

## Asymptotic Dream

Oscar Gonzalez

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# Asymptotic Dream

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*A love poem about breaching mathematical limits,  
inspired by the tragic beauty of calculus.*

Although I am but a simple asymptote  
I can't help myself but measurably hope  
That one day I'll get what I truly deserve  
And actually touch that infinite curve

We were conceived in numbers but limited by function  
A denominator-gone-crazy algebraic dysfunction  
Calculating calculus keeps us in check  
From point to endless point on this sloping trek

They outlined and graphed our destiny  
Figured out our value to the  $n$ th degree  
They plotted against us on this matrix of hell  
Charting our parallel journeys from cell to cell

Our attraction is maddening and though we strive  
We accelerate ever closer but never arrive  
They string us along on this checkered plane  
Spinning on an axis and going insane

As we converge without touching our agony does multiply  
They claim that our love is a nullity, nothing but  $\pi$  in the sky  
But if imaginary numbers are permitted and fuzzy logic  
Why shouldn't boundless affection trump cold arithmetic?

Some clever egghead answering to a higher power  
An exponent of both the heart and mind may yet discover  
A revolutionary theorem or a tangential dimension  
An inspired moment of numerical invention

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What matters our coordinates or formulaic origins?  
Or from what we derived or where we've been?  
We can see the solution now—we are on the verge  
To lastly, wonderfully, merge, merge, MERGE!

And on that day when we embrace and our lines finally meet  
The divide will be healed and we'll be blissfully complete  
The integral joining that for so long we did forego  
Will be proof that the impossible just ain't so