

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Vida Engstrand, Assoc. Dir. Of
Communications
Ph: (212) 407-1573
Email: vengstrand@kensingtonbooks.com

CONTACT:

KENSINGTON PUBLISHING AWARDS BOOK DEAL
UNDER NEW ZEBRA SHOUT IMPRINT
TO DARLY JAMISON,
WINNER OF "THE WRITE AFFAIR" COMPETITION ON WATTPAD

April 15, 2015: Kensington Publishing Corp., America's Independent Publisher, announces the grand prize winner of "The Write Affair," a crowdsourced writing competition held by Kensington and hosted on Wattpad, the world's largest community of readers and writers.

The competition's grand prize, a book contract with Kensington Publishing, has been awarded to Darly Jamison for her winning manuscript, *Strawberry Wine*. The contemporary romance novel will be published in both print and digital formats under Kensington's new Zebra Shout imprint. Launching in January 2016, Zebra Shout will publish new authors and rising stars in the romance genre.

Tara Gavin, executive editor, Kensington, lead Kensington's editorial team to select the grand prize winner. She said, "*Strawberry Wine* stood out among the submissions. The writing style and characterization impressed us greatly, and we loved how the author was able to create memorable characters in a warmly realistic setting."

Darly Jamison was notified on her success' on April 14th and exclaimed, "I would like to thank the amazing people at Kensington Publishing and Wattpad for giving me the opportunity of a lifetime! This is such a happy surprise and I'm so excited for this chance to pursue my dream."

"The Write Affair" was a crowdsourced writing competition for aspiring romance authors, open to previously unpublished authors of romance fiction. After submissions were made on Wattpad earlier this year, its community of over 40 million users was invited to vote for their favorite submissions, thereby narrowing the entrants down to 10 finalists. From that pool of fan-favorites, members of the Kensington editorial board selected the grand prize winner.

ABOUT KENSINGTON PUBLISHING:

Founded in 1974 by the late Walter Zacharius, Kensington Publishing Corp. is located in New York City and is known as “America’s Independent Publisher.” It remains a multi-generational family business, with Steven Zacharius succeeding his father as President and CEO, and Adam Zacharius joining the company in 2012 as Director of Special Projects and Alternative Media. As the foremost independent commercial publishing house in the United States providing hardcover, trade paperback, mass market, and digital releases, Kensington publishes the books that America wants to read.

The house of *New York Times* bestselling authors, including Fern Michaels, Lisa Jackson, Joanne Fluke, William W. Johnstone, and many others, Kensington publishes over 500 fiction and non-fiction titles each year. Its diverse imprints include Zebra, Pinnacle, Dafina, and Lyrical Press which are well known for providing readers with a range of popular genres such as romance, women’s fiction, African American, young adult and nonfiction, as well as true-crime, western, and mystery titles. Visit kensingtonbooks.com.