



**Phoenix Desert Rose Chapter of RWA®
2009 Published Authors' Contest
*Judged by Romance Readers***

Contest Rules

1. Entries must be book length fiction with a minimum of 40,000 words (except for the romantic novella category, which accepts stories of less than 40,000 words) with copyright dates between January and December 2008 or first North American printing/release date between January and December 2008.
2. The Contest Committee reserves the right to add or drop categories, depending on the number of entries received. The Contest Committee reserves the right to place a book in a different category from the one in which the author originally entered it.
3. Entry must be received no later than **January 10, 2009**.
4. Once a book is accepted for entry in the contest, there will be no refund.
5. Priority mailing of entries is preferred, with no signature required for receipt.
6. Membership in Romance Writers of America® is required. Entrants must be members in good standing with current membership paid.
7. Category winner will be the highest scoring book in its category, providing the score is in the upper 25% of scores of all contest entries received. If none of the entries in a given category scores in the overall top 25%, there will be no finalist in that category.
8. Finalists will be announced on or about **April 30, 2009**.
9. Winners will be announced in a full page advertisement in the July 2009 issue of *Romance Writers Report*.

10. Entry in the Golden Quill Contest constitutes agreement by the author to conform to all contest rules, abide by the decision of the judges, and hold blameless Desert Rose Chapter, The Golden Quill Contest Coordinators and all judges. In entering, the author agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the Chapter, its officers, members and all judges of the Contest from liability for its/their actions arising from or relating to judging and handling of the entry and conducting, sponsoring and advertising the event.

11. The Contest Committee reserves the right to disqualify any entry if rules are not fully met.

12. Author must enclose:

A. Five (5) copies of each book entered. (If a book is entered in two categories, please enclose 5 copies for each entry. Books will not be returned. Please autograph your books, as they will be donated after judging is completed. E-published books must be submitted in either book format or printed and bound.

B. A completed **Entry Form** for each book entered. If a book is entered in two categories, then two entry forms must be included. Entry forms may be photocopied.

C. The entry fee of \$25.00 for each book and/or each category entered. The total entry fee should be by check or money order made payable to Desert Rose RWA #60, or paid using PayPal by clicking the button on the **Entry Form** or by visiting www.paypal.com and sending payment to paypal@desertroserwa.org.

D. An **optional** self-addressed stamped postcard on which the contest coordinator will confirm receipt of your entry.

13. Send entry, marked with category on outside of package, to:

Helen King
P.O. Box 12864
Scottsdale, AZ 85267-2864

For additional information, please contact:
Helen King, Contest Chair
goldenquill@desertroserwa.org