



Judge Review and Evaluation Form

Title: _____ Author: _____

Comments:

- Craft / Craftsmanship (50%):

- Originality (30%):

- Resonance (20%):

^ optional

v required

Quantitative Ranking

	<i>Low</i>					<i>High</i>				
Craft	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Originality	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Resonance	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

[Optional] If you have thoughts on this book that you would like anonymously shared with the author, feel free to use this space to share that feedback.

Instructions on Reverse Side

Evaluation Form Instructions

In every category, judges should evaluate all nominated books according to three weighted criteria. From the MNBA Judging Handbook (v2022.1.3):

1) Craft / Craftsmanship (50%) Considerations include language use,* narrative tightness, thematic throughlines, and the overall quality of the writing. In addition, the illustration, editing, and layout involved in the book's creation may be important criteria in certain categories.

*Keep in mind that language is a fluid medium and can be used in ways that are different than what has been taught by the dominant culture. Do not overlook books that use language in ways that reflect multiple linguistic traditions.

2) Originality (30%) Originality in concept and execution is a primary consideration in selecting finalists. Finalist titles should demonstrate innovative artistic qualities, which in many cases will be specific to their genre or category.

3) Resonance(20%) Is the book likely to resonate with its intended audience(s)? Does the book succeed at reaching readers on a variety of levels?

This form is intended to help you track the merits and shortcomings of each book as you read it – and as a ready reference aid for when you meet and deliberate with your judging colleagues at the conclusion of the process. Please fill out one form for each book assigned in your category, irrespective of how “competitive” you feel the title is.

Personal:

- **Optional:** Use the three fields on the top half of this form as you see fit. Comments above the line will be seen by Minnesota Book Awards staff, but will not be shared with the author, in program marketing, or for any other public purpose unless cleared by you.

Public:

- **Required:** We ask you to consistently, fully fill out the quantitative ranking at the bottom of the page.
 - Please consider each book on its own merits – not in comparison to its competitors.
 - Remember that not all nominees with “high” craftsmanship (Criterion 1) can be finalists. Likewise, due to criteria weighting, a book with “moderate” resonance (Criterion 3) might be selected as a finalist if it is deemed to be highly original (Criterion 2) and exhibits exemplary craftsmanship (Criterion 1).
 - While these 1-10 metrics may be of value to you in determining which nominees you feel are the strongest contenders, you are in no way bound by these scores when you meet with your judging panel. In fact, table discussion routinely yields insights that may make you reevaluate entries. (For more details, refer to the MNBA Judging Handbook.)
 - Upon request, the Minnesota Book Awards may share aggregate scores with nominated authors or their authorized representatives (e.g., publicist or agent). However, the names and individual scores of each judge will be kept anonymous.
- **Optional:** In years past, judges have expressed a desire to share feedback with authors on a selective basis. Authors, too, are often curious to know what judges thought of their work, regardless of whether it is selected as a finalist. If you wish to share anything with an author (re: strengths, originality, pacing, editing, etc.), feel free to include those comments on the bottom of the page. Upon request, it will be shared with authors and their authorized representatives, but without attribution.