

Stiletto PUBLISHED Score Sheet Rubric

	5	4	3	2	1
Hook & Plot	<p>Opening immediately grabs you, vividly presents the story, holds the attention of the reader and makes you want to read further.</p> <p>The plot is thoroughly developed, original, intriguing and believable, creating enough conflict for the main characters to move the plot forward.</p>	<p>Opening engages the reader on many levels, brightly presenting the story.</p> <p>The plot is intriguing and believable with few concerns of development. Conflict between characters moves the story forward.</p>	<p>Opening interests the reader, adequately presenting the story.</p> <p>The plot is adequately developed but may not be fresh or present new ideas. Movement through the story arc may be stilted, with unnecessary character goals interfering.</p>	<p>Opening somewhat interests the reader, vaguely presenting the story. The reader may put the book down.</p> <p>The plot is confusing and unbelievable. More details may be needed. Conflict may be missing or too easily solved.</p>	<p>Opening fails to grab the reader's attention, resulting in stilted reading by the reader who puts the book down and may not finish.</p> <p>The plot is unclear or fails to present itself. The conflict is missing and romance does not ensue.</p>
Romantic Leads	<p>The main characters are compelling, interesting, multi-dimensional, sympathetic characters with distinct traits and able to carry a plot through the entire book. The reader wants to go on the journey with them, roots for them to grow and change and clearly understands who they are and how they relate to the story.</p>	<p>The main characters are likeable, well-defined, and multi-dimensional, each with their own distinctive voice. They are developed within the story through dialogue, actions and thoughts. The main characters find themselves changing and growing over the course of the story driven by conflict.</p>	<p>The main characters traits are mostly described and engaging to the reader. They change or grow over the story. Stereotypes are not relied upon for development.</p>	<p>The main characters are vague and not well rounded. They are minimally developed. They are described rather than established through dialogue, actions, and thoughts. They show minimal growth or change throughout the story.</p>	<p>The main characters are flat and lack the depth necessary to care about the story. The characters are lacking development, individuality and do not change throughout the story. They are described rather than established.</p>
Dialogue	<p>The dialogue flows naturally and moves the story forward. It is used to reveal information and create scene changes with expertise. Each character has a distinct voice that reflects their personality. The exposition or the</p>	<p>The dialogue is realistic and advances the plot. Each character has their own distinct voice. The dialogue interests the reader. Dialogue tags are used nicely and moves the story along. The dialogue of the characters reflect their</p>	<p>Dialogue is adequate, distinguishes each character with their own voice, and mostly engages the reader. Dialogue tags are used appropriately, not too much to pull the reader from the story. Reader enjoys the voice of the characters. The</p>	<p>Some dialogue sounds realistic and may have some elements of dialect and voice. Dialogue tags are not used appropriately or used too frequently. The dialogue pulls the reader from the story.</p>	<p>The dialogue distracts from the story and is not well balanced. It appears awkward and does not add to the story. The characters' voices are not distinct. All characters sound alike and no elements of dialect or voice are present.</p>

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	character is natural to the speaker and situation. There is a perfect mixture of dialogue, dialogue tags and action.	emotional and story arcs.	characters' dialogue reflects their character arc.		
Pace	The pace of the story draws you to read the next page. The pacing expertly moves the story forward. Each scene moves the plot and is critical and appropriate for the story. Backstory is woven in flawlessly.	The pace of the story keeps the reader engaged, moving toward the climax. Each scene is appropriate to move the plot forward. Backstory may be present but does not distract from the flow of the story.	The pace of the story is adequate with some slow portions. However, it continues to move the story along toward the climax. Backstory may be present and may slightly distract from the story.	The pacing of the story is awkward and distracts at points in the story. There is some imbalance between dialogue, action and back story that draws the reader out of the book. Some scenes may disrupt the flow of the story.	Pacing distracts from the story. There is a poor balance between dialogue, action, back story, and exposition. Transitions are awkward and detract from the story. Many scenes are included that disrupt the story.
Writing Mechanics & Style	The writing is free of grammar errors. Sentence structure enhances the story and sentence length is varied and error-free. Transitions are smooth. Thoughtful use of sensory language helps create a vivid picture. You can visualize the setting and feel part of the story.	There are very few mechanical errors. Sentence structure and length is varied, with mostly smooth transitions. Sensory language creates a picture of the setting and the reader begins to feel part of the story most of the time.	There are minor errors in grammar, usage, mechanics, or spelling but it does not distract from the story. Sentence structure is varied, and transitions are somewhat smooth. Adequate sensory language is used to help the reader visualize the story but may not feel a part of the story. Dialogue is punctuated and formatted consistently.	There are many errors in grammar, usage, mechanics or spelling that make it hard to understand the story. Dialogue is punctuated and formatted inconsistently. Sensory language is kept to a minimum and it may be difficult to visualize the setting.	There are numerous errors, both spelling and grammar. The sentence structures lack variability. Transitions are awkward. There is no use of sensory language. You cannot picture the setting and do not feel part of the story. Point of view is inconsistent.
Category	Story is from 1990 to the present day.	-----	-----	-----	Story is not set from 1990 to present day.
Additional Comments					
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