

# 2008 Spring Into Romance

## CONTEST RULES

### DEADLINE

- ♥ Entries must be postmarked by March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2008

### CATEGORIES

- ♥ **Short Contemporary:** Romantic novels targeted to one of the contemporary lines, such as Harlequin Presents, Silhouette Desire, or Avalon. Word count between 40,000 and 70,000 words.
- ♥ **Long Contemporary:** Romantic novels targeted to one of the contemporary lines, such as Harlequin SuperRomance or Silhouette Special Edition. Word count over 70,000 words.
- ♥ **Single Title Contemporary Romance:** Contemporary romantic novels intended as individual titles. Also encompasses Romantic Suspense. Word count over 70,000 words.
- ♥ **Historical:** Historical novels with a strong romantic element throughout, including Regencies. Word count over 40,000 words.
- ♥ **Fantasy/Futuristic/Paranormal (FF&P):** Romantic novels where a fantasy world, the future, or paranormal events are a major plot element. It may be a single title or book that fits within the established category romance lines. Word count over 40,000 words.

*Note: Any category with less than 10 entries will be cancelled – See entry form for options*

### ELIGIBILITY

- ♥ Open to any writer, unpublished in book-length fiction within the last three years of deadline and uncontracted in book-length fiction at the time of submission. You must retain all rights to the entry and not have granted any of them to a publisher or any other party prior to the contest deadline.
- ♥ You may enter more than one submission in any category (separate fees apply).
- ♥ You may NOT enter any work that has previously finished in the Spring Into Romance contest. You may, however, enter a different piece.

## WHAT TO SUBMIT

- ♥ Four (4) copies of the first twenty-five (25) pages, maximum, including a prologue (if applicable). Additional pages and/or chapters will be discarded and will not be judged.
- ♥ Layout must meet the following criteria:
  - Double spaced on 8 ½" x 11" white paper (A4 Okay for international submissions)
  - 1 inch margin on all sides
  - 12 point Courier New; 12 or 14 point Times New Roman.
  - Your name must NOT appear anywhere on the manuscript
  - Header, on the **left**, should include:
    - Title of the Manuscript
    - Projected word count
    - Category entered
  - On the header right list:
    - Page numbers
- ♥ Please make sure that each manuscript is secured with a paperclip or binder clip.
- ♥ One (1) cover page which lists:
  - Author's name
  - Address
  - Phone Number
  - Email address
  - Entry Title
  - Category entered
  - Projected word count of entire manuscript
- ♥ A separate entry form and fee must be submitted for each entry.
- ♥ Three (3) copies of the score sheet.
- ♥ A **non-refundable** fee of \$25.00 (\$20 for RWASD mem.) made payable to RWA-SD. US Funds only, please. Do NOT send cash. (Pay Pal available for international entries)
- ♥ A self-addressed, stamped envelope for the return of your judged manuscripts and score sheets - Tyvek envelopes are available for FREE at any US Post Office.
  - All manuscripts submitted without an SASE will **NOT** be returned and will be destroyed after judging. Score sheets will be returned.
  - The envelope **MUST** be stamped with sufficient postage to return the entire packet back to you. Do **NOT** use a postage meter to stamp the SASE.
  - Contestants outside the US, please add \$10.00 to your entry fee to cover return postage (for a total of \$35.00).
  - Do NOT send anything that requires a signature upon receipt.
- ♥ We will notify you via email of receipt of your manuscript, or you may include an SAS postcard which we will return to you upon receipt.

## JUDGES

- ♥ First round judging will be done by published authors and trained judges.
- ♥ For point spreads of thirty or more, a discrepancy judge will be used (only if the top score is at least 100) to determine the top five entries (maximum) advancing to the final round.
- ♥ *The top five finalists in each category will be judged by the following industry professionals:*
  - *Short Contemporary - Diana Ventimiglia, Silhouette*
  - *Long Contemporary - Allison Brandau, Berkley Publishing Group*
  - *Single Title - Jessica Sebor, Bantam Dell*
  - *Historical - Tess Woodward, Harper Collins*
  - *FF&P - Latoya Smith, Grand Central Publishing*
- **ADDITIONAL DETAILS**
- ♥ Categories receiving fewer than ten (10) entries will be cancelled. You may choose to submit to a different category or have your fees returned in the SASE you provide.
- ♥ Entries must receive a minimum score of 120 out of a possible 150 points in order to final.
- ♥ Fees will NOT be returned if disqualification or withdrawal occurs.
- ♥ Finalists will be notified by approximately April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2008
- ♥ Winners will be notified by approximately the end of May, 2008 and will be listed on our website at [www.rwasd.com](http://www.rwasd.com) and in an RWR ad.

## MAIL YOUR ENTRY

- ♥ Mail your packet to the appropriate category coordinator:

<i>Short contemporary</i>	<i>long contemporary</i>
Susan Winer 4450 Aragon Dr San Diego CA 92115	Kathy Krevat 10863 Stone Haven Way San Diego, CA 92130
<i>HISTORICAL</i>	<i>PARANORMAL/FF&amp;P</i>
Chris Sterner 12642 Cabezon Place San Diego CA 92129	Jeanne Dickson 3313 Cadencia St Carlsbad CA 92009-7807
<i>SINGLE TITLE</i>	
Ree Mancini 12665 Darkwood Rd San Diego CA 92129-3709	

## QUESTIONS?

- ♥ You may contact Ree Mancini, Spring Into Romance Coordinator, at
- ♥ reemancini@yahoo.com