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Frank Cottrell Boyce Brings a Cast of Children to 'Doctor Who' Season Eight

By Fraser McAlpine (<http://www.bbcamerica.com/anglophenia/author/frasermcalpine/>) | Posted on July 4th, 2014

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(<http://www.bbcamerica.com/anglophenia/files/2014/07/frankcottrellboyce.jpg>)

Frank Cottrell Boyce (Pic: Writer Pictures via AP Images)

The film scriptwriter and children's novelist **Frank Cottrell Boyce** has been announced as the final writer—alongside **Mark Gatiss**, **Phil Ford**, **Gareth Roberts**, **Peter Harness**, **Steve Thompson** and **Jamie Mathieson**—to have contributed a script for Season Eight of *Doctor Who*.

Perhaps best known as the scriptwriter for **Danny Boyle's** astonishing opening ceremony at the 2012 London Olympic Games, Frank also wrote the movies *24 Hour Party People*, *The Railway Man* and *A Cock and Bull Story*, among others, and a range of children's books including *Millions* (which won the 2004 Carnegie Medal, and was filmed by Danny Boyle), *Framed* and *The Unforgotten Coat*.

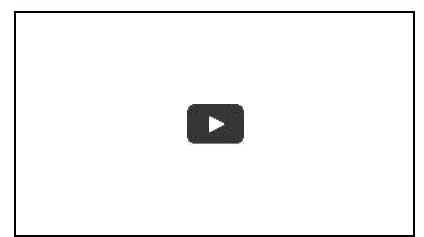
And of course, he's delighted. He told the *Doctor Who* site (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/blogs/doctorwho/articles/Award-winning-childrens-novelist-and-screenwriter-Frank-Cottrell-Boyce-confirmed-as-Doctor-Who-writer>): "Of all the thrills that pen and paper have brought into my life, there's nothing that quite compares to the buzz of unlimited possibility that rushes through your fingers and into your brain when you write the words: 'Interior ... TARDIS'."

"I was flabbergasted to be asked to write an episode – partly because I've been so absorbed in the last few series that I'd sort of forgotten that it wasn't real."

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His script, the title of which has yet to be revealed, also stars four young actors, including **Harley Bird**, who is the voice of the children's TV character *Peppa Pig*. She's joined by **Abigail Eames** (*The Crimson Field*), **Ashley Foster** (*The Woman in Black*) and **Jaydon Harris-Wallace** (*CITV Text Santa*).

Steven Moffat is clearly just as excited as Frank is, saying: "Frank's script is pure magic – and everything I could have hoped for from the genius behind the Olympics opening ceremony! *Doctor Who* is born anew in the mind of a genius!"

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Fraser McAlpine

Fraser has been writing and broadcasting about music and popular culture for over 15 years, first at the Top of the Pops website, and most recently for the NME, Guardian and MSN. He also wrote BBC Radio 1's Chart Blog and reviews albums for BBC Radio 2.

He is Anglophenia's current resident Brit, blogging about British slang and running around the Mall taking snaps of the crowd at the Royal Wedding, as well as reigniting a childhood passion for classic Doctor Who and cramming as much music in as he can manage.

Fraser invites you to join him on Twitter: [@csi_popmusic](https://twitter.com/csi_popmusic) (https://twitter.com/csi_popmusic)

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