



The Emily Contest Score Sheet ~ League of Romance Writers

Judges: Scores can be between 2 to 5, with 5 being the highest and 2 the lowest. A fraction in quarterly increments (.25; .50; .75) may be used to calculate a section score to give a fractional total score. No section may be greater than the Possible Subtotal shown. Examples of a Total Score: **65.25; 80.75; 100**. Please use a calculator to verify your scores. **Reminder:** No judges' names may appear anywhere on this judged entry.

MANUSCRIPT TITLE	ENTRANT #	JUDGE #

Scoring:

- | | |
|---|----------|
| • Excellent, ready to submit | 5 |
| • Almost there, needs only a little polish | 4 |
| • Average, shows promise | 3 |
| • Below average, needs work. Author may not be aware of this element | 2 |

Please provide comments, especially if a score is a "2" or "3".

STYLE – 30 Points	SCORE	POSSIBLE
Shows rather than tells.		5
Style is easy-to-read with a rhythm created by varied sentence length and structure and smooth transitions.		5
Descriptions are vivid and give reader a sense of time and place.		5
Information is fed in naturally, as needed—not too much or too little at a time.		5
Narrative, dialogue, action, and introspection are interwoven and balanced, and viewpoint is handled well.		5
Grammar, punctuation, and spelling do not detract from the story.		5
Subtotal	0	30

Judge Comments

PLOT/CONFLICT – 25 Points	SCORE	POSSIBLE
The opening (hook) draws reader immediately into story.		5
Pacing is appropriate. Each scene promotes and advances plot.		5
Basis for romantic relationship begins in an intriguing manner. If hero/heroine do not meet, there are sufficient hints that it will be intriguing.		5
External and internal conflicts are evident and strong enough to sustain a novel length manuscript.		5
Chapter / Scene ending hooks are compelling and entice the reader to turn the page.		5
Subtotal	0	25

Judge Comments

DIALOGUE – 15 Points	SCORE	POSSIBLE
Each character has a distinctive voice.		5
Dialogue is natural and moves the story forward and is not used merely for exposition.		5
Dialogue is appropriate for time, place, and characters.		5
Subtotal	0	15
Judge Comments		
CHARACTERIZATION – 20 Points	SCORE	POSSIBLE
All of the characters were sympathetic and well written. compelling, three-dimensional person, strong enough to justify her/his starring role.		5
The Hero and Heroine meet at the appropriate point for the genre you are judging.		5
Goals and motivations for primary characters are apparent and consistent.		5
Characters' actions and thoughts are appropriate, consistent, and believable (including secondary characters).		5
Subtotal	0	20
Judge Comments		
FITS CATEGORY ENTERED – 5 Points	SCORE	POSSIBLE
The Entry fits the Category in which it was entered, with the plot, characters, and setting appropriate to the category. Examples:		
• <u>Contemporary-Long</u> – Plot and characters appear complex and intriguing enough to propel a full-length novel.		
• <u>Contemporary-Short</u> – Romantic conflict between heroine and hero quickly emerges as a dominant plot element.		
• <u>Fantasy, Futuristic & Paranormal</u> – World building, magic/paranormal elements, and characters suited to a fantasy/futuristic/paranormal story		5
• <u>Historical</u> – Setting, action, and characters' worldview are appropriate for the time period.		
• <u>Romantic Suspense</u> – The story starts with suspenseful or mysterious elements and at least hints at romantic potential.		
• <u>Young Adult</u> – Voice and subject are age appropriate, with a protagonist strong enough to handle her/his own issues.		
Subtotal	0	5
Judge Comments		
GENERAL IMPRESSION – 5 Points	SCORE	POSSIBLE
Is your interest piqued? Did these pages reel you in? Are you wondering what will happen next?		5
Subtotal	0	5
TOTAL		
	0	100

Additional Judge Comments		
NOTICE: ALL ENTRANTS AND FIRST ROUND JUDGES ARE TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS TO EACH OTHER; THEREFORE, NO NAMES SHALL APPEAR ON THIS SCORE SHEET OR ON THE ENTRANT'S MANUSCRIPT.		
FIRST ROUND JUDGE CREDENTIALS	YES	NO
Traditionally Published in Romance		
Self-Published in Romance		
Published in a Genre other than Romance		
RWA-PRO (former or current member)		
Experienced Judge		