**Orange County Romance Writers**

**2022 Orange Rose Contest Score Sheet**

| **Code #** | **Judge #** | **Category:** |
| --- | --- | --- |

| **Manuscript Title:** |
| --- |

| SCORING | 1 = Needs a great deal of work | 2 = Below Average | 3 = Average | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 = Good | 5 = Outstanding | **TOTAL SCORE** **OUT OF 140** |  |
| **COMMENTS ARE EXPECTED.** Especially if you are consistently giving less than 5s. These are unpublished writers and **constructive feedback** is greatly appreciated. They do not need to be super detailed unless you are willing to do so, but overall comments are appreciated. If you are commenting on the manuscript you can just note that; however, this is not expected. THANK YOU! | | | | |

**CHARACTERIZATION** (Total Possible 35 Points)

\_\_\_\_ Are the main characters multi-dimensional, interesting or unique?

\_\_\_\_ Is the conflict between the main characters believable and not easily resolved?

\_\_\_\_ Are their motivations and flaws believable?

\_\_\_\_ Are their actions and reactions consistent?

\_\_\_\_ Are relationships among the characters clearly drawn?

\_\_\_\_ Do the characters draw the reader into the story?

\_\_\_\_ Do other characters support and/or provide conflict for the primary character?

\_\_\_\_ TOTAL

Comments on above category:

|  |
| --- |

**SETTING** (Total Possible 15 Points)

\_\_\_ Does the setting enhance the story?

\_\_\_ Does the writer create an effective atmosphere?

\_\_\_Does it appeal to all 5 senses?

\_\_\_ TOTAL

Comments on above category:

|  |
| --- |

**DIALOGUE AND NARRATIVE** (Total Possible 20 Points)

\_\_\_ 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

Comments on above category:

|  |
| --- |

**STORY DEVELOPMENT** (Total Possible 25 Points)

\_\_\_ Does the book start in the right place?

\_\_\_ Does the beginning grab you and lure you in?

\_\_\_ Is the story well-paced so that it holds your interest?

\_\_\_ Does each scene develop the story?

\_\_\_ Do the elements in this story make it fresh, different, unique?

\_\_\_ TOTAL

Comments on above category:

|  |
| --- |

**WRITING TECHNIQUES** (Total Possible 20 Points)

\_\_\_ Is the voice unique and reasonably free of clichés?

\_\_\_ Are the transitions of time and place clear?

\_\_\_ Is there an appropriate balance of showing and telling?

\_\_\_ Is the manuscript reasonably free of grammar errors, typos and misspellings?

\_\_\_ TOTAL

Comments on above category:

|  |
| --- |

**SYNOPSIS** (Total Possible 25 Points)

\_\_\_ Is the story line clear with a defined beginning, mid-point, and resolution?

\_\_\_ Is the story line free of unimportant details?

\_\_\_ Does it fulfill the genre’s requirements?

\_\_\_ Are the goal, motivation and conflict strong enough to sustain the story?

\_\_\_ Are the internal and external conflicts satisfactorily resolved (plot, character arc)?

\_\_\_ TOTAL

Comments on above category:

|  |
| --- |

Please record the TOTAL SCORE on the front page in the space provided. 140 maximum points possible.

**Further Comments – Overall Impression:**

Comments on above category:

|  |
| --- |

Judge’s Name (optional):