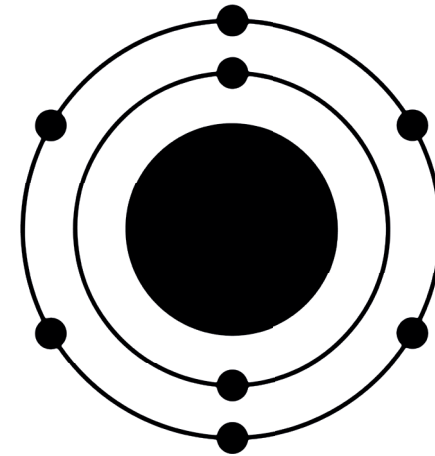
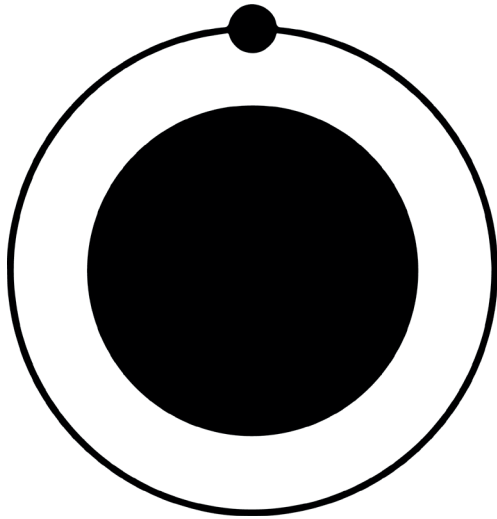


oxygen: $1s^2 2s^2 2p^4$

every body is an echo of something that happened a long time ago
every happening a split in space time
every before unknown until the after
when the visitation comes it takes the land's breath away
stripped in swathes of white against a green-brown floor
when the visitation comes it takes the body's land away
turns a vista once known in minutiae into alien terrain
we awoke aghast at this new prospect
that which we thought was ours is no longer
i take myself outside and do not recognise the way that i move
the land escapes me
every stone an echo of something that happened a long time ago
every body a remembrance
hold on to something human
or let go of everything that once was
the first a battle
the second a reckoning





hydrogen: 1s¹

hello do you read me?

i lay in the wreckage where i once was / a hollow-dug-out-blast-chamber / weep into my own remains

life blown into a pink mist

the body the body the body the body / a lament

ashes scattered all across time

we must gather now / that is all that there is to be done

the work is slow

an absence / an ache

1650 degrees celsius is a violet shrine / but hydrogen can burn hotter than the sun

we work to find each other in the darkness / to make meaning of another world

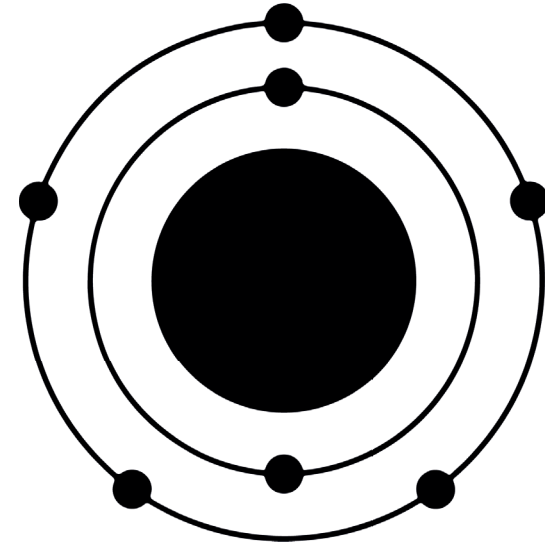
i learned some things that i did not know before

a charcoal blade / a gaseous moan

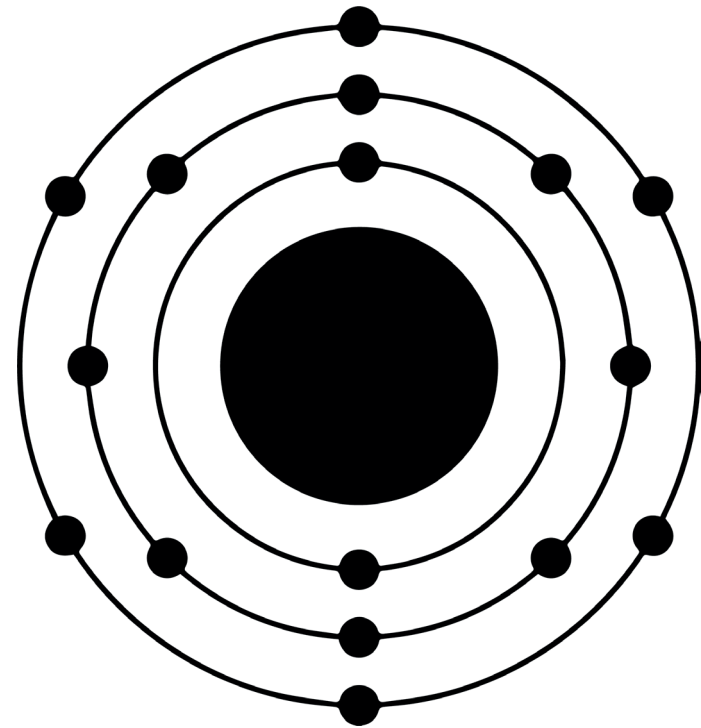
did your body burn hotter than the sun?

