Villanelle

Example: Ten

Page 28 in Room 214: A Year in Poems (Spinning Through the Universe in hardcover)

by Helen Frost (Frances Foster Books, FSG, 2004)

Rules of the form:

*A 19-line poem, with five 3-line stanzas and one 4-line stanza.

*The first and third lines rhyme throughout the poem.

*The middle lines of each 3-line stanza rhyme throughout the poem.

*The first and third lines of the first stanza repeat as a refrain throughout the poem, in this pattern:

rhyme a / line A1 rhyme b rhyme a / line A2

rhyme a (rhymes with A1 and A2) rhyme b

repeat line A1

rhyme a rhyme b repeat line A2

rhyme a rhyme b repeat line A1

rhyme a rhyme b repeat line A2

rhyme a rhyme b repeat line A1 repeat line A2