

Chlorine's Ode

The vast seas have been keeping us apart,
But there's something electrostatic between us,
You've gone your way with the oxygens,
While I have been near the H-plus.

One day the waters will dry,
And all will be perfect again,
We'll be a happy octahedral family,
In a crystal of rocksalt, Fm3m.

Our closest friends will be at our union,
5 best cations and 5 anionmaids,
Our very extended families all around us,
So far out, our view of them fades.

You are my dear sodium,
So atomically light,
If we can keep close together,
Our love will remain pure and white.

- 3rd place: Eric Popczun, National Energy Technology Laboratory, Pittsburgh