



JUDGES SCORE SHEET

Editor Carol Malone is the judge for this contest and will add comments within the manuscript of entries as well as on the score sheets should time permit.

(If you are not the winner of the contest, you will be given a loose edit of your work.)

The manuscript will be returned with the manuscript along with this score sheet after the judging and edits have been completed.

There are a possible 100 points in this section.

Each question should be scored on a 1-5 scale. Half points ARE permitted.

- 5 Ready to submit to an agent or editor**
- 4 Minor revisions needed**
- 3 Shows promise, but more revisions needed**
- 2 Extensive revisions necessary**
- 1 Writer should review this concept before revising**

Opening/hook – (10 pts possible)		
• Did the opening draw you in/grab your attention?	1-5 points	
• Did the end of the first chapter make you want to continue reading?	1-5 points	
Opening/hook Subtotal		

Opening/hook Comments:

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Setting – (5 pts possible)		
• Is the location/setting clearly established within the first chapter?	1-5 point	
		Setting Subtotal

Setting Comments:

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Main Characters – (15 pts possible)		
• Are the main characters unique and multi-dimensional?	1-5 points	
• Are they likeable and sympathetic? If not, do you foresee that they can be redeemed?	1-5 points	
• Are their actions and reactions consistent throughout the entry?	1-5 points	
		Main Characters Subtotal

Main Characters Comments:

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Secondary Characters – (5 pts possible)		
• Do the supporting characters seem important to the story and have distinct personalities?	1-5 points	
Secondary Characters Subtotal		

Secondary Characters Comments:

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Dialogue – (15 pts possible)		
• Does the dialogue seem natural?	1-5 points	
• Does the dialogue move the story forward?	1-5 points	
• Is there a good balance between narrative, dialogue, and introspection?	1-5 points	
Dialogue Subtotal		

Dialogue Comments:

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Conflict/Plot – (10 pts possible)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has a major conflict been introduced that is big enough to last the length of a novel—one that clearly drives the main characters and/or puts something important at stake? 	1-5 points	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is backstory integrated into the story (vs. an information dump)? 	1-5 points	
Conflict/Plot Subtotal		

Conflict/Plot Comments:

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Style/Voice – (20 pts possible)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Did the scenes flow smoothly and at a nice pace? 	1-5 points	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is there a balance between telling and showing? 	1-5 points	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the author exhibit good use of all five senses? 	1-5 points	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Were the descriptions, imagery, world-building, language, and vocabulary powerful, unique, and genre appropriate? 	1-5 points	
Style/Voice Subtotal		

Style/Voice Comments:

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Mechanics – (10 pts possible)		
• Is the entry free of major grammar, spelling, and punctuation errors?	1-5 points	
• Are switches in point of view (POV) easy to follow?	1-5 points	
Mechanics Subtotal		

Mechanics Comments:

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General Feelings – (10 pts possible)		
• Would you like to read more of this story?	1-5 points	
• Does this entry make you want to look at more books by this author?	1-5 points	
General Feelings Subtotal		

General Feelings Comments:

TOTAL SCORE:



HERO AWARD SCORE SHEET

Entry TITLE:

OPT IN FOR HERO AWARD?:

YES NAME OF HERO: _____

NO (You will not be judged less if you don't mention your hero in the first 15 pages)

This score will be completely independent of all other scores. This award is separate from the regular contest scoring and in no way reflects adversely or advantageously to the general scoring system. Even a non-winner could have a better hero score than the actual contest winner.

For this award, judges will give 1 - 10 points per question (100 points possible.)

**The use of decimals is preferred to offset the probability of a tie. Ex. 9.7
Highest score per question is 10.**

Is the hero multi-dimensional?	(1-10 points)	SCORE:	
Is the hero interesting?	(1-10 points)	SCORE:	
Did you like the hero?	(1-10 points)	SCORE:	
Were you sympathetic toward the hero?	(1-10 points)	SCORE:	
Was the hero selfless and/or caring?	(1-10 points)	SCORE:	
Was the hero confident and/or brave?	(1-10 points)	SCORE:	
Was the hero sexy and/or beddable? (or Kissable/Swoon-worthy for YA)	(1-10 points)	SCORE:	
Was the hero dedicated and/or responsible?	(1-10 points)	SCORE:	
Was the hero capable and/or strong?	(1-10 points)	SCORE:	
Was the hero daring and/or courageous?	(1-10 points)	SCORE:	
Total Score:			

COMMENTS: