

AMERICAN CHRISTIAN FICTION WRITERS SAMPLE GENESIS CONTEST SCORE SHEET

Category:
Manuscript Title:

Entry #: _____
Judge #: _____

Note to judges: These score sheets are returned to the contestants. Please write constructive comments whenever possible on either the manuscript or scoresheet.

Remember that a 3 is AVERAGE and an AVERAGE entry will have a total score around 60. **If you score 2 or 1, please comment to explain.** Score values are: **5=Excellent, ready for publication; 4=Above average, needs minor tune-up; 3=Average, off to a good start; 2=Below average, major problems/revision needed; 1=Poor quality, needs lots of revision.**

TENSION – 10 POINTS (1-5 points each)

	Are character goals and motivations powerful enough to create sufficient tension?
	Is the tension and conflict discernable enough to tell what the story will be about?

STORY – 50 POINTS (1-5 points each)

	Does the entry hold your interest to the end?
	Is the point of view consistent? Are POV changes smooth and logical?
	Do sensory details (sight, sound, touch, smell, taste) enhance the scenes?
	Is there a sense of time and place?
	Do the scenes move the story forward?
	Is there an opening line that immediately hooks the reader into the story?
	Is the writing fresh and original?
	Does the writer utilize showing and telling?
	Is the author's voice distinct?
	Do you get a strong sense of what the story will be about?

CHARACTERIZATION – 15 POINTS (1-5 points each)

	Is the goal and purpose of the main character identifiable? Do you get a sense of what he/she wants?
	Do secondary characters contribute to the story?
	Do characters' emotions seem believable by providing understandable motive?

DIALOGUE – 15 POINTS (1-5 points each)

	Is the dialogue between characters strong, revealing plot and emotion in a way creates tension? Does it help move the story forward.
	Are the characters' voices distinct and appropriate for the setting (time period or scenario?)
	Is the narrative necessary and well-placed with the dialogue?

PROFESSIONAL IMPACT – 10 POINTS (1-5 points each)

	Does the author have a command of the elements of grammar, punctuation, and spelling?
	Does the manuscript reflect Christian worldview?
	Are the story and plot elements compatible with the genre category?

	TOTAL SCORE (out of possible 100 points)
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