

CH302 Random Musings—February 20, 2007

1. I am a sick puppy so this musings will be brief.
2. A reminder to clear up your HW Service and grading issues with Mazen as soon as possible. Please complete regrade request forms before or after class rather than let this stuff drag on.
3. I meet often with students who are concerned about their performance in this class. I encourage you that if you feel uncertain about being able to earn the grade you want, that you schedule an appointment with me by sending me an e-mail. I have attempted to respond to the hundreds of e-mails that have come my way, but if you haven't heard back by now, then something has gone awry (like filters, bad addresses, unread e-mails) and you should resend your requests to me. Also, there are only 168 hours in a week and I have a really busy schedule, so it is important to get on my calendar as soon as possible rather than waiting till the last minute.
4. There is a quiz 3 next Tuesday. The question types for that quiz are:
 - weak acid or base calculation
 - molar solubility calculation
 - ranking solubility based on K_{sp}
 - pH of a dilute strong acid or base
 - theory behind approximations in acid/base theory
 - neutralization reactions
 - identifying buffers
 - buffer calculation
5. Neal had reached the edge of his capacity and asked that I produce a worksheet 5 this weekend. I did so, and it is a transcendent vehicle intended to give you a thorough review of simple equilibrium calculations and some appreciation for the approximations that make simple calculations possible. If you can really understand that worksheet then you are perfectly prepared to grasp the more difficult material that begins today with an introduction to neutralization.
6. Neal e-mailed me begging for the chance to redeem himself by writing worksheet 6 on the concepts to show up on the next quiz. I said, sure, redeem yourself. It will be done sometime this weekend after Neal sleeps off the effects of an extended Fat Tuesday celebration.
7. Public Service Announcements.
 - The Health Professions Fair is tomorrow, February 21 from 10 am to 5 pm in the Texas Union Ballroom. You can meet with representatives from schools of Medicine, Dentistry, Physical Therapy, Clinical Laboratory Science, Nursing, Veterinary Medicine and more. For more information, go to the Health Professions Office website at www.cns.utexas.edu/hpo.
 - The Asian American Campus Ministry is having a Talent Show on Saturday, February 24th at Hogg Auditorium at 8:00pm. Admission is free and anyone and everyone is welcome. The show will promote AIDS awareness so people are encouraged to wear red to the event.

8. Valentines Day poetry drags on—angry poetry by your peers—sadly you all only submitted nice poetry that I will include next week. So these are from past classes.

Valentines Day

Personal sentiment, hand to hand held,
Kisses and hugs (because sensitive sells),
Roses and cards we will send,
Though it's all about sex in the end,
But if he gets what he wants all is well.
She wants to think that she knows what she needs,
Showered with words, wowed with gestures and deeds,
That smack of love unceasing;
Naught but unknowingly increasing
The stock value of chocolate companies.
It will end in decay, just like always, the same;
Like severed plant genitals—what's in a name?
Your love's a faux, an ideal
A trick, dance, war, dross, joy, plot, shell, a spiel,
We just want sex, don't make it a game.

There is a girl blabbing nothing outside my window
What do I have to show
To a world that the only way to destroy
Is to die like a baby boy
I could be happy in infinity
Of the space of my eyelid
But I know I'm somewhere else
Where the words on this page
Are better than the scribbling nonsense they are
And it would be real,
And I eat my last meal
Wish that I could feel
But now I don't even know if I'm real

A dove is a glove
That I wear in my heart
And though I like to dress smart
It doesn't have any part of the world of fashion
And you're there to put me down
And I'm sick of the frowns that follow me around
I would like the sky but there's no reason why
Shed say to this world with the nose of a girl
Turned up so loud that IT SINGS STEALS THE CLOUDS
I've never been here and though you're physically near
You're pushing me away to decay like the days that I loved

My EX Boyfriend

You made me sad
when you were mad
but now that we broke up I am glad
Cause now I can date Laudeman's son
And we'll have lots of fun
But more important than that
I finally found my true friends
and now we eat alot at kins
One pulled my head out of a trash can
another stood up for me like a true fan
the other hooked me up with some man
while the third taught me God's plan
what do I need you for
anymore
I have my friends who are in this class
and they caught me a delicious bass
They are everything to me
And now I finally see
I would be nothing without Helen, Audrey, and the two
Amy's

From a girl's bathroom at Burdine Hall

By the time you swear you're his
Shivering and Sighing
And he vows his passion is
Infinite -- Undying
Lady make a note of this
One of you is lying

Hollow

Don't look at me
with those piercing eyes...
You can pick and probe
but you'll never hear
my smothered cries.
Don't look too deep---
you'll waste yourself,
for there's nothing to see
but an empty shell.
Don't stare too intently
into the void.
Like a black hole, the darkness
you can't avoid.
I can see you straining
to find the sparkle in my eye.
But it's been washed away so long ago
and left here in the cold to dry.
There's nothing in me now...
No tears, nor fire;
No fears, nor desire.
I am hollow,
but I am sane.
I am jaded,
but I am tame.
So, don't bother trying to gaze
into the depths of my soul,
for, there is nothing there but space---
emptiness amidst the lull.
There is fog and mist
and everything is gray.
But, in the coldness
there's no emotion to give away.
You think that I
am flesh and bone
But, the truth is, I am
made of stone.
Can you not see
the nothingness inside of me?
Do you hear me complaining?

This hollowness is captivating...
mesmerizing... vindicating!
The cold has frozen my heart
and this numbness brings me peace
No sadness, no pain;
my mind finally at ease...
I may be hollow,
but I am sane.
I may be jaded,
but I am tame.
So, remember this
when next you try
to look into me
with piercing eyes.
All you will see
is the emptiness
that sets me free.