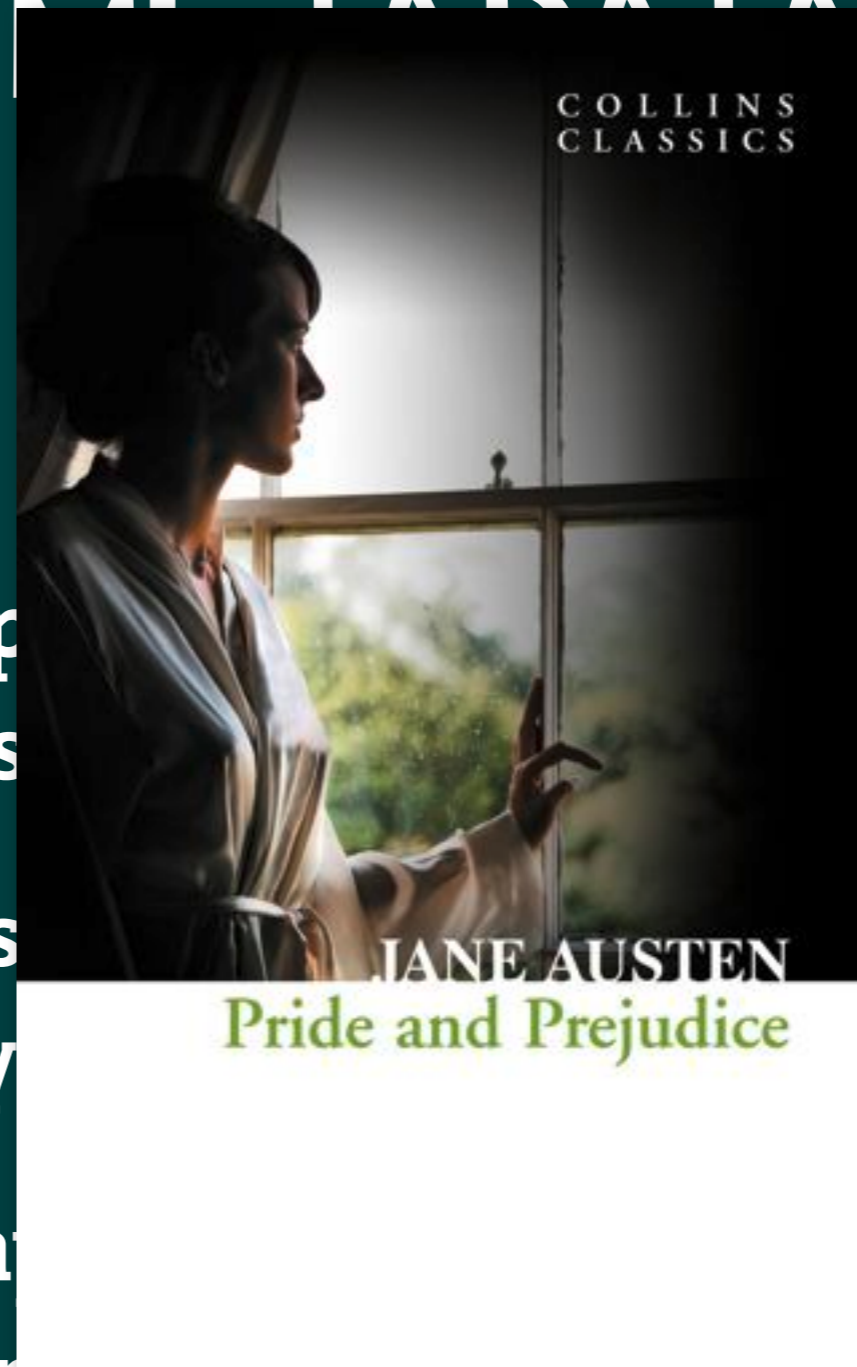
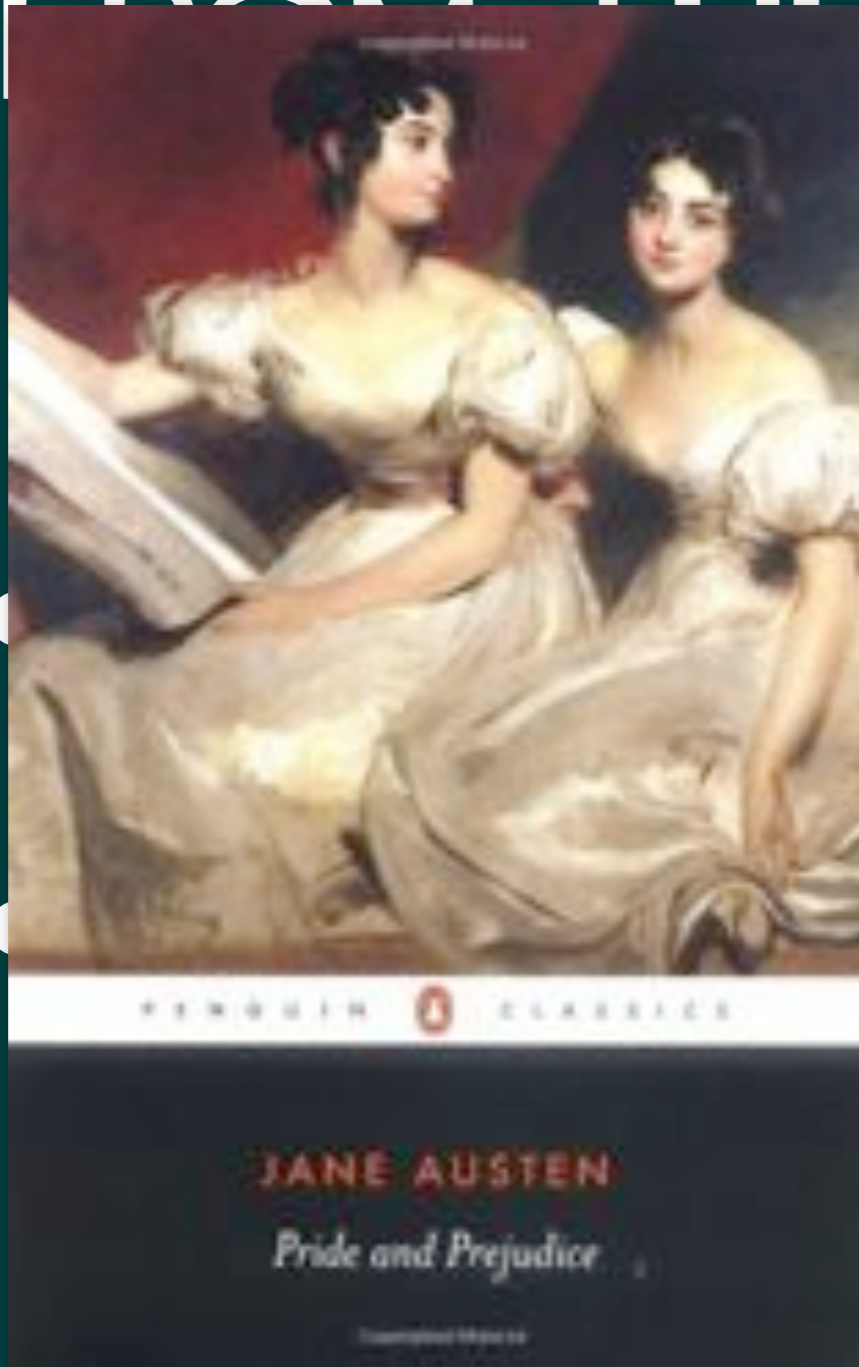
# MATCHING IN THE REGISTRATION SYSTEM



# RECOGNISING WORKS FROM THE METADATA

- this standard is new, and there are kinks still to be worked out
- strict or loose interpretation, with regard to editing, annotations, value-added content? 
- how much effort justified in handling of short stories, poetry and other compilations?
- ISTC of *this work* may not be as useful as the ISTC of the *parent work* or the *ur-work*

# RECOGNISING WORKS



the 1813 or the parent work or the art-work



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[graham@editeur.org](mailto:graham@editeur.org)