

## **Interview with Editorial Director Kate Duffy**

by Dianna Love Snell, 2007

### **Bio:**

Kate Duffy has worked in publishing for a very, very long time. She has worked at Dell, Pocket Books and Paddington Press (London) as a senior editor. She was the first editor-in-chief of Silhouette Books, as well as editor-in-chief of Tudor Publishing and Meteor Publishing. She is currently an editorial director at Kensington Publishing Corporation in New York. In 1991, she became the first individual to receive the Romance Writers of America Industry Award. And in November, 2000, she was honored at the Romantic Times' convention for her contributions to the romance book publishing industry.

### **What is your publisher name and location:**

Kate Duffy  
Editorial Director  
Kensington Publishing  
850 Third Avenue  
New York, New York 10022

### **How long have you been an editor and what was your path to being an editor?**

Since 1974. When I moved to NY after college, my mother sent me to meet a friend of hers so that when I was murdered, she and my dad wouldn't have to come down to New York and identify the body. Her friend would just ship me back to Massachusetts. Her friend was the editor in chief of a paperback publishing house and he gave me a temp job. There is also a safari and a plane hijacking involved in this story but it takes too long to tell.

### **How many authors do you represent and would you care to list a few? What is the majority sub-genre you represent?**

I work with about 40 authors, and they write primarily romance, mystery and thrillers.

### **What sub-genres are you acquiring and are there any specifics about those genres you'd like the writers to know.**

I will look at anything except science fiction if it is well-written. I don't buy by genre if you see what I mean.

**What do you expect of your authors?**

The benefit of the doubt.

**How do you prefer submissions based on a conference appointment request?**

Most packages come to me marked REQUESTED MATERIAL whether they have been or not. Conference requests join the queue and are read in their turn.

**What is your pet peeve to do with submissions and/or working with writers?**

Most of my interactions are fine. The exceptions are notable but nothing to concern yourselves about.

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