

Author's Pen Name  
Author's Full Name  
Author's Address  
City/Town, Province/State  
Country  
Phone 1  
Phone 2  
e-mail address  
alternate e-mail address

## My Story Title

3 pages  
609 words

The first page of your submission will be laid out as shown in the previous page. Include all of the author's contact information, followed by your story name, underlined and bolded. The number of pages will include the cover page. There is no fee to submit a story to *Romantic Shorts*. *Romantic Shorts* is currently accepting unsolicited manuscripts. Multiple submissions to *Romantic Shorts* are permitted, but must be submitted individually with a unique e-mail message.

The header for each page will include your story title, underlined and bold, as well as the page number and the total number of pages. The total number of pages will include the cover sheet, and must match the number of pages stated on that cover page. Ensure that all pages of your story are included. If some/all of your content needs to be printed for the convenience of a particular editor, the page numbers will be crucial to the completeness of your work. All printed content will be shredded once a decision has been made.

You will use Times New Roman 12 for all body content. Use 1" margins on all sides, and double space your lines. Paragraphs will not have extra space between them and will have first lines indented by .5". Your document will be left-side aligned and will not use a right-side justification.

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Any break in your story should end with a line containing 3 asterisks as above. In the event that your story includes chapters, acts, date markers, titles, etc., use the same format, but replace the 3 asterisks with the subtitle, underlined and bold, and continue on with your prose on the following line. Skip a line only to include a subtitle with its appropriate content.

*(skipped line)*

**Chapter 2**

Your *Romantic Shorts* story will contain between 4500-6000 words. At approximately 250 words per page, you can expect to submit a document of 19-25 pages. Beware of this restriction with respect to the pacing of your plot. Your story should be a complete work unto itself, not an excerpt of a larger manuscript, or something to be continued. Given the romantic interaction of characters, our stories will tend to lean more toward dialogue and plot, and less toward flowery description.

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The closer your submission is to these outlined criteria, the better your chance at success. Any submission that we have to fumble through, figure out, scratch our heads over, will likely be thrown into the long-list pile. To make the short list, make sure that your structure and appearance don't distract us from your fabulous story.

That said, take the time to check and re-check spelling, grammar, sentence and paragraph structure, and story. Your editing must include every aspect of your writing from the most specific word use, punctuation, and definition to a full global editing of the plot, characters, and setting. Again, even the best plots and most interesting characters can be lost among too many grammatical errors.

We will do our best to respond to all unsuccessful submissions with some comment as to why it was not chosen. Many new authors have not hardened to the hurt feelings that come with rejection. Please, do not take any comments from *Romantic Shorts* to mean that you should stop writing. On the contrary. Use the comments to your advantage and try again.

Good luck to all our prospective writers. Thank-you for taking this road with us!