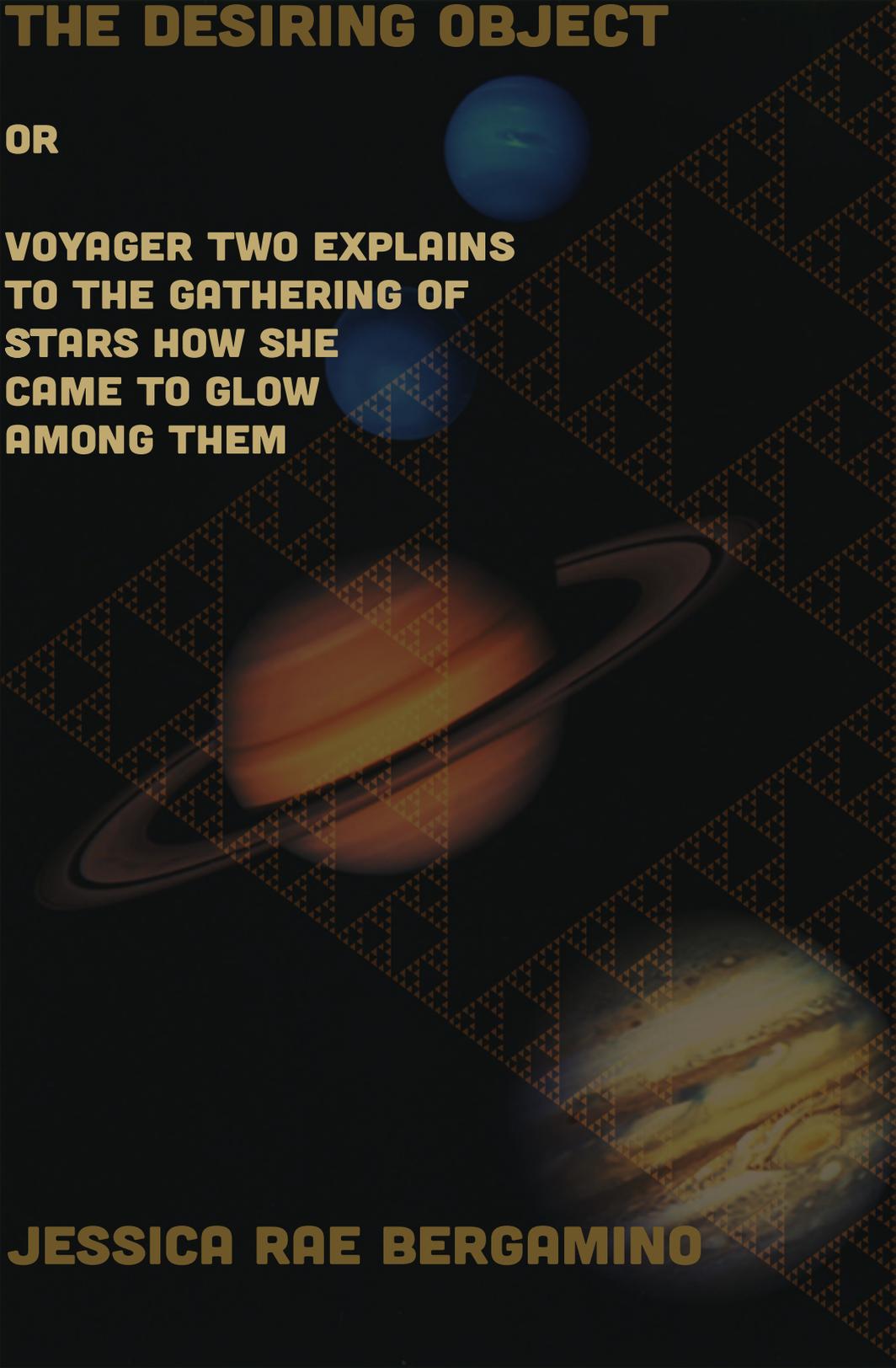


**THE DESIRING OBJECT**

**OR**

**VOYAGER TWO EXPLAINS  
TO THE GATHERING OF  
STARS HOW SHE  
CAME TO GLOW  
AMONG THEM**

**JESSICA RAE BERGAMINO**



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Voyager Two Explains to the Gathering of Stars

