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## Gamos

Jonathon Egan

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# Gamos

by Jonathon Egan

## I. Half-life

	Despair? Imagined?
	Hardly bestead and hungry?
Uranium	We, two things wedded and
Thorium	Temple-stretched taut as new cloth,
Protactinium	Began burning oil and wick;
Uranium	Shedding time like bedclothes
Radium	Back when Pluto was a planet.
Radon	Decades. Dinners. Diapers. Duck-dogs –
Bismuth	Trousers rolled, and
Polonium	Clocked by kitchen counter
Lead	'Til the isotope was stable:
	Matrimonium 264

## II. Chrysopoeia – Or What Comes After Physics

Panacea	Mene. What? And
	Mene. How?
	Agape, as Seaborg stunned on Baikal's beach,
	The glory of the sun in each.
	A change in the shield. Hermetically sealed.
	Here's certitude, and help for pain,
	And buttered bread of holy grain,
	Kefir prayers of long ferment,
	A single light now radiant.
	Betas, gammas fully spent
Gold	And finally in our element.

Called from the highway, linen lends.  
On common ground the world ends.

*Jonathon Todd Egan, DC, PhD, (BS – BYU '98), is currently Dean of a chiropractic college in California. He is married to his wife, Heidi, for 22 years – and this poem ("Gamos") was written in honor of that anniversary: as both Jonathon and Heidi are 44 years old, the 22nd anniversary represented being married for their "half life" for both of them. Jonathon and Heidi have 5 children, the oldest of which just finished serving an LDS mission, and the next oldest of which is in process of submitting mission papers. Creatively, Jonathon has also released an album of faith and family centered alternative and progressive rock (called "Godspeed") in 2016 with the band Bravery Test, available on*

*streaming services and everywhere digital music is typically available. Jonathon served an LDS mission in Sweden, and has also served as Bishop and as counselor in Bishoprics, counselor in a Mission Presidency, Ward Mission Leader, Nursery Leader, and (most delightful of all) Primary Pianist.*