

Kimani Press Arabesque Romance

Imprint: Arabesque Romance

Genre: Single-title romance

Manuscript word length: Approximately 75,000–85,000 words

Manuscript pages: 300–350

Executive Editor: Glenda Howard

Editor: Evette Porter

Editorial Assistant: Donte Gibson

Arabesque single-title romances offer contemporary, sophisticated and entertaining love stories that feature realistic African-American characters who resolve conflicts in their relationship, typically involving issues of trust, compatibility or their outlook on life, with satisfying endings.

The characters in Arabesque may reflect several points of view and the stories can cover a wide variety of subgenres including romantic comedy, romantic suspense or romantic thrillers. However, contemporary romance is what Arabesque publishes—*not* women's fiction.

In Arabesque, the story line should be well developed and reflect the ups and downs of relationships, but without the kinds of issues that would diminish the qualities and appeal of the main characters. Although Arabesque publishes several romances that are connected by family or theme, the romances still need to function as stand-alone titles. In other words, the reader shouldn't have to buy the other books in the series to understand and enjoy an Arabesque title.

Arabesque single-title romances should adhere to the following guidelines:

- The hero and heroine should be single—recently divorced (not just separated), widowed or coming out of a relationship. They should not be sexually or emotionally involved with anyone else at the beginning of the novel.
- Ideally, the heroine should not be pregnant before marriage. Some story lines do allow for premarital conception, as long as the couple eventually marries.
- The hero and heroine should exhibit good character and not be dishonest, unethical or otherwise morally corrupt.
- Unless the story line has been approved by the editor, the hero and heroine should not be married to each other at the beginning of the novel. We also strongly discourage having the characters live together as a couple.
- In general, the hero and heroine should be role models—upwardly mobile and educated individuals that our readers can admire.
- Explicit and excessive profanity in the text is not permitted. Also, please limit the use of mild profanity in dialogue as well.
- In general, condoms should be used in intimate scenes where the hero and heroine are not married.

- Drug use or alcohol abuse by the hero and heroine are not permitted. Use by secondary characters should be limited as well. Descriptions of violence should be kept to a minimum.

If you would like to submit to Arabesque, send a detailed synopsis and three sample chapters (published authors) or a detailed synopsis and a complete manuscript (unpublished authors) to:

Arabesque
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