



# Sweet Treats Judging Scoresheet 2021

## Chocolate

Welcome to Sweet Treats Judging! Many thanks for your time and effort in reading and judging for us – without you, this contest couldn't happen.

Now, enter your assigned Judge Number and the details of the story you wish to score below then carry on to the scoring questions, thank you.

**Judge Number \***

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*This is on your judging email along with the stories assigned to you.*

**Entry Number: \***

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*This is the Entry number that was on your judging email*

**ST Story Title \***

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*This is the Title of the Sweet Treats Short Story entry that was in your judging email.*

**Sub-Genre (Choose one) \***

- Contemporary(CT)
- Fantasy(FA)
- Historical(HT)
- Inspirational(IS)
- LGBTQI(LG)
- New Adult(NA)
- Paranormal(PN)
- Regency(RG)
- Romantic comedy/Chick lit(RC)
- Romantic Suspense(RS)
- Science fiction/Futuristic(SF)
- Young Adult(YA)

*Select the Sub-Genre as per the Title page.*

## Part A – Conditions of Entry

The Sweet Treat for the Sweet Street Short Story Competition this year is CHOCOLATE—there are multiple definitions for this word. Please answer this question after considering possible definitions.

### A1. Is the Sweet Treat an integral part of the story? \*

Yes – it is integral to the story. (score=5)

No. (score=0)

Regarding the heat level of this story—please answer the question after considering this definition:

*Sizzle and sensual usually with focus on feelings, emotions and tension/attraction rather than body parts. References to intimacy are okay, but nothing graphic. Descriptions of physical intimacy will happen "behind closed doors". There's still plenty of sexy, still plenty of heart.*

### A2. Does the story comply with the heat level? \*

Yes, it complies.

No, it doesn't.

## Part B – Spelling, Grammar & Punctuation

Remember you are marking readiness for submission, not perfection – a few errors can still be ready for submission. Do not mark based on personal preferences. Allow for tone and voice if applicable, especially in dialogue. Either US or Australian/UK spelling is acceptable so long as it is consistent.

**Scoring Scheme—mark each of the following questions out of a total of 10:**

- 10 = Ready for submission to a publisher/agent;
- 8 = Only minor adjustments/tweaks needed;
- 5 = Needs moderate revision (many different issues);
- 3 = Needs significant revision (a lot of different issues);
- 1 = Major problem.

Lowest mark permitted is 1. Zero is not valid. Highest mark permitted is 10. For each question: please click the circle for the appropriate score.

**PLEASE ADD COMMENTS WHEREVER POSSIBLE – particularly where points are deducted so the entrant understands why.**

**B1. Is the entry free of spelling errors? \***

	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Score										

Spelling – If you deducted marks please comment why or mark on the actual Entry/Story document.

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**B2. Are the basics of grammar followed? \***

	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Score										

Grammar – If you deducted marks please comment why or mark on the actual Entry/Story document.

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**B3. Are the basics of punctuation followed? \***

	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Score										

Punctuation – If you deducted marks please comment why or mark on the actual Entry/Story document.

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**B. Sub-total for Spelling, Grammar & Punctuation (Maximum: 30 marks)**

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

## Part C – The Short Story

### Scoring Scheme—mark each of the following questions out of 10:

- 10 = Ready for submission to a publisher/agent;
- 8 = Only minor adjustments/tweaks needed;
- 5 = Needs moderate revision (many different issues);
- 3 = Needs significant revision (a lot of different issues);
- 1 = Major problem.

Lowest mark permitted is 1. Zero is not valid. Highest mark permitted is 10.

For each question: please click the circle for the appropriate score.

**PLEASE ADD COMMENTS WHEREVER POSSIBLE – particularly where points are deducted so the entrant understands why.**

#### C1. Did the opening lines/paragraph hook your interest? \*

	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Score										

Please comment here to explain your mark here. If you deducted marks, please explain why or mark on the actual Entry/Story document.

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#### C2. Does the entry have a romantic theme? Is the relationship between the main characters romantic? \*

	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Score										

Please comment here to explain your mark here. If you deducted marks, please explain why or mark on the actual Entry/Story document.

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#### C3. Is the story well-paced? \*

	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Score										

Please comment here to explain your mark here. If you deducted marks, please explain why or mark on the actual Entry/Story document.

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**C4. Are the characters believable (well developed)? \***

	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Score										

Please comment here to explain your mark here. If you deducted marks, please explain why or mark on the actual Entry/Story document.

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**C5. Is the dialogue convincing and true to the setting/era? Does it carry the story along? \***

	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Score										

Please comment here to explain your mark here. If you deducted marks, please explain why or mark on the actual Entry/Story document.

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**C6. Is the approach fresh and interesting? \***

	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Score										

Please comment here to explain your mark here. If you deducted marks, please explain why or mark on the actual Entry/Story document.

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**C7. Is the ending satisfying? \***

	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Score										

Please comment here to explain your mark here. If you deducted marks, please explain why or mark on the actual Entry/Story document.

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**C. Sub-total for The Short Story (Maximum: 70 marks)**

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

## Part D – The X-factor

Submission to an editor is only one step on the road to publication. An editor may require corrections or rewrites, but there are qualities that will make them consider putting time into and working with a writer to bring them to publication. Publishers may reject a manuscript, but will also ask the writer to try again. To mark this item, ignore the errors, and look for the potential.

### Scoring Scheme—mark out of 10:

- 10 = If I were an editor, I'd want to see this novel;
- 5 = Has great potential;
- 1 = Very Poor.

Lowest mark permitted is 1. Zero is not valid. Highest mark permitted is 10.  
For each question: please click the circle for the appropriate score.

**PLEASE ADD COMMENTS WHEREVER POSSIBLE – particularly where points are deducted so the entrant understands why.**

#### D1. How do you rate the potential of this entry \*

	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Score										

Please comment here to explain your mark here. \*

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## Judge's Overall Summary Comments

Entrants really value the feedback you give. Please help them improve their work by outlining what worked and didn't work about the entry.

**What were the particular strengths of this entry? Please comment here to explain what you particularly like about this story and what worked well. \***

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**What didn't work so well and how could it be improved? Please comment here to explain your thoughts on improvements. \***

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**Your total score out of 115 for this Entry/Story is:                      SCORE: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Confirm score: \***  Yes! This is the score I want to give this Entry/Story

**Did you mark comments on the Entry/Story's word document? If so, please upload it here so we can pass it anonymously back to the contestant.**

**UPLOAD FILES**

*First save the document with the comments in Microsoft word. Then come back here and select the Microsoft word document here to upload for submission.*

**About this Judge: (tick as many as applicable) \***

- Published
- Romance Published other
- Editor
- Unpublished writer
- Contest finalist/winner
- Avid reader of the genre

**Final comments – space to write more if it didn't fit above – indicate with question number (eg: B2.) which comments you are expanding on.**

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