

**To:** ALA/ALCTS/CaMMS Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access  
**From:** Kathy Glennan, ALA Representative to the Joint Steering Committee  
**Subject:** Clarify Sources of Information Instruction for Statement of Responsibility Relating to Title Proper (RDA 2.4.2.2)

**Background:**

RDA appears to leave room for interpretation about the following situation:

A manifestation has only the creator's last name on the preferred source of information but has fuller and/or additional statements of responsibility elsewhere in the resource.

When presented with this situation, catalogers need to interpret RDA 2.4.2.1 and 2.4.2.2. This has resulted in the following interpretations:

**Interpretation #1:**

Transcribe everything in its fullest form, regardless of where it is found in the resource. Although RDA 2.4.2.2 gives a list of sources in preference order, it does not say "from one of the following sources". This implies that more than one source can be used. Catalogers following this interpretation believe that users will be best served by the fullest information available in the resource, whether or not it appears on the title page.

**Interpretation #2:**

Transcribe what's on the title page, and transcribe any additional statements of responsibility from anywhere within the resource exactly as they appear. Do not use square brackets for information not taken from the preferred source.

**Interpretation #3:**

Transcribe what's on the title page, and supply additional statements of responsibility from elsewhere in the resource in square brackets. This is effectively what AACR2 instructed, but is not keeping in the spirit of RDA, since information from square brackets in this situation should come from outside the resource.

**Interpretation #4:**

Transcribe what's on the title page and provide any additional information about statements of responsibility in a note, if desired. This interpretation only uses a single source from 2.4.2.2.

**Proposal:**

Clarify the language of RDA 2.4.2.2, Sources of Information, to address this confusion. While it is clearly acceptable to take different statements of responsibility from different sources, a single source should be used for each separate statement.

### 2.4.2.2 Sources of Information

Take separate statements of responsibility relating to title proper from one of the following sources (in order of preference):

- a) the same source as the title proper (see [2.3.2.2](#))
- b) another source within the resource itself (see [2.2.2](#))
- c) one of the other sources of information specified at [2.2.4](#).