

URANIUM by Ehab Lotayef

*for Bob Lovelace of Ardoch Algonquin First Nation, written at the site of the open pit uranium mine at Robertsville, Ontario*

The river doom  
is flowing home  
draining your life before its time

A hunger strike  
you can't escape  
for seven generations to come

The buried hope  
is a fairytale  
concealing an eternal night

Under the hoofs  
of a dying horse  
you'll find no light

In a billion years\*  
—a mutant's fear—  
It will be here  
We will be dust

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January 28, 2008

\*Uranium-238 (99.8% of all Uranium) has a half-life of 4.5 billion years.