Perfect (a poem)

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Mathematicians call six a perfect number. Twenty-eight is another one. Such a number is equal to the sum of its proper positive divisors. It shows an inward beauty, a trimness of package: numbers containing other numbers they keep whole. I’m happy to know that unseen intellects puzzle over such matters, in love with numbers and what they do, while in your eyes, my love, fervent life multiplies inwardly; and I ply my discipline, admiring as you talk or laugh, struggling to comprehend your forms and powers and untold numbers