



## *The Emily Contest Score Sheet ~ League of Romance Writers*

**Judges:** Scores can be between 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest and 1 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:**

- |  |          |
|--|----------|
| • <b>Excellent, ready to submit</b>                            | <b>5</b> |
| • <b>Almost there, needs only a little polish</b>              | <b>4</b> |
| • <b>Average, shows promise</b>                                | <b>3</b> |
| • <b>Below average, needs work.</b>                            | <b>2</b> |
| • <b>Reserved for elements that do not appear in the entry</b> | <b>1</b> |

**NOTE: Scores given a 1, 2 or 3, must be explained why the score was giving in the comments or the body of the entry. Be very clear.**

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 the 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
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>30</b>

**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 Romantic Protagonists do not meet, there are sufficient hints that there will be a romance.		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
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25</b>

**Judge Comments**

<b>DIALOGUE – 15 Points</b>	<b>SCORE</b>	<b>POSSIBLE</b>
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
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Judge Comments</b>		
<b>CHARACTERIZATION – 20 Points</b>	<b>SCORE</b>	<b>POSSIBLE</b>
All the characters are sympathetic and well written. compelling, three-dimensional, strong enough to justify their starring role.		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
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Judge Comments</b>		
<b>FITS CATEGORY ENTERED – 5 Points</b>	<b>SCORE</b>	<b>POSSIBLE</b>
The Entry fits the Category in which it was entered, with the plot, characters, and setting appropriate to the category. Examples:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Contemporary</u> – Plot and characters appear complex and intriguing enough to propel a full-length novel.</li> <li>• <u>Fantasy, Futuristic &amp; Paranormal</u> – World building, magic/paranormal elements, and characters suited to a fantasy/futuristic/paranormal story</li> <li>• <u>Historical</u> – Setting, action, and characters' worldview are appropriate for the time period.</li> <li>• <u>Novel With RE</u> – Set in any time period, in any sub-genre, with the primary focus on story, characterization, and with hints of a romantic potential.</li> <li>• <u>Romantic Suspense</u> – The story starts with suspenseful or mysterious elements and at least hints of a romantic potential.</li> <li>• <u>Young Adult</u> – Voice and subject are age appropriate, with a protagonist strong enough to handle her/his own issues.</li> </ul>		5
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Judge Comments</b>		

<b>GENERAL IMPRESSION – 5 Points</b>	<b>SCORE</b>	<b>POSSIBLE</b>
Is your interest piqued? Did these pages reel you in? Are you wondering what will happen next?		5
Is the storyline original and fresh, or does it bring an interesting twist to a familiar trope?		5
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		
	<b>0</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Additional Judge Comments</b>		
<b>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.</b>		
<b>FIRST ROUND JUDGE CREDENTIALS</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
Traditionally Published in Romance		
Self-Published in Romance		
Published in a Genre other than Romance		
Experienced Judge		