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RANDOM HOUSE CHILDREN'S BOOKS ACQUIRES TRILOGY
WILL WEST: THE EPIC BY

TWIN PEAKS CO-CREATOR AND BESTSELLING NOVELIST MARK FROST

Book One in the Series, *The Paladin Protocol*, to Be Published in Fall 2012

New York, NY, February 8, 2011—Random House Children's Books has acquired *Will West: The Epic*, a young adult trilogy written by **Mark Frost**, *New York Times* bestselling author and co-creator of the groundbreaking television series *Twin Peaks*, it was announced today by Kate Klimo, Senior Vice President and Publisher of the Random House/Golden Books Young Readers Group. Editorial Director Jim Thomas acquired the trilogy for Random House from Sophie Hicks and Ed Victor of Ed Victor Ltd. The first book, **THE PALADIN PROTOCOL**, will be published in North America in fall 2012.

Frost's *Will West* combines a sophisticated mystery with furiously-paced action and a twist of the paranormal. In the novel, the title character has spent his entire life trying to avoid any attention at the request of his parents. Then by sheer accident, Will scores off the charts on a nationwide exam and is recruited by an exclusive and somewhat mysterious prep school, the best school no one's ever heard of, with technology the likes of which no one's ever seen. At the same time, coincidentally—or not so—Will realizes he's being followed by men in dark hats, driving black sedans who pose a terrifying threat to his family. What follows is a series of events and revelations that places Will smack in the middle of a millennia old struggle between titanic forces.

"The opportunity to partner with a visionary like Mark Frost is tremendously exciting. All of us at Random House are thrilled to be publishing his first series for young readers," said Thomas. "Count on the co-creator of *Twin Peaks* to deliver a mystery that only deepens as the story progresses, that has hints of the supernatural, and that pits its protagonist against secret societies and hidden agendas."

Mark Frost studied directing and playwriting at Carnegie-Mellon University. He partnered with David Lynch to create and co-executive produce the groundbreaking TV series *Twin Peaks*. Frost co-wrote the screenplays to the major motion pictures *Fantastic Four*, and *Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver Surfer*. He wrote and produced the critically acclaimed film *The Greatest Game Ever Played*. He is also the *New York Times* bestselling author of eight previous books including *The List of Seven*, *The Second Objective*, *The Greatest Game Ever Played*, and *The Match*. To learn more, visit ByMarkFrost.com.

Random House Children's Books is the world's largest English-language children's trade book publisher. Creating books for toddlers through young adult readers, in all formats from board books to activity books to picture books, novels, and ebooks, the imprints of Random House Children's Books bring together award-winning authors and illustrators, world-famous franchise characters, and multimillion-copy series. The company's website, Kids @ Random (www.randomhouse.com/kids) offers an array of activities, games, and educational resources for children, teens, parents, and educators. Random House Children's Books is a division of Random House, Inc., whose parent company is Bertelsmann AG, a leading international media company.

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