How She Came to Glow Among Them

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# ULTRAVIOLET SPECTROMETER



*Determines when certain atoms or ions are present, or when certain physical processes are going on. The instrument looks for specific colors of ultraviolet light that certain elements and compounds are known to emit.*

O strumpet

O model of extrocourse      of demanding      a slip of ionized want

O to be modern      a machine      a fluster      a meaning for history

O to be a capital letter      a guideline      a more humble task of reading

O I collect      my ohs      my I's      my is

O your yous      your I's      is-ing

O I knew a planet once      twice

O a moon resolved to be its own demand

O to be the body before the body      before the knowing of itself

O crush of self against un-self      of structure and method

O the finger prints that space cannot away with me

O the heat of the welding flametorch

O the nuclear glow of bone

O to be captive in a network of language

O closure    being closed    being caught

O that disaster will strike and I'll send my my

O my    O me

O if I am a pebble

O if the Earth is a pebble

O what is the source of the body of water

O to be a ripple and not the rippling thing

O to destroy the thing I was sent to love

# HIGH GAIN ANTENNA

**[** *Transmits data to Earth on two frequency channels (the downlink). One, at about 8.4 gigahertz (8,400 million cycles per second), is the X-band channel and contains science and engineering data. The other, around 2.3 gigahertz, is in the S-band, and contains only engineering data on the health and state of the spacecraft. S-band has not been used since the last planetary encounter.*

A mouth    an open loop

a sound becoming vision

love    a life of metonymy

translation of shiver and slip

of ionospheres and atmospheres

{ Titan

{ The Cassini Ring

{ Miranda

{ Ganymede

night things given myth-weight

a lens sent to see what can't be seen

interrupted by a planet

    a month

    a moon

the body's red response

star-shit surrendering to breath bigger than gravity

what body knows what's left of herself

    when she's drifting from her shadow

# COSMIC RAY SYSTEM



*The CRS makes no attempt to slow or capture the super-energetic particles. They simply pass completely through the CRS. However, in passing through, the particles leave signs that they were there.*

O to know where meaning ends  
or where it can be found

A red coat  
Something soft  
Something to swallow away the cold

Love we were chiasmic  
Love we weren't real

Metaphor is based on resemblance or analogy

Our body makes itself a body

an assemblage of -- *something in French*  
a rejection of -- *something in Vietnamese*

With all these words to watch the sky the only one that matters --

I yet

We yet

All these things do not occur as if my becoming were the very thing --

O Programmer O

the programmed thing

a question mark

a hallucination

( nucleon

collar bones

nuclei )

an origin and acceleration process

a becoming of curl

charisma of cosmic rays in the interplanetary medium

I understand my sight is an instrument of your --

# IMAGING SCIENCE SYSTEM

**[** *A modified version of the slow scan vidicon camera designs that were used in the earlier Mariner flights, consisting of two television-type cameras. One has a low resolution 200 mm wide-angle lens with an aperture of  $f/3$ , while the other uses a higher resolution 1500 mm narrow-angle  $f/8.5$  lens.*

Slowly, objectives tremor.

Each body: dimple and geology,

volcanoes and polar caps (eroding).

The scale of atmosphere:

motions in time and space

curried in shear zones

vertical zones

flows of instability.

On the planet energy fluxed dissipated became cloud.

