

# 2006 Sweet, Spicy, Spooky, & Suspense Contest

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## Guidelines

Send an electronic copy of your scene of emotional impact (10 pages maximum) with a one page set up (Page 1) for a total of 11 pages maximum. The documents should be formatted as follows: Save the contest submission as an Rich Text Format (.rtf). Title the document as Title of Work – Category. For example, if you were entering a story called “Enduring Love” in the Sweet Category, it would be saved as Enduring Love – Sweet.rtf.

In the email submission, the following information should be in the text of the email: **Title of work, Author’s name, Address, E-mail, Phone Number, Target Line and/or publisher, and category of submission.**

Please fill out the entry form and mail your check or money order made payable to the Smoky Mountain Romance Writers to: Erin Hudson, SSSS Coordinator, 922 Bradley Bell Drive, Knoxville, TN 37938. With the entry form, include a title page for your entry with the following: **Title of work, Author’s name, Address, E-mail, Phone Number, Target Line and/or publisher, and category of submission.**

If you pay via Paypal (which includes a \$5 service charge), you must still mail in the entry form with “paid via Paypal” checked on the form.

**THE ONE-PAGE SET-UP IS NOT OPTIONAL. IT MUST BE INCLUDED IN YOUR SUBMISSION. FAILURE TO INCLUDE THIS SET-UP PAGE WILL CAUSE THE ENTRY TO BE DISQUALIFIED.**

Each page of the manuscript shall have one-inch margins, be double-spaced and have the title and category in the upper left-hand corner, and page number in the upper right hand corner. **Do not put your name on any part of the manuscript or one page setup. You will be disqualified for it.**

Font face and size should be Times New Roman 14 pt. or Courier or Courier New 12 pt. Because the judging is done electronically, this can be easily checked so make sure the formatting is correct.

All manuscript entries should be sent via email to erinmudson@comcast.net. You are not officially entered in the contest until all the materials – **entry, entry form, title page, and payment** have been received by the contest coordinator.

## Deadlines

This entry form and registration fee in the form of check or money order must be postmarked by July 5, 2006 in my hands by July 8. **NO EXCEPTIONS.** Those arriving after this date will be returned unopened. There will be a \$20.00 fee on all returned checks.

Emailed manuscript entries must be received by July 5, 2006.

While the entry should be **emailed**, entry form and title page must be sent via **snail mail**.

Finalists will receive notification of their final round status on or before September 31.

Winners will be announced on or before December 15.

### Contest Rules & Conditions

Entrants must be members in good standing with RWA®

Entries are unpublished/uncontracted work of any RWA® member. **Yes, this means you can be published and enter, but the entry can not be published or contracted.**

The categories are:

- *Sweet* -- light to moderate sexual tension;
- *Spicy* -- heavy sexual tension.
- *Spooky* -- FF&P element critical to the plot.
- *Suspense* -- suspenseful element critical to the plot.

Manuscripts entered in the incorrect category will be disqualified. Contact the contest coordinator if you are unsure of entry category.

Entry fee **(\$15)** will not be refunded for disqualified manuscript.

Authors may enter as many submissions as they like. However, only one submission per category from the same manuscript please.

Each submission must be on a separate entry form and must be accompanied by a separate registration fee.

Entries are limited to the first fifty received in each category.

Correct registration fee must be received with signed and dated entry form. Entry form, fee and manuscript must be in hand on July 8, 2006. **SMRW will not be responsible for lost or misdirected mail.**

Entrant fully understands that the judging is subjective, and that they will receive critiques on score sheets with which they may not agree. Entrant will accept and abide by the decision of the judges according to signature on entry form.

In case of a tie for finalists in the first round of each category, each tied entry shall be sent to the final round for judging.

Final round judges will be editors:

- *Sweet* -- Erin Cartwright-Niumata, Avalon
- *Spicy* -- Cindy Hwang, Berkley
- *Spooky* -- Debbie Jones, Triskelion

- *Suspense* – Angela James, Editor, Samhain Publishing  
(www.samhainpublishing.com)

Entrant will hold SMRW, its members, officers and the judges of this contest harmless and hereby release them from any liability with which may arise out of my claim. By signing the entry form, entrant specifically waives any right they may have to bring suit against SMRW, its members, officers, representatives or judges.

## Judging & Scoring

### *First Round Judging:*

- SMRW members are required to go through an intensive judging workshop.
- Each entry will be read by three judges.
- In case of conflict, alternate judges may be selected from within RWA®.
- Judges are encouraged to write comments and suggestions on manuscripts as well as on the score sheet.
- 100 points shall be considered a perfect score.

### *Final Round Judging:*

- The top five manuscripts in each category will go to the final round.
- Editors from acquiring publishing houses
- Judges may or may not use score sheet in this round.
- Judges are encouraged to write comments and suggestions on manuscripts.

### **Mail entry forms and title pages to:**

## **Sweet, Spicy, Spooky, & Suspense Contest**

Attn: Erin Hudson  
922 Bradley Bell Drive  
Knoxville, TN 37938

**Email Entries to: erinmudson@comcast.net; the subject of the email should be: "SSSS 2006 Entry"; if you do not get a response regarding the entry via email, please contact me at erin\_m\_hudson@yahoo.com.**

**Inquiries should be e-mailed to: erinmudson@comcast.net**