

Headwaters

Little Lava Lake, Oregon

The stars
 above and reflected
are the reason
 for being here

We come from particles
 left from the birth of our star
Hydrogen and helium
 the building-materials of a world

And water
 Our planet's miracle
Water that came from asteroids
 and that same creating solar nebula

Water—
 which is also why we are here

where the crust of earth
 cracks open unseen
under this lake
 allowing a secret flow

Call it *Towarnehiooks*
 Call it *Rivière aux Chutes*
Call it the *Falls* or the *Clarks* or
 Deschutes

Our river
 Born in earth
Continually beginning
 under this river of stars