

***Voices from the Plains* Evaluation Criteria**

Author Number: _____

Title: _____

Criteria	Accept	Reject
<p>Creativity/Unique Voice/Fresh Point of View</p> <p>Does the author approach the subject in an interesting way? Is the subject itself unique or unusual in some way? Does the author rely heavily on tired or overused language, voice, or point of view, or does the author create something new? Do you feel like you've read this same thing before or does it feel new and fresh? Is it predictable or unexpected?</p>		
<p>Structure/Plot/Pacing</p> <p>In fiction and creative nonfiction, does the writing have proper pacing, are there appropriate and well-developed conflicts and resolutions, are characters well developed, and how well does the story unfold?</p> <p>In poetry, are the visuals and thoughts complete? Is the physical structure of words effective? If there is rhyme and rhythm, do they work well?</p> <p>In non-creative nonfiction, is the subject explored completely? Is the logic sound and explained well, or are there holes? Does the writing hold your attention or is it dry?</p>		
<p>Style/Tone</p> <p>Is the tone appropriate to the genre? What about the author's style? Does the author use "show, don't tell" effectively? Does the writing show a level of maturity appropriate to the genre? Does it evoke appropriate emotional responses (laughing at humor, swooning at romance, cringing at suspense, etc.)?</p>		
<p>Spelling/Grammar/Mechanics</p> <p>Has the author made a noticeable attempt to clean up errors and follow grammar rules to the best of their ability? Have they taken the time to edit or proofread before submitting or does it look like a first draft? How professional is the presentation?</p>		
<p>Authenticity</p> <p>Do you feel like the author is writing from a place of knowledge, experience, love of subject/genre? Does the writing feel forced?</p>		
<p>"Wow" Factor</p> <p>Does the writing blow you away?</p>		
Overall Recommendation		