Perequian room descriptions

This exercise will get you doing a little composition under a constraint that imposes no limits on the words you may use but rather on the style in which you conduct your affairs. Little as you’ve likely yet read of it, I’m sure you’ve noticed that Perec has a certain style to his writing: rich with detail related to color, pattern, number, and direction, and susceptible to prolix biographical and historical tangents Perec’s descriptions paint punctilious portraits both of the apartments at 11 Rue Simon-Crebellier and of the people who live in them.

For Tuesday’s class, I ask you to craft a description of one of the rooms in your residence, in the manner of Perec. More specifically, select a room (your bedroom, perhaps, or a bathroom, living room, kitchen, etc.), and provide the reader with a lavish view of its fittings, paying particular attention to Perequian parameters as you write. You may wish to think about what the room tells you about its occupant or occupants: what stories would the objects in the room tell of you were to examine their histories? How do the fixtures of the room relate to one another and to the people who make use of them?

Please come to class on Tuesday with three hard copies of your description. As with the last assignment, I will ask you each to read every one of your peers’ pieces.

Please let me know at once if you have any questions about this assignment. Have fun!