

# Mid-Michigan RWA

2009

*“Happily Ever After”*

## Last Chapter Contest Score Sheet

*It takes more than a great beginning...*

**Total Possible Score -- 100 Points**

**Entry #** \_\_\_\_\_ **Judge #** \_\_\_\_\_ **Total Score** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Title** \_\_\_\_\_

**To Judge Questions 1 -8:** Score each of the areas from 1- 10, using the following range (half points are allowed, e.g. 8.5, but no less than a 1 shall be given):

- 10 = Excellent; no revisions needed; ready to submit.
- 8-9 = Above Average; minor revisions needed
- 6-7 = Average; good possibility of publication with revisions
- 4-5 = Below Average; needs substantial revisions before submission
- 1-3 = Does not work as is; needs rethinking and major revision to submit

Note: Your goal as a contest judge is to encourage entrants, not to be judgmental to the point you can't find some redeeming quality in the work. If scoring less than a 4, include documentation from a credible writing journal that supports your opinion (e.g. *Writer's Digest*, November, 2006, written by author X, states...).

**\*\* PLEASE MAKE COMMENTS ON BOTH THE SCORE SHEET AND THE MANUSCRIPT PAGES \*\***

**Mid-Michigan RWA "Happily Ever After" Score Sheet, Page 2 of 4**

\_\_\_\_ 1. CHARACTERIZATION: Are the primary characters well rounded, individual and likable? Are secondary characters three-dimensional, and do they have a distinct purpose in the story? Was enough emotion supplied in the last chapter that you were happy to see the primary characters (generally hero and heroine) end up together?

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ 2. DIALOGUE: Does the dialogue flow like a natural conversation? Does each character have a unique voice that helps to shape the character's personality?

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ 3. NARRATIVE: Is it balanced well with the dialogue? Does it add to the conclusion of the story without weighing down the pacing?

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ 4. GOALS AND MOTIVATION: Using the synopsis to better understand goals and motivation, do you feel these areas are addressed believably in the last chapter and in a way that leaves you with a sense of completion?

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_5. CONFLICT: Using the synopsis to better understand conflict, do you feel the internal and external conflicts are strong enough to carry the length of the manuscript? Is the conflict resolved in a believable and satisfactory way?

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_6. STYLE/VOICE: Is the author's style enjoyable to read and compelling? Is point-of-view easy to follow and logical? Are grammatical errors (if any) minor enough they do not take away from the story?

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_7. PLOT: Do you feel the plot is strong enough to capture the reader's interest? Does it stand out amongst others of its kind? Are clichés and/or contrived scenes avoided?

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_8. SYNOPSIS: Does the synopsis do a good job of detailing the story from beginning to end? Does it cover all GMCs and have a logical conclusion?

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**To Judge Question #9:** Score from 1- 20, using the following range (half points are allowed, e.g. 18.5, but no less than a 1 shall be given):

- 20 = Excellent; no revisions needed; ready to submit.
- 16-19 = Above Average; minor revisions needed.
- 11-15 = Average; good possibility of publication with revisions.
- 7-10 = Below Average; needs substantial revisions before submission.
- 1-6 = Does not work as is; needs rethinking and major revision to submit.

Note: A score of less than 8 should have documentation from credible sources. Your goal is to encourage writers at every stage of their careers.

\_\_\_\_9. (WORTH 20 POINTS)

CONCLUSION – "HAPPILY EVER AFTER": Did the chapter leave you with a smile or an overall sense of happiness? Do you feel all major conflicts were addressed and resolved satisfactorily in the last chapter?

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL SCORE (Maximum 100)** \_\_\_\_\_

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

Judge's Bio (required, please check all that apply)

- |   |                                      |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| ____ Unpublished                        | ____ Published, novel-length fiction |
| ____ Unpublished, PRO                   | ____ Published, short stories        |
| ____ Contest Finalist                   | ____ Published, articles             |
| ____ Golden Heart Finalist              | ____ Published, other                |
| ____ Published, book-length non-fiction |                                      |