

**Valley Forge Romance Writers present THE SHEILA 2010
SCORE SHEET**

Entry Title: _____ Entry Number: _____

Judge Number: _____ Final Score: _____

Category: _____

Target Publisher/Line: _____ Projected Length: _____

Judge Profile:

Published in romance; Published in non-romance; Unpublished; Award-winning; RWA PRO

ATTENTION JUDGE: Manuscripts have been screened for infractions of contest rules. Please read manuscript pages first, then synopsis. Please add comments to clarify your scores wherever possible. You may insert comments on the score sheet, manuscript, or synopsis.

Score each category on a scale of 1 to 5, where:

- 1=poor** (needs major work)
- 2=fair** (shows promise, but needs improvement)
- 3=average** (but not special)
- 4=good** (close to being publishable, but still needs minor work)
- 5=excellent** (publishable)

Score	Category
	CHAPTERS Book starts in the correct place; interesting hook; good introduction of character(s) and plot
	HEROINE Skillfully developed; multidimensional; believable and interesting; good physical description; sympathetic and likable
	HERO Skillfully developed; multidimensional; believable and interesting; good physical description; lovable
	RELATIONSHIP Believable and exciting from the initial attraction; emotional as well as physical; logically development based on h/h goals, motivations, and conflicts--both internal and external
	SECONDARY CHARACTERS Necessary; non-intrusive (covered in synopsis if not introduced in submitted pages)
	SETTING Sense of time and place; sets the mood; enhances the story; interwoven into plot
	DIALOGUE Natural; believable; well-balanced with narrative; progresses the story; characters' voices consistent and individual to their personalities

Score	Category
	NARRATIVE Well balanced with dialogue; interesting; necessary; progresses the story; does not overwhelm reader with information
	PACING Story moves at a smooth rate; flows through the highs and lows of the conflicts
	TRANSITION Smooth; appropriate; necessary; non-intrusive
	CONFLICT Strong enough to sustain a story; motivated and believable; good usage of internal and external conflict; not based on simple misunderstanding
	VIEWPOINT Proper usage of point of view; changes well done, logical, and important; viewpoint didn't bounce from character to character excessively or inappropriately
	MOTIVATIONS Both internal and external motivations believable and consistent with individual characters and circumstances
	DEVELOPMENT Initial hook to draw reader into story; actions and emotions “shown, not told”; senses well utilized; relationship progresses satisfactorily
	PLOT LINE Unique; skillfully developed; plausible; avoided cliché; interesting conflict
	SYNOPSIS Complete, well thought-out, informative, avoided cliché; all loose ends and subplots tied up; all goals, motivations, and conflicts of hero and heroine stated and satisfactorily resolved or explained; free of unimportant details
	RESEARCH Accurate; non-intrusive; interesting; important
	STYLE Appealing style; varied sentence structure and length; presentation of story smooth and interesting; each scene moved plot along
	MARKET Appropriate for targeted line; sensual tension correct; plot appropriate. (Categories have been pre-screened. Most books have overlapping categories.)
	MECHANICS Professionally presented; free of typos, spelling, grammar and punctuation errors
0	TOTAL POINTS (highest possible - 100 points)

OVERALL MANUSCRIPT COMMENTS:

(Please feel free to include additional comments in the body of the manuscript and synopsis.)