

Romance Writers of America – Orange County Chapter

Orange Rose Contest Score Sheet – Mainstream With Romantic Elements

Note To Users: If you wish to save your completed score sheet, save the file with a different name (File - Save As).

Code # _____	Judge # _____	Submission Category _____
Manuscript Title _____		

SCORING	5=Outstanding	3=Average	1=Needs a great deal of work	TOTAL SCORE _____
	4=Good	2=Below Average		

CHARACTERIZATION – PRIMARY CHARACTER

_____ Is he/she multi-dimensional, showing a range of emotions, having a personal history?

_____ Is his/her motivation believable?

_____ Are his/her actions and reactions consistent?

_____ **TOTAL**

CHARACTERIZATION – SECOND CHARACTER

_____ Is he/she multi-dimensional, showing a range of emotions, having a personal history?

_____ Is his/her motivation believable?

_____ Are his/her actions and reactions consistent?

_____ **TOTAL**

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**

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**

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

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 unique?
- _____ Is the plot plausible?
- _____ TOTAL

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

MECHANICS

- _____ Is the manuscript neat and professionally prepared?
- _____ Is the spelling accurate?
- _____ Is the manuscript free of grammatical errors?
- _____ Is the punctuation done properly?
- _____ TOTAL

SYNOPSIS

- _____ Is the story line clear?
- _____ Does it fulfill the category's requirements?
- _____ Is the story line free of unimportant details?
- _____ Is the conflict strong enough to sustain the story?
- _____ Is the conflict satisfactorily resolved?
- _____ TOTAL

_____ TOTAL SCORE (165 points possible)

Additional Comments, Overall Impression:

Judge's Signature (optional) _____