**FICTION JUDGING RUBRIC**

**Entry #\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Judge #\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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|  | **Excellent**  (4 points) | **Good**  (3 points) | **Fair**  (2 points) | **Poor**  (1 point) | **Judge’s Score** |
| **Writing is Powerful** | Story is vivid, well-paced and highly engaging. Writing “shows” and provides a compelling reading experience. | Writing is adequate to create a vivid, well-paced, and engaging story. It “shows” but may have shifting POV or verb tenses. | Writing “tells” throughout without “showing.” | Writing is superficial, disjointed, or otherwise lacks the ability to engage the reader. |  |
| **Story Structure** | The story flows seamlessly through exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution to create an easy-to-follow, engaging read. | The story contains exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution but one or more elements is weak. | The story has too many missing structural pieces to take the reader on an impactful journey. | The story has no discernible beginning, middle, and end, and the structure and plot are minimal. |  |
| **Conflict** | Conflict is integrated smoothly with plot and character’s evolution. It raises stakes to make a compelling, satisfying story that engages reader emotions. | Conflict is depicted clearly but doesn’t make the stakes for the characters high enough as the story develops. | Conflict is either vague or not integral to the story’s plot and character motivations. | Conflict is minimal between characters or within characters. |  |
| **Scene Development** | Writing incorporates all or most of the five senses and uses literary devises to show when and where the story takes place. | Writing incorporates some of the five senses and sometimes uses literary devises to show when and where the story takes place. | “Scene” is described but the reader does not visualize surroundings or timeframe. | Writing does not provide a clear sense of when and where the story takes place. |  |
| **Spelling, Grammar, and Punctuation** | The story contains 0 to 2 errors. | The story contains 3 to 6 errors. | The story contains 7 to 9 errors. | The story contains 10 or more errors. |  |

**Recommend for inclusion in Anthology?** \_\_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_\_No **Score (out of 20 points) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Judge’s Comments:**