Mathematics 3260H – Geometry II: Projective and Non-Euclidean Geometry
Trent University, Fall 2021

Assignment #$\tau = 2\pi$
Unparalleled Poetry Expected Here!
Due on Tuesday, 2 November.

1. Write a poem touching on the parallel axiom. *[10]*

Note: This is an extra assignment which would give you a larger pool from which the best ~~five~~ ten are chosen to count towards the final mark. Really, though, it's just to have something fun to do over Reading Week! :-)

By way of examples:

"Parallel lines
    meet at infinity,"
Euclid repeatedly,
    heatedly urged,
Until he died and
    so reached that vicinity–
In it he found that the
    damn things diverged.

Piet Hein

If the Númenoreans had been mathematicians*

Tall ships and tall kings
Three times three,
What brought they from the foundered land
Over the flowing sea?
Seven points and seven lines
In one geometry:
Every point met three lines,
Every line met points three,
Every pair of points connected,
Every line pair intersected.
Fano found it, Fano named it.

Stefan Bilaniuk, with apologies to J.R.R. Tolkein

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* ... the rhyme of lore recited by Gandalf to Pippin in their ride from Rohan to Gondor – "Tall ships and tall kings/ Three times three,/ What brought they from the foundered land/ Over the flowing sea?/ Seven stars and seven stones/ And one white tree." – might have been a little different.