(This press release may be reprinted in part or entirety by any print or broadcast media outlet, or used by any means of social media sharing)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Riveting Story Follows American Diplomat As She Navigates War-Torn Middle East**

**Hillsboro, OR, November 15, 2018** — Judith Sanders watched in horror as her beloved husband was gunned down by terrorists who had invaded their villa in Al Khobar on the shores of the Persian Gulf. It was a moment that would forever define her life and shape all of her decisions. After returning to the United States, she chose to devote her life to foreign diplomacy, and in a twist of fate, found herself returning to the brutal, war-torn Middle East that had robbed her of her husband.

Spanning continents and oceans, Bête Brune (Brown Beast): The Saga of Judith Sanders by Kim Hester tells the story of an American female diplomat who lives in a Middle Eastern country surrounded by a populace that loathes Americans and women. Her work as a diplomat challenges her to stand up to long-held hostilities and prejudices while maintaining strength of character, femininity and her deep, abiding love for her husband. As she confronts one ugly obstacle after another, Judith learns to not only endure the unendurable but to also thrive under its weight.

Author Kim Hester lived in Saudi Arabia for 18 years during a turbulent period that included terrorist attacks on his neighborhood. He explored Middle Eastern deserts and South Pacific jungles and the cultures they contain. From his experience, he crafts fiction that is riveting and profound, leaving the reader with a greater understanding of the world and the people in it.

Hester is a former Marine who once served as editor with the California Department of Education and as a teaching fellow at Stanford University. He holds a certificate in fiction writing from Gotham Writers Workshop and a certificate in novel writing from Stanford University. He has taught at universities in the United States, Fiji and Saudi Arabia, and holds a BA and an MA in English, in addition to an MA in education. He is a member of American Mensa and lives in the Pacific Northwest with his wife Manjula.

For more information, please visit [www.kimhesterauthor.com](http://www.kimhesterauthor.com/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank).

Bête Brune (Brown Beast): The Saga of Judith Sanders
Release date: September 11, 2018
Publisher: BookBaby
ISBN: 978-1-54393-933-0 (print)
ISBN: 978-1-54393-934-7 (ebook)
Available from Amazon.com and BookBaby

###

TIP SHEET:

Excerpt from Amazon review for Bête Brune (Brown Beast):

"This is a riveting story of a woman's journey to find true love after her beloved husband is cruelly taken away by barbaric hands. Does she ever find that true love to replace her husband's? All the twists and turns of the plot lead up to this final and surprising denouement. … The author shows a deep understanding of life in Saudi, and the many difficulties a Westerner faces when living in that region. … I'd recommend this book to all those interested in plot-driven fiction, as there are many twists and turns; it also throws light on what life is like in Saudi, especially from a Western perspective. … I look forward to more books from Kim Hester.”

Possible discussion topics for Kim Hester:

1. Life in Saudi Arabia
2. Surviving a terrorist attack
3. The Fiji Islands