

A Chaos Theory

by T.A. Noonan

*Ante mare et terras et quod tegit omnia caelum
unus erat toto naturae vultus in orbe,
quem dixere chaos: rudis indigestaque moles
nec quicquam nisi pondus iners congestaque eodem
non bene iunctarum discordia semina rerum. |1|*

—with spinster goddesses in the middle of

things

circling looms.

(Who?)

—with spinster goddesses

(No, which set?)

$(z = z^2 + x):$

if

(

$z = \{\text{moirae}\}$ and

$x = \{\text{eris}\}$

)

then

$\text{mandelbrot} = \{\infty\}$

else

$\text{mandelbrot} \neq \{\infty\};$

She-Who-Draws-Taut She-Who-Measures-Square She-Who-
Cuts-Dead-on-Target

they weave fabric to fight the cracking chill in their teeth

(No, tooth. Singular.)

—*that was the Graia* *not us.*

(Re-iteration.)

Our masterpiece they whisper *star-cloth to replace our
fractal* |1|

dresses *creatures to breathe praise into the void.* |2|

|1| P. Ovidius Naso, *Metamorphoses*.

|1| In this case, $(x = x^2 - a)$. The hole-to-thread constant is

approximately 4.669211660910299067185320382047.

|2| For the purposes of this poem, the author has identified the void with a eötvös (read: "KUT - vush") number. It is dimensionless and used to calculate flow patterns, droplets, and bubbles.

Symbolized "Eo." Ovid defines it thus:

EO - march on, advance, leave, go.

—Go.

As they spin so does their sister dancing to break her shivers.

$x \neq \{\text{eris}\}$

(She never was.)

She hears the looming shuttle stops mid-step.

$\text{mandelbrot} \neq \{\infty\}$

(It never does.)

How dare they end the dance?

(Let's try again.)

$(z = z^2 + x):$

if

(

$z = \{\text{kauket}\}$ and

$x = \{\text{tiamat}\}$

)

then

$\text{mandelbrot} = \{\text{spider}$

woman}\};

She-Who-Exists-Before-Light She-Who-Swells-in-Oceans She-Who-Weaves-Signs

The results don't match can't match check the math change the set

if

(

$z = \{\text{kali}\}$ and

She wars against design |3|

$x = \{\text{am-no-tanabata-}$

hime-no-mikoto}

)

then ...

—The circle tightens

This art Chaos our body and blood. |5|

Behold the warp. |8|

|3| Lanij and Lewoj, lesser gods of the Marshallese, claim responsibility for all unique animal patterns.

|5| They also introduced this art to humans in the form of tattooing.

|8| The word for tattoo in Marshallese is "eo."

—Go.

She-

(Who?)

-sheds her threadbare gown arches her back in the living cloak

then

mandelbrot != { ∞ };

(Keep adding anyway.)

As she turns the fabric ripples like surface tension

Sex mihi surgat opus numeris, in quinque residat:

Ferrea cum vestris bella valete modis.

Cingere litorea flaventia tempora myrto,

Musa, per undenos emodulanda pedes. |13|

|13| Ovid, Amores, Epistulae, Medicamina Faciei Femineae, Ars Amatoria, Remedia Amoris.

and poets peer at the weave—

