

Mathematics 3770H – Complex Analysis

TRENT UNIVERSITY, Winter 2022

Assignment #2e

Sonnet

Due on Monday, 28 February.

(May be submitted on paper or via Blackboard.)*

A *sonnet* is usually a poem with fourteen lines, usually in iambic pentameter, and which may use any of a number of different rhyming schemes. An example touching on mathematics is given below.

Sonnet xlv

Euclid alone has looked on Beauty bare.
Let all who prate of Beauty hold their peace,
And lay them prone upon the earth and cease
To ponder on themselves, the while they stare
At nothing, intricately drawn nowhere
In shapes of shifting lineage; let geese
Gabble and hiss, but heroes seek release
From dusty bondage into luminous air.
O blinding hour, O holy, terrible day,
When first the shaft into his vision shone
Of light anatomized! Euclid alone
Has looked on Beauty bare. Fortunate they
Who, though once only and then but far away,
Have heard her massive sandal set on stone.

Edna St. Vincent Millay

1. Your task, should you choose to accept it, is to write a sonnet touching on the history of mathematics, preferably one that doesn't take itself too seriously. [10]

NOTE: Assignment #6 will be posted on Saturday, 26 February. Enjoy Reading Week!

* All else failing, please email your solutions to the instructor at: sbilaniuk@trentu.ca