

## Good News

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“and all the atoms cry aloud” – Bahá'u'lláh

And the scientists told the newspapers  
that the atoms had learned to speak  
but the journalists had never heard  
of such a thing  
so they could not trust their ears  
or their scribbled notes.

And so when the papers were published  
the people read  
that the atoms had learned to split,  
and that the scientists had taught them,  
which was not completely untrue  
but what was truer  
was that the atoms  
had learned to speak  
and had, in fact, been speaking for some time.

When the scientists first heard the atoms' voices,  
small and grainy like sand,  
they were alarmed  
that they spoke in unison  
using words the scientists did not know,  
which was surprising  
because  
they were scientists  
and had learned many words  
that even their mothers  
could not pronounce.

And as the atoms spoke of rising suns  
and blazing fires  
the scientists began to catalogue  
the things they did not know:  
That nameless burning heat  
the atoms called a father  
and whatever mother  
had taught the atoms to rise,  
to speak, to circle round like a choir  
and pray so quiet and so nice.