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CONTACT: Jane Nutter, Communications & Marketing Manager Phone: (212) 407-1542 Email: jnutter@kensingtonbooks.com

## BESTSELLING SWEDISH ROMANCE AUTHOR TO BE PUBLISHED IN NORTH AMERICA BY KENSINGTON PUBLISHING IN THE FIRST DEAL OF ITS KIND

**June, 2015:** Kensington Publishing Corp., America's Independent Publisher, announces that it has acquired World English rights to the bestselling contemporary romance trilogy written by Swedish sensation Simona Ahrnstedt in the first deal of its kind in the genre. With the worldwide popularity of Swedish mysteries and thrillers, Kensington is proud to bring a new kind of commercial Swedish fiction to English readers.

Simona Ahrnstedt, Sweden's groundbreaking author has pioneered the country's new wave of romance featuring strong female characters and delicious male leads with undercurrents of feminism that will appeal to smart women everywhere. To date, over 70,000 copies have sold in Sweden. Foreign rights have also been sold to: France, Germany, Iceland, Lithuania, Norway, Spain and Turkey; guaranteeing Simona is an author with universal appeal.

Alicia Condon, Editorial Director, Kensington Publishing Corp., observes, "Simona's novels, with their underlying feminist themes and beautifully evocative Swedish settings, bring a fresh vision to the world of bestselling women's fiction. I think they're the next big thing readers of contemporary romance are looking for."

In addition to World English rights, Alicia Condon, also acquired digital and audio rights in the English language from Anna Frankl of Nordin Agency. The first novel, ONLY ONE NIGHT, will be published in the summer of 2016.

Set in Stockholm's financial district, ONLY ONE NIGHT is the story of Natalia De la Grip, one of corporate finance's most talented young leaders. Born into wealth and the upper class, Natalia is expected to mate with a partner of equal stature. But Natalia has always chosen her own path. David Hammar is a working class upstart who has managed to become one of Sweden's richest venture capitalists. For years, Hammar has been scheming for revenge on the De la Grip Empire. All he needs is one of the De la Grips on his side. Unexpectedly, sparks fly at their first encounter. A relationship is unthinkable. It was only one night—wasn't it?

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## **ABOUT SIMONA AHRNSTEDT**

Simona Ahrnstedt, born in Prague in 1967, is a licensed psychologist, a cognitive behavioral therapist and most importantly a romance author. In the last couple of years she has pioneered the new wave of Swedish romance that is sweeping the country and it's clear from her work that she is passionate about the genre - books by women, for women, and about women.

Having studied film and languages as well as law, Simona found that writing came easily to her. But after publishing three historical novels, she decided it was time to embark on a new adventure. Following in the footsteps of authors like Nora Roberts, Sylvia Day, and Sidney Sheldon, she debuted her first contemporary romance novel in 2014. The author's stylish craftsmanship creates nail-biting tension between characters and a plot that will have readers at the edge of their seats. So forget all the prejudice and clichés – this is intelligent entertainment with love, passion, suspense and humor.

Simona who is an avid feminist, lives outside of Stockholm with her two teenagers. You can follow her blog at simonaahrnstedt.se to get a unique insight into the world of this author.

## 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 2007 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 <u>kensingtonbooks.com</u>.