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New York Times Bestseller Sky's End is Heading to the Big Screen!

New York, NY (April 22, 2024)—Trustbridge Entertainment has acquired dramatic rights from Peachtree Teen, an imprint of Peachtree Publishing Company, to develop instant *New York Times* bestseller *Sky's End.* Antoine Fuqua's Hill District Media will develop and produce *Sky's End* as a film franchise alongside Trustbridge Entertainment. Kat Samick will produce for Hill District Media with independent producers Justin Bursch and Sam Levine. Bob Higgins will Executive Produce on behalf of Trustbridge Entertainment.



"Hill District was at the top of our partner wishlist," shared Higgins, President of Trustbridge Entertainment. "Antoine Fuqua has an unparalleled track record for telling stories with fascinating but flawed heroes, complex relationships, high stakes and, often, big action. It's a perfect match."

Written by debut author Marc J Gregson and published by Peachtree Teen/Peachtree in early 2024, *Sky's End* is the first book in a planned trilogy. Book two, *Among Serpents*, will release in early 2025. Fans of dystopian narratives like The Hunger Games and Attack on Titan are in for a wild ride with this epic fantasy. Exiled teenager Conrad enters the Selection of Twelve Trades to rescue his sister from his murderous uncle and take revenge. Set in a civilization of islands that float above toxic black clouds, Conrad joins an airship crew to battle monsters in the skies while unmasking sinister agents of terror.

Buzz has been brewing for *Sky's End* since long before publication. An incredibly heartwarming <u>video</u> of Gregson, who is a teacher by day, seeing the cover of his debut novel for the first time in front of his students went viral on Instagram. To date it has nearly six million views, one million likes, and 50,000 shares. This love translated to release week when the book became an instant *New York Times* bestseller and an American Booksellers Association Kids' Indie Next Pick.

"I genuinely cannot wait for readers to see the world of the Skylands—with its horrifying monsters, epic battles, and memorable characters—come to life on the big screen," enthused Gregson.

Subsidiary Rights Director Farah Géhy, who brokered the deal on behalf of Peachtree Teen, has complete faith in the book's cinematic home. "The teams at Hill District Media and Trustbridge Entertainment are author focused, and I'm heartened that Marc will be involved in developing the book for the screen," Géhy explained. "This collaboration will make for an amazing film."

The production group is in the process of attaching creative auspices to the project.

Fugua is repped by WME, LBI Entertainment and Johnson Shapiro Slewett & Kole.

Gregson is repped by Heather Cashman, Storm Literary Agency.

About Trustbridge Entertainment and Trustbridge Global Media

Trustbridge Entertainment, a division of Trustbridge Global Media ("TGM"), is a multi-screen production company developing a slate of high quality entertainment for families around the world, all based on book-based IP. TGM is a global children's content company whichhas acquired and expanded a portfolio of celebrated children's publishing houses, including Candlewick, Holiday House, Peachtree, Pixel+Ink, and Walker Books. TGM companies have published countless beloved stories for kids and young adults, including award-winning brands such as *Maisy, Guess How Much I Love You, Judy Moody, Where's Waldo?*, and Mercy Watson.

About Hill District Media

Hill District Media (formerly Fuqua Films) is an American film, television and entertainment production company founded in 1996 by director and producer Antoine Fuqua. Under Fuqua's leadership, the company has produced a string of hit movies, including *The Magnificent Seven, The Equalizer* franchise and *Brooklyn's Finest.* Fuqua Films television credits include all six seasons of FOX's medical drama "The Resident," starring Matt Czuchry and Emily VanCamp, Audience Network's "Ice," Amazon's "The Terminal List," and Hulu docuseries "Legacy: The True Story of the LA Lakers" which most recently received the Sports Emmy for Outstanding Documentary Series. Quibi partnered with Fuqua Films for "#FreeRayshawn," a TV series about a young, black Iraq War veteran who finds himself in a showdown with the New Orleans SWAT. Most recently, Hill District produced Apple's *Emancipation*. Next up is *Rob Peace*, "The Terminal List" Season 2 plus a prequel series and the Michael Jackson biopic.

About Peachtree Teen

Peachtree Teen, an imprint of Peachtree Publishing Company Inc, seeks to empower teens through fresh, empathetic storytelling and voices that focus on authentic aspects of the teen experience. Under the exciting leadership of Ashley Hearn, Jonah Heller and Zoie Konneker, the imprint aims to bring compelling, modern, authentic, and energetic voices and stories to readers everywhere. Launched in May 2022, Peachtree Teen has quickly become known for its critically acclaimed, daring and unique YA voices. The imprint immediately drew attention with its inaugural list that included *Hell Followed With Us*—an instant NYT best-seller and William C. Morris Award Finalist. Two more NYT best-selling books followed with *The Spirit Bares Its Teeth* and *Sky's End*. The imprint has garnered over 30 starred reviews, numerous award nominations and honors, and multiple Best Book nods from various organizations, including *Kirkus Reviews, Publishers Weekly*, and Paste.