

# Once Upon a Math Class Dreary

A Parody by Kayla Jacobs

*With very sincere apologies to Edgar Allan Poe.*

Once upon a math class dreary, while my mind wandered, weak and weary,  
Trapped by many an algebra problem purposely designed to bore—  
While I nodded, nearly napping, tired of trigonometric graphing,  
Brain cells were the equations sapping, sapping my mind blank and sore.  
“ ’Tis a pointless waste,” I muttered, “sapping my mind blank and sore—  
I wish instead to sleep some more.”

Ah, distinctly I do recall, staring at the classroom wall,  
Pining for my warm, soft bed in which sweet slumber I adore.  
Eagerly I wished the bell that the class’s end would tell,  
Signifying freedom from this Hell — Hell where boredom does outpour—  
This painful, eternal Hell where abject boredom does outpour—  
Oh, how I longed to lie down and snore!

And the cruel, relentless squiggles of indecipherable math symbols  
Depressed me — filled me with boredom all too often felt before;  
So that now, my brain in a heavy haze, out the window I did gaze,  
Letting my mind rest and laze, avoiding the evil math teacher’s chore;—  
A trig exam, meaningless always, was the evil math teacher’s chore;—  
So I looked out the window, and nothing more.

Deep into the window peering, long I sat there, pained from hearing  
The sounds of many pencils scribbling answers to question four;—  
But my own test lay white and blank, from my mind no solutions could I yank;  
And with every passing minute further sank my tired spirits, already sore;—  
Away slipped the exam time, dragging my spirits, already sore;—  
Till time left there was no more.

And my math test, never touched, still is bunched, *still* is bunched,  
In a crumpled paper ball in a dusty corner of the class floor;  
And my brain is yet on its desperate quest to finally shut down and *rest*.  
Very tragically, from this grueling test but one thing did I secure;  
From eighty minutes of utter agony, but one thing I did secure:  
A failing grade — and nothing more!