

EROTICA

Overall Evaluation

1. Is the entry presented in an acceptable book organizational layout (i.e., introduction, preface, foreword, afterword, and/or author biography) and in format (i.e., margins, spacing, chapter/section divisions, overall readability, etc.)?
 - a. Excellent
 - b. Above Average
 - c. Average
 - d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable
2. Please rank the aptness of the book title in relation to the themes and content of the book.
 - a. Excellent
 - b. Above Average
 - c. Average
 - d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable
3. Please provide additional information regarding your assessment.

Opening

1. Does the opening draw you in by starting with a compelling narrative or Voice?
 - a. Excellent
 - b. Above Average
 - c. Average
 - d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable
2. Have you been intrigued enough to want to read on?
 - a. Excellent

- b. Above Average
 - c. Average
 - d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable
3. Please provide additional information regarding your assessment.

Plot Premise

1. Keeping in mind that some Erotica not contain much of a plot, does the work make sense in terms of the plot or the dramatic premise?
- a. Excellent
 - b. Above Average
 - c. Average
 - d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable
2. Is there enough sexuality, conflict, and/or inherent drama to sustain the work?
- a. Excellent
 - b. Above Average
 - c. Average
 - d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable
3. Did you get to the end and find no plot holes, no plot inconsistencies, and no problems with plot plausibility or believability?
- a. Excellent
 - b. Above Average

- c. Average
 - d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable
4. Was the “Promise” of the Opening and or the Introduction or Foreword fulfilled by the conclusion of the book so that you got to the end and felt that everything together well?
- a. Excellent
 - b. Above Average
 - c. Average
 - d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable
5. Please provide additional information regarding your assessment.

Setting/World Building

1. Does the work have an appropriately strong sense of place that you can believe in and lose yourself within?
 - a. Excellent
 - b. Above Average
 - c. Average
 - d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable
2. Do setting and imagery add to mood and tone, and are they woven effectively throughout?
 - a. Excellent
 - b. Above Average
 - c. Average
 - d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable
3. Were you able to suspend disbelief in the setting or world in which the tale takes place?
 - a. Excellent
 - b. Above Average
 - c. Average
 - d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable
4. Please provide additional information regarding your assessment.

Specific Genre/Topic Criteria

1. Erotic works may cover a wide variety of topics, genres, or styles while specifically addressing sexuality and sensuality. Has the author made the theme or message of the work clear and compelling?
 - a. Excellent
 - b. Above Average
 - c. Average
 - d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable
2. Is the content sufficiently provocative, alluring, and sexy, causing the average reader's heartbeat to kick up at least a few notches?
 - a. Excellent
 - b. Above Average
 - c. Average
 - d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable
3. Are the sex scenes well-written, well-edited, and consistently as good throughout without melodrama or unbelievable aspects?
 - a. Excellent
 - b. Above Average
 - c. Average
 - d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable
4. Is there variety in tone, style, and content where appropriate? Or does the sexuality in the work strike the same tone and seem unremarkable?
 - a. Excellent
 - b. Above Average
 - c. Average

- d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable
5. How well does the work employ clever, imaginative, and/or unique ideas about sex, sexuality, and eroticism?
- a. Excellent
 - b. Above Average
 - c. Average
 - d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable

6. If the work contains romance as well as erotic encounters, does the author avoid sacrificing the erotic elements to other subplots?
 - a. Excellent
 - b. Above Average
 - c. Average
 - d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable
7. Often there's a fine line between erotica and pornography, with no clear and simple definition of either. But, in your opinion, did the work manage to stay away from anything pornographically unacceptable, while still remaining edgy enough?
 - a. Excellent
 - b. Above Average
 - c. Average
 - d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable
8. Once you reached the end, how high was the "hotness" factor? Did you finish and feel like you'd read a hot, sexy, and exciting work that left you well satisfied?
 - a. Excellent
 - b. Above Average
 - c. Average
 - d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable
9. Please provide additional information regarding your assessment.

Characters/Characterization

1. Are the characters compelling enough to pique your interest, while still possessing enough traits and/or flaws to make them unique and human?
 - a. Excellent
 - b. Above Average
 - c. Average
 - d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable
2. If secondary characters are present, they should be distinct and differentiated and should not seem like cardboard clones. Does the author handle the secondary characters well without making them boring or allowing them to hijack the plot?
 - a. Excellent
 - b. Above Average
 - c. Average
 - d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable
3. Are the actions of all characters consistent with the manner in which they have been characterized (for example, if a character is presented as a liar and a cheat, is this reflected in her decision and behavior, assuming growth and change may occur)?
 - a. Excellent
 - b. Above Average
 - c. Average
 - d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable
4. Are the descriptions of the characters mostly fresh and effective, making use of imagery, metaphor, and apt detail while avoiding clichés and derivative details?
 - a. Excellent
 - b. Above Average
 - c. Average

- d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable
5. Please provide additional information regarding your assessment.

