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LUCID PLAY PUBLISHING ACQUIRES RIGHTS TO TWO EXPERIMENTAL NOVELS FROM TRANSLATOR AND WRITER HARVEY THOMLINSON

Los Angeles, CA (September 12, 2017) – Lucid Play Publishing, a Californian press of innovative fiction, today announced it has acquired world rights to two novels by translator and experimental writer Harvey Thomlinson.

The deal was negotiated by Lucid Play publisher and Agents of the Nevermind series author Rosemary Bensko. Harvey's fiction has attracted attention for its adventurous writing style, particularly sentence structures. This new use of syntax is a method he's used for years to create a kind of idioglossia that shakes up the synapses of readers in a way that can deliver new perspectives on the nature of reality.

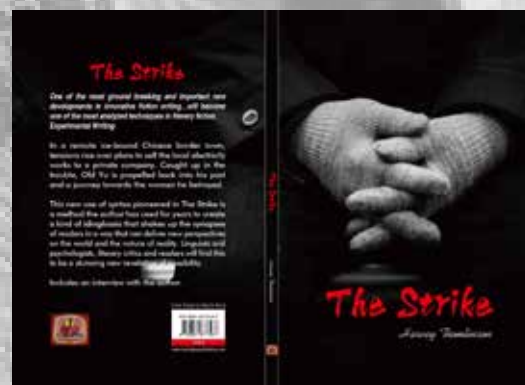
The Strike, a novel about a factory town in North East China, will be published in January 2018. The book's experimental language uses a strategy of disrupting the semantic relations that are embedded in syntactical entities.

The Sentence, a surreal thriller about a subject trying to escape from a sentence, takes the experiments still further and is scheduled for publication in August 2018.

The Strike stands out in today's literary scene as a novel that is both experimental and dealing realistically with "real world" events in an engaged way. The story was inspired by Harvey's secret visit to a factory town in northeast China where protests erupted over plans to sell the local electricity works to a private company. Caught up in the trouble, the main character, Old Yu, is drawn back into his past and a journey towards the woman he betrayed.

Right from the opening sentences, the experimental syntax draws readers deep into the world of the characters.

Mrs Zhang was depressed purple leaves scattered along austere avenue because the wind was strong few of her friends were in the park. She came here every morning although this winter was severe to do her exercises required suffering. Walking with her bag of vegetables east of the crematorium there was always a wilderness.





Rosemary Bensko says, "The invented language of *The Strike* could become one of the most analysed techniques in literary fiction. I feel linguists and psychologists, literary critics and professors will find this to be a stunning new revelation of possibility."



Harvey Thomlinson says, "I'm very excited to be working with Rosemary Bensko, who has long been a strong supporter of my writing. I think that probing at what lies behind "language" is an important task for any writer and my experience of translation suggests the role that syntactic implicatures play in shaping our perceptions of reality. These two books mean a great deal to me and hopefully their publication may inspire further experimentation."



Originally from the UK, Harvey is best known as a translator of novels by Chinese writers including Murong Xuecun and Chen Xiwo. Harvey's translations have also been published in *New York Times* and the *Guardian*. His own innovative writing gained an underground reputation as pieces appeared in journals like *Exclusive Magazine* (US) and *Tears on the Fence* (UK) but now two complete novels will be available at last from Lucid Play. Harvey also runs Make-Do Publishing, a press of Asian fiction whose titles have won or been nominated for an English PEN Award, the MAN Asia Literary Prize, and the Asia Book Blog Prize and others.



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