

Rachel Applebach
Graded Assignment 1: Form Poem Revised
English 250
Due Nov. 5th

Pantoum for Ovid's Medusa

She ambled across the cobblestones
bright-coiffed hair lifting in the breeze.
Entering the temple, all on her own,
holding tight the intent to appease.

Bright-coiffed hair lifting in the breeze
she knelt with lips softly murmuring.
Holding tight the intent to appease,
Unaware of the menace burgeoning.

She knelt with lips softly murmuring,
on the gentle glow of sunlit marble.
Unaware of the menace burgeoning,
the hidden god with thoughts most carnal.

On the gentle glow of sunlit marble,
his impatient hand forced her to all fours.
The hidden god with thoughts most carnal,
he violated her on sacred floors.

His impatient hand forced her to all fours,
his fingers twisted in her enticing hair.
He violated her on sacred floors,
snarling and howling without a care.

His fingers twisted in her enticing hair,
a phantom touch she could not ignore.
Snarling and howling without a care,
she lamented the burden she bore.

A phantom touch she could not ignore
pressed tenderly on her tossing head.
As she lamented the burden she bore,
the goddess eased her overwhelming dread.

Pressed tenderly on her tossing head,
a kiss so light it barely disturbed.

The goddess eased her overwhelming dread,
she gave the girl back what god perturbed.

A kiss so light it barely disturbed,
changed from treasured locks to treacherous snakes.
She gave the girl back what god perturbed;
safety, protection, a gaze made opaque.

Changed from treasured locks to treacherous snakes,
she ambled across the cobblestones.
Safety, protection, a gaze made opaque,
she exited the temple, all on her own.