



Inspired by Podcraft's [Podcast Poker](#).

Problematic Poker is a one-month lovefest for problematic fic. Join a team and fill in your scorecard to earn points. Boost your lead by finding and commenting on fics.



How to Play

Problematic Poker is played by leaving comments on fics. Each team will be given a scorecard with four suits (like a deck of cards); each suit has twelve tropes or tags. All teams have identical scorecards.

Organise within your team to find a fic for each trope. Your selected fic must have the trope listed as a tag to be counted. Read the fic, and leave a comment.

Each comment can only be used for one trope, so if your selected fic covers more than one trope, you must pick which one you want to assign it to on your scorecard. To have a comment counted, copy the thread link (more information below) onto your scorecard sheet.



Teams

There are nine teams for the event, each with four members. Each team has a private chat to communicate with their teammates and coordinate filling out their scorecard. Whilst we won't dictate any strategies, we suggest splitting tropes amongst members to cover more ground.

Jokers

Every team will be given two Jokers. These can be used as wildcards in the place of any two tropes you don't wish to read. Make sure you discuss amongst your teammates, as each Joker needs to be seconded by a teammate before being applied to your scorecard.

Abilities

Each team will also have a unique, secret ability. This ability can be used to get ahead and/or sabotage other teams in the event. It can only be used once, and must be seconded and thirded by two other teammates before it can be activated.

You'll find more information on your team's ability in your team chat on the Discord server.

Alfred

If you run into any trouble, or have any questions, Alfred is on hand to clear up any confusion. Use the private **#call-alfred** channel in your team's headquarters on the server to get some assistance from a mod. This channel can also be used to activate any abilities or assign any Jokers.



Commenting

For a fic to be considered, it must include the *Batman - All Media Types* fandom tag on Archiveofourown. A fic can only be commented on three times before it becomes off limits. Mods will post a link to the fic in the **#event-graveyard** channel on the server to alert everyone that it can no longer be used for the event.

Comments should be meaningful and thoughtful. Keysmashing and one-line “I loved this” comments are wonderful to receive, but this event requires a bit more depth. For a comment to count towards your scorecard, it must be at least four lines long, and include a quote or line that you enjoyed.

Any comments that include criticism, demands or negative feedback will not receive points.

How to Link a Comment

After posting your comment, navigate to the ‘thread’ button in the bottom right-hand corner of the posted comment. This will open a webpage with the comment thread. Copy the URL and paste it into your scorecard.



Points

All comments are worth three points towards your scorecard. Each comment linked will be verified by a mod and the points tallied for your team total. Once a comment is verified, it's locked in, and cannot be switched out.

Remember, this is a game about points, not speed. Coordinate with your teammates to boost your score and shoot to the top of the leaderboard.

That being said, there are ways to gain bonuses and multiply your points.

Length

If a fic is a certain length, it will garnish extra points. These points are cumulative, so a fic that crosses over multiple length thresholds will earn all the points. *E.g. a fic that is 42K words will earn an extra +2 points for the 10K and 20K bonuses.*

- ➔ Fics over 10K words earn 1 point
- ➔ Fics over 20K words earn 1 point
- ➔ Fics over 50K words earn 1 point

Dead Dove: Do Not Eat

If a fic includes this additional tag, it will add a 1.5x multiplier to its score, rounded down to the nearest whole number. *E.g. a 20K fic with a score of 5 will be multiplied up to 7 points with the DD:DNE tag.*

When applying this bonus, please add “DD:DNE” next to your link on the scorecard, and a mod will verify.

Fic Recs

Fic recs are worth 2 points each. To qualify, you must paste a link to the fic in the **#event-recs** channel, along with a one-sentence note on why you recommend this fic.

Sharing

Sharing a fic on Tumblr or Twitter is worth 2 points per fic. If you post to both platforms, it will only be counted once. Use the share feature on AO3, or include a link in your post to earn points.

Please paste a link to your Tumblr or Twitter post in your team’s **#scorecard** channel for a mod to verify.



Summary

In conclusion, enjoy the event! We hope you find some great reading material, and perhaps some recommendations for the future. Good luck!

If you’re ready to get started, you can sign up using our forms below:

[Individual Sign Up](#)

[Team Sign Up \(4-person\)](#)

[FAQs](#)

[Commenting Tips](#)

[Got a question?](#)