does anything feel the same as it was before?

is anyone else out there?



nitrogen: $1s^2 2s^2 2p^3$ the body is a landscape that particles move through / most of our atoms made of empty space
100 trillion neutrinos slipping through us each second / every particle a solar system
spilling outwards from unknown origin / going who knows where
move through mud/dirt/rock/body/tree/ice/water/flesh/wind/tongue/pain/metal
move through salt/shell/shield/slime/bones/bread/time
sickness grounds me back into the soil / fingers mapping ridges in the land
fallow maybe not forever maybe inchoate
to fertilise crops / to feed bodies / to make weapons / to fell bodies
a season cycles through / deep time / gas dissolving in the blood / rising to the surface too quickly / desperate for air

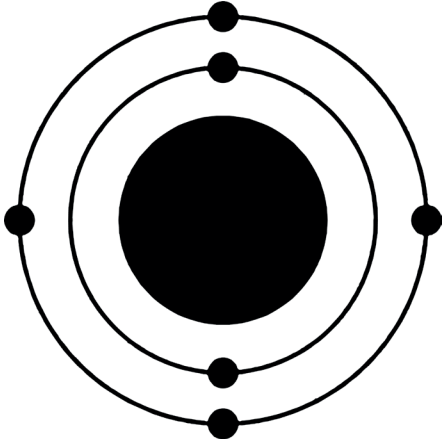


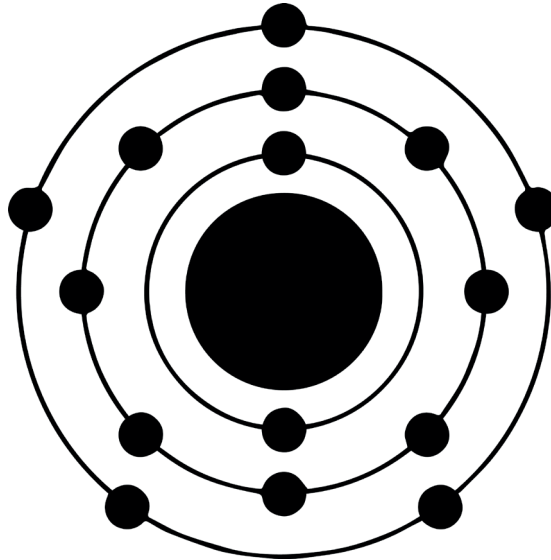
sulphur: $1s^2 2s^2 2p^6 3s^2 3p^4$

97.9% of a human is made up of six elements / nothing stays still
mountains breaking down at 2.5mm a year / lava flowing at 6 miles an hour
meteorites containing 12% sulphur deepened from yellow to black at 250 degrees
death valley rocks moving at 6 metres per minute

the slowest thing in the world is a cloud / cooled by lasers to near absolute zero / light slowed down to 17 meters per second
the slowest thing in the world is a cloud / or is it an illegible body waiting to be understood / or waiting for its land to be returned / or the past to be repaid

carbon: $1s^2 2s^2 2p^2$ soot coal ash smog deep peat reservoirs crushed black smoke pits dark down below below crumble rock in between every finger nail streaked with grease oil muck mud markings shapes of things turned to stone lay lines under gravel pits piles of highway grown over coughing up every bit of smoke smog coal ash fire light white heat pain brighter than the sun cleaves holes into every thing take this then say thank you a match stick blackened withered in a box a gaping wide open mouth wet teeth pearl tongue hungrier now than ever before feed me with plant with rock with touch with time





phosphorus: $1s^2 2s^2 2p^6 3s^2 3p^3$

come the light bearer / come the morning star / show us the layers of bone lost in the fading light
there is never any way back to it / no map that can guide us / what we have lost is already gone
transformed into another state of matter(ing)

all of the energy / wasted / on / outlines / dissolving / in the mud

another tide / coming in / another wind / moving through / another age / passing