

**2019 Rising Star Score Sheet**

**Scoring: 1-5   1 = lowest, 5 = highest.  You are allowed to use ½ point increments (4.5, 3.5 etc.) to help avoid ties. Please do not use any other increments.**

**TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_    JUDGE CODE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**OPENING:**

Does the book begin in the right place? Is the first sentence strong? Does it have an interesting hook? Is there a good introduction of the characters/plot? If you read page one in a bookstore, would you want to read on?  **Score: \_\_\_\_\_\_**

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| --- |
| Comments: |

**CHARACTERS & MOTIVATION:**

Are they skillfully developed and multidimensional? Believable and interesting? Is there a good physical description? Do they have distinct personalities with recognizable character traits? Do they ‘come alive’ on the page? **Score: \_\_\_\_\_\_**

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| Comments: |

**SETTING**

Is there a good sense of time and place? Does it set the mood?  Enhance the story; interwoven into the plot? **Score: \_\_\_\_\_\_**

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| Comments: |

**DIALOGUE & NARRATIVE:**

Does it flow naturally? Is it believable? Well balanced with narrative? Are the characters’ voices consistent and individual to their personalities? Does it overwhelm reader with Information? 

**Score: \_\_\_\_\_\_**

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| Comments: |

**PACING & TRANSITIONS**

Does the story move at a smooth rate? Does it flow through the highs and the lows of the conflicts smoothly and appropriately? **Score: \_\_\_\_\_\_**

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| Comments: |

**VIEWPOINT:**

Is POV used properly? Are changes in viewpoint well done, logical and important?  Did POV bounce from character to character or used excessively or inappropriately? **Score: \_\_\_\_\_\_**

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| Comments: |

**DEVELOPMENT, PLOT & CONFLICT:**

Do the relationships progress satisfactorily?Is the plot unique and plausible? Skillfully developed? Does it contain interesting conflict and avoid cliché?Is the conflict clear and strong enough to sustain a story? Is there internal and external conflict? Not easily resolved (simple misunderstanding)?**Score: \_\_\_\_\_\_**

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| Comments: |

**MECHANICS:**

Is the manuscript professionally presented? Free of typos, spelling, grammar and punctuation errors? **Score: \_\_\_\_\_**

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| Comments: |

**STYLE & GENERAL:**

Is the writing style appealing? Is there varied sentence structure and length? Does each scene move the plot along? Is the writing ‘tight’?Was the story appropriate for the Women’s Fiction market? Did these pages reel you in? Are you wondering what will happen next? Would you buy this book if it were available?

**Score: \_\_\_\_\_\_**

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| Comments: |

**TOTAL SCORE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**If you wish to remain anonymous, you may. If you enter your name below, you are granting us permission to inform the entrant that you judged their entry.**

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