Dialogue

1. Is the spoken dialogue natural sounding and credible for the characters? Does it sound fresh and colorful rather than derivative and flat?
 - a. Excellent
 - b. Above Average
 - c. Average
 - d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable
2. Does the dialogue reveal and nuance character interactions while avoiding repetitiveness and unrealistic over-telling?
 - a. Excellent
 - b. Above Average
 - c. Average
 - d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable
3. Does the dialogue enhance and move erotic elements forward, avoiding purposeless “information dumps” and/or rambling?
 - a. Excellent
 - b. Above Average
 - c. Average
 - d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable
4. Has the author made good use of interior Voice (especially in the case of the main character[s])? Is there an appropriate balance between the external narrative/exposition and the internal thoughts and the spoken dialogue?
 - a. Excellent
 - b. Above Average
 - c. Average

- d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable
5. Please provide additional information regarding your assessment.

Narrative/Structure

1. Narrative consists of the balance between the descriptive exposition (the Telling of the story and the action and dialogue (the Showing) in a book. Is there a balance between the showing and the telling that feels effective and unforced?
 - a. Excellent
 - b. Above Average
 - c. Average
 - d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable

2. Are narrative passages necessary and compelling? Are narrative passages balanced well with dialogue and scenes of action?
 - a. Excellent
 - b. Above Average
 - c. Average
 - d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable

3. Does the narrative flow well without being too spare, saggy, bloated, or cluttered with trivial detail?
 - a. Excellent
 - b. Above Average
 - c. Average
 - d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable

4. Does the writing move you along through every erotic encounter with mastery and effectiveness?
 - a. Excellent
 - b. Above Average
 - c. Average

- d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable
5. Within the structure, do the timelines make sense so that you are grounded and know where you are in time? Where needed, are you given cues (or dateline/chapter headers) that allow you to keep track of when and where you are?
- a. Excellent
 - b. Above Average
 - c. Average
 - d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable
6. Please provide additional information regarding your assessment.

Style/Voice

1. Is the author's writing vivid, evocative and, readable, displaying variety in tone, style, and content where appropriate?
 - a. Excellent
 - b. Above Average
 - c. Average
 - d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable

2. Are Point of View (POV) and Perspective clear at all times? When Perspective transitions occur between characters, especially during erotic encounters, are they purposeful and smooth? Or does it seem the author is head-hopping without a good reason to?
 - a. Excellent
 - b. Above Average
 - c. Average
 - d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable

3. Is the writing grounded in the senses with description balanced between the intellectual and sight, smell, taste, texture, sound, and sixth sense? Are all the senses used in proper proportions?
 - a. Excellent
 - b. Above Average
 - c. Average
 - d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable

4. Does the writing (whether hard-edged and difficult or softer and sweeter) have a beauty to it that is striking and attractive, that gives you reading pleasure?
 - a. Excellent
 - b. Above Average

- c. Average
 - d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable
5. Are errors in spelling, grammar, usage, and facts so rare that they in no way interfere with your reading experience?
- a. Excellent
 - b. Above Average
 - c. Average
 - d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable
6. Please provide additional information regarding your assessment.

Overall Impressions

1. Flaws aside, how intriguing, memorable, and/or touching did you find this book? When you reached the end, did you feel an impact – a powerful cumulative effect – from the reading?
 - a. Excellent
 - b. Above Average
 - c. Average
 - d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable
2. Is there a pleasing balance between the emotions evoked and the intellectualism of the book?
 - a. Excellent
 - b. Above Average
 - c. Average
 - d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable
3. Even if you found that you did not “like” the book (because of topic or personal reasons), is the book still remarkable and effective for what the author was trying to accomplish?
 - a. Excellent
 - b. Above Average
 - c. Average
 - d. Below Average
 - e. Poor/Unacceptable
4. Please provide additional information regarding your assessment.

Lesbian Content

1. The guidelines for the Goldie Awards require that each work nominated “must contain significant lesbian content, characters, and/or themes.” Lesbian content includes: The main character identifies as a lesbian, and/or the main character is or ends up in a lesbian relationship, and/or the theme or plot deals with lesbian issues and/or lesbian life.
 - a. Significant lesbian content
 - b. Some lesbian content
 - c. No lesbian content

Judge’s Summary

1. Briefly, please summarize what you thought this book was all about.