**Romance Writers of New Zealand Inc.**

**Daphne Clair de Jong FIRST KISS CONTEST**

**2018Score Sheet**

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| **Entry No.** |  | **Title:** |  | |
| **Judge No.** |  | **Ms type/genre:** |  | |
| **TOTAL SCORE (Maximum: 50 points)** | | | |  |

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| **JUDGES:**  Please read **all** the guidelines before beginning your scoring.  If you have given fewer than full points for any question, please give your reasons in the feedback box at the end. | |
| **Scoring Scale:**  5 = Excellent; ready for submission  4 = Above average; needs only minor revision  3 = Average; has potential  **NOTE:** **This is the baseline score, where all entries start.**  2 = Below average; requires considerable work  1 = Poor; extensive reworking required  Give whole marks—1, 2, 3, 4 or 5.  Don’t give partial marks such as 4.5 or 3.9 etc. | **Judge Bio:**  \_\_\_\_Unpublished  \_\_\_\_ Published (romance)  \_\_\_\_ Published (other)  \_\_\_\_ Contest finalist/place-getter  \_\_\_\_ Publishing/book industry experience  \_\_\_\_ Editorial experience  \_\_\_\_ Keen reader of the genre |

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| **PRESENTATION:**  **(Note there is no score for this section)** |
| Did any errors affect your concentration on the scene or detract from your enjoyment of it?  If so, please comment below and/or indicate on the manuscript. |
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| **TECHNICAL** | | **Score** |
| **FLOW:** Does the writing flow well with effective variation in sentence structure, and smooth transitions from paragraph to paragraph?  (Max 5 points) | |  |
| **DIALOGUE:** Is the dialogue engaging; is it natural and appropriate to the characters and the time period?  (Max 5 points) | |  |
| **POV/CHARACTERIZATION:** Is the point of view clear and are changes, if any smooth and natural? Do you get a sense of the characters from this scene?  (Max 5 points) | |  |
| **SETTING:** Is setting handled effectively throughout the entry?Do you get a sense of place? Does the location heighten the romantic scene?  (Max 5 points) | |  |
| **TENSION/ATTRACTION:** Is the attraction pulling the characters together and forces keeping them apart clear? Do they heighten the first kiss scene?  (Max 5 Points) | |  |
| **Subtotal for TECHNIQUE**  **(Maximum: 25 points** |  |

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| **ROMANTIC ELEMENTS: 20 points** | **Score** |
| **EMOTION:** Does the kiss resonate with you as a reader? Has the writer used description and language effectively to evoke a response?  (Max 5 points) |  |
| **WARMTH:** Is the heat level of the scene appropriate to the genre of the story? (What is appropriate for a sweet romance will be different to an erotic romance)  (Max 5 points) |  |
| **ROMANTIC ELEMENT:** Does the kiss feel like a natural progression for these characters? Does it set up for further romantic developments?  (Max 5 points) |  |
| **CHEMISTRY:** Do the characters ‘click’? Has the writer convinced you that these two belong together?  (Max 5 points) |  |
| **Subtotal for CHARACTERISATION**  **(Maximum: 20 points)** |  |

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| **READER ENJOYMENT: 5 Points** | **Score** |
| **ENJOYMENT:** How much did you enjoy the scene? Do you want to read more?  (Max 5 points) |  |
| **Subtotal for READER ENJOYMENT**  **(Max: 5 points)** |  |

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| **FEEDBACK:** |

**SCORING:**

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| TECHNICAL  (Max 25 points) |  |
| ROMANTIC  (Max 20 points) |  |
| :  READER ENJOYMENT  (Max 5 points) |  |
| **TOTAL SCORE**  Please carry this total forward to top of score sheet  (Max 50 points) |  |