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Labors of Chemistry

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LABORS OF CHEMISTRY

Teddy Lishan Desta

When I saw you that day
 you were in much distress
 over an unbalanced equation
 that you feared would leave
 the whole world, the cosmos
 at risk; at the brink of chaos.

Ah! But only for this missing molecule
 which you couldn't tell, where it disappeared
 to what thing it morphed; to which place it went.
 What a loss!

That is why when I saw you next
 you were running fast, down
 the corridors of the universe
 chasing the missing molecule;
 not to leave the universe at risk –
 unbalanced, unhinged?

When I saw you last
 you were happy-faced
 for the Right Side and Left Side
 that were seamlessly in balance.

By Gosh!
 no wonder you were happy-faced
 as you met no wrath, no grudges
 no anger, no rebukes
 from the teachers, the sages –
 from Dalton, or Lavoisier
 Cavendish, or Medvedev.



THE BEES KNEES Rebecca Hays