*Romance Writers of America ®*

*Orange County Chapter*

**2014 Orange Rose Contest Score Sheet**

Code # \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Judge # \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Submission Category \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Manuscript Title \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SCORING | 1 = Needs A Great Deal of Work | 2 = Below Average | 3 = Average |
|  | 4 = Good | 5 = Outstanding |  | **TOTAL SCORE** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |

CHARACTERIZATION

\_\_\_\_Are the main characters multi-dimensional, showing a range of emotions, having

 a personal history?

\_\_\_\_Is the conflict between the main characters believable and not easily resolved?

\_\_\_\_Are their motivations believable?

\_\_\_\_Are their actions and reactions consistent?

\_\_\_\_TOTAL – Comments: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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CHARACTERS’ RELATIONSHIPS

\_\_\_\_Are relationships among the characters well drawn?

\_\_\_\_Are the characters interesting or unique; do they draw the reader into the story?

\_\_\_\_Do other characters support and/or provide conflict for the primary character?

\_\_\_\_TOTAL – Comments: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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BACKGROUND

\_\_\_\_ Are the scenes set, creating an effective atmosphere?

\_\_\_\_ Is information, and/or including any secondary characters, integrated

 to support rather than intrude?

\_\_\_\_ Are the details (occupations, etc.) authentic?

\_\_\_\_TOTAL – Comments: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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DIALOGUE AND NARRATIVE

\_\_\_\_ Does the dialogue read naturally?

\_\_\_\_ Does the dialogue move the story/relationships forward?

\_\_\_\_ Do the characters have their own consistent voices?

\_\_\_\_ Is there a good balance between dialogue and narrative?

\_\_\_\_ TOTAL – Comments: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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STORY DEVELOPMENT

\_\_\_\_ Does the beginning grab you or otherwise lure you in?

\_\_\_\_ Is the story well-paced so that it holds your interest?

\_\_\_\_ Does each scene develop the story?

\_\_\_\_ Are there elements in this story that make it fresh, different, unique?

\_\_\_\_ Is the plot plausible?

 TOTAL – Comments: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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WRITING TECHNIQUES

\_\_\_\_ Is the style fresh, free of clichés, and readable?

\_\_\_\_ Are the transitions of time and place clear?

\_\_\_\_ Are appropriate emotions evoked (tears, sympathy, humor)?

 TOTAL – Comments: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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MECHANICS

\_\_\_\_ Is the spelling accurate?

\_\_\_\_ Is the manuscript free of grammatical errors?

\_\_\_\_ Is the punctuation done properly?

\_\_\_\_ TOTAL – List Examples:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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SYNOPSIS

\_\_\_\_ Is the storyline clear?

\_\_\_\_ Does it fulfill the category’s requirements?

\_\_\_\_ Is the storyline free of unimportant details?

\_\_\_\_ Is the conflict strong enough to sustain the story?

\_\_\_\_ Is the conflict satisfactorily resolved?

\_\_\_\_TOTAL – Comments: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Please record the entrant’s TOTAL SCORE on front page in the space provided. 150 Maximum points possible.

Further Comments – Overall Impression:

Judge’s Signature (optional) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_