

## Mathematical Double Dactyls

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# Mathematical Double Dactyls

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## Quadrature

Higgledy-piggledy  
Bryson and Antiphon,  
 $\pi$ -seeking polymaths—  
what a strange pair!

Oddly, their method of  
circumferentially  
inscribing polygons  
circled the square.

## Paradox

Higgledy-piggledy  
Zeno of Elea  
left to get tickets for  
Sophocles's play.

Slowly his steps became  
infinitesimal:  
motionless, Zeno got  
stuck at halfway.

## Apprehension

Higgledy-piggledy  
Archie of Syracuse  
burned Roman ships with his  
secret heat ray.

Marcellus asked, "Why so  
pyromaniacal?"  
"Don't touch my circles!" was  
all he would say.



### About the author

Tristan Miller is a computational linguist, ferret herder, and logologist. His poetry, puzzles, and humorous prose have appeared in *Light*, *Word Ways: The Journal of Recreational Linguistics*, *Babel: The Language Magazine*, and *The Annals of Improbable Research*.

### About the illustrator

Jin Wicked is a Houston-based studio artist and cartoonist. Her critically acclaimed portrait of Alan Turing is featured in Andrew Hodges's biography *Alan Turing: The Enigma*.