

HEART OF THE ROCKIES  
SINGLE TITLE ROMANCE SCORE SHEET

CODE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF SUBMISSION \_\_\_\_\_

TARGETED PUBLISHER \_\_\_\_\_ APPROX. WORD COUNT \_\_\_\_\_

Scoring: 1=poor (needs major work), 2=fair (shows promise, but needs improvement), 3=average (adequate, but not special), 4=good (close to publishable but needs minor work), and 5=excellent (publishable). **Must give reason/make comment if you score an item 3 or lower.**

Judge: Please circle the items that need improvement in each of the following categories. These items are provided as a reminder of what to consider when judging and are not intended that the manuscript be judged solely by these traits.

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|----------------------------|--|
| _____ CHAPTER 1            | -Starts in correct place, interesting hook, good introduction of character(s) and plot   |
| _____ HEROINE              | -Skillfully developed, multidimensional, believable, interesting, good physical description, sympathetic, likeable. If not yet introduced, do you feel the exclusion detracted from the beginning of the story?                              |
| _____ HERO                 | -Skillfully developed, multidimensional, believable, interesting, good physical description, sympathetic, likeable. If not yet introduced, do you feel the exclusion detracted from the beginning of the story?                              |
| _____ RELATIONSHIP         | -Believable & exciting from the initial attraction, emotional as well as physical, logically develops to a satisfying conclusion. If hero and heroine have not yet met, do you feel the exclusion detracted from the beginning of the story? |
| _____ SECONDARY CHARACTERS | -Necessary, non-intrusive. If not yet introduced, do you feel the exclusion detracted from the beginning of the story?   |
| _____ SETTING              | -Reader can see and feel it; sets the mood   |
| _____ DIALOGUE             | -Natural, believable, well balanced with narrative, progresses the story, characters' voices are consistent and individual to their personalities  |
| _____ NARRATIVE            | -Well balanced with dialogue, interesting, necessary, progresses the story, does not overwhelm the reader with information   |
| _____ PACING               | -Moves smoothly, flows through the highs and lows of conflicts   |
| _____ TRANSITIONS          | -Smooth, appropriate, necessary, non-intrusive   |
| _____ CONFLICT             | -Sustains a story of projected manuscript length, good use of internal and external conflict. Conflict is large enough to support single title designation   |
| _____ VIEWPOINT            | -Proper use of point of view, changes are well-done and relevant, POV didn't bounce between characters excessively or inappropriately  |

- MOTIVATION -Characters were well-motivated, actions are consistent with individual circumstances  
 DEVELOPMENT -Actions and emotions “shown, not told,” senses were well used  
 PLOT LINE -Unique, skillfully developed, plausible, avoided cliché, enough conflict, interesting, satisfactory, breadth and/or subject matter warrants single title designation  
 SYNOPSIS -Complete, well thought out, informative, avoided cliché, all loose ends and subplots tied up, all conflicts satisfactorily resolved or explained, free of unimportant details  
 RESEARCH -Accurate, non-intrusive, interesting, important  
 STYLE -Appealing, story presentation was smooth and interesting  
 MARKET -Seems appropriate for targeted publisher, sensual tension is correct, plot is appropriate  
 MECHANICS -Properly prepared, good spelling, grammar, punctuation  
 SUBTOTAL POINTS (highest possible 100 points)  
 \* OVERALL APPEAL -Would you want to finish this book if it were published, and would you recommend it to a friend? (Score 0 through 5)  
 TOTAL SCORE (highest possible 105 points)

Comments:

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Judge's Writing Experience (check 1 or more):

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Unpublished Author     | <input type="checkbox"/> Published Romance Author        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contest Finalist _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Published Fiction, Novel Length |
| <input type="checkbox"/> RWA PRO                | <input type="checkbox"/> Published, Articles             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Golden Heart Finalist  | <input type="checkbox"/> Published, Other _____          |

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