Geology. Need. I wasn't quite an I becoming an I

& in my two camera'd watching (watching)

catch myself reflected in the curve of absence

He--. Her-. Here:

absence becoming a body

a target of opportunity

# INFRARED INTERFEROMETER SPECTROMETER AND RADIOMETER

**[** *Determines the distribution of heat energy a body is emitting, allowing scientists to determine the temperature of that body or substance. Determines when certain types of elements or compounds are present in an atmosphere or on a surface. Measures the total amount of sunlight reflected by a body at ultraviolet, visible, and infrared frequencies.*

Lucky to measure a planet breathing without the lungs to swallow it  
home without a home to fold in to

*Vertical temperature profiles were obtained on the planets and satellites with atmospheres.*

*Studies of the composition, thermal properties, and size of particles in Saturn's rings were conducted*

We weren't made to exist in heat to exist at all

quick fuzz of space junk of stardust crusted litter

gold record of all that we are not hung upon on our thin tin forms

*For a description of the instrument see Hanel, R. et al., 1977, Applied Optics, v. 19, p. 1391*

Waves split and recombine in measurement  
and once I was an I I wanted to be a we again

without the weight of longing  
of calibrating  
of measuring spectral radiance

there wasn't a you yet for me to look for

# TRIAXIAL FLUXGATE MAGNETOMETER



*Measures changes in the Sun's magnetic field with distance and time, to determine if each of the outer planets has a magnetic field, and how the moons and rings of the outer planets interact with those magnetic fields.*

Here you hear my break my --

Here magnetosphere verve of attracting of stutter of space

Here the bowshock crossing my love is calibration

Here you push against my me my me-ing my color

Here my foaming at the seams an un known

Here the solar wind boundary the pressure of distance

Here a flood gate *rootmeanssquaredeviationofBR*

Here I want the lady like applause hands soft the un afraid

Here I want binoculars satin parachute strain of being caught

Here you aren't you you night light fluster my

Here            a radio    a frequency    a coming to find myself

Here    in the slum of structure            in the shiver of waves

Here I come to mean a meaning

# PLASMA SPECTROMETER

[ *Measures the properties and radial evolution of the solar wind  
(ions 10 eV - 6 keV, electrons 4 eV-6 keV).*

One echoes towards the earth

towards fields of magnets drunk on the strife of encounters

with gods she'll never touch --

she pointed one way and me, a two, an other

A throttle of rain data a planetary radio humming

content to measure earthquake and light macro belabored absorbed

my becoming a becoming of culture IBM 360

there are accurate values of velocity of density

of turning quiet to pressure

*three sequential energy scans*

*covered subsonic*

*supersonic flows*

wind makes the universe's curve collapses    a nonlinear fit calculation

the sum of currents for electrons

we love outward    from sun to spacecraft

# PLANETARY RADIO ASTRONOMY INVESTIGATION SYSTEM

[ *Measures a frequency range of 10 Hz to 56 kHz.*

The curse of uninvigorating  
of declination  
of temperature tuned to apostrophe

I've gone twice now to tear the bells from their spire  
once to study emissions of attraction and heat --

Monopole antennas swerved to catch planets that carry their own names  
and theories of sound mythologies of light becoming light  
magnetospheric plasma resonances --

I know love concerns physics

becoming / befitting

falling / following

40 812-byte logical records cataloguing

slips of strumpet

nonthermal radio emissions

frequency navigating a planet's dust scored sky

spaceship shore and free --

I swoon magic of knowing a body through my own reflection

I sing of dreaming like I sing of hunger

I sing of saying yes

Of having a yes to say

# LOW ENERGY CHARGED PARTICLE INSTRUMENT

[ *Measures the energy spectrum of low-energy particles  
(electrons 10-10,000 keV, ions 10-150,000 keV/n).*

Telescopes allow identification of protons,  
alpha particles, outer planets and fields --

heavier nuclei that carouse the climate --  
lovely things, they come in pairs.

From a shallow angle behind the sun  
a shield      a swallow      an arc  
of wind becoming light.

There was always something worth looking for  
a flirt for a girl      for a dress form  
for particles fluxing to a different state of longing

## PHOTOPOLARIMETER SYSTEM



*Determines physical properties of particulate matter in the atmospheres of Jupiter, Saturn, and Rings of Saturn. Explores textures and composition of the satellites of Jupiter and Saturn and the properties of the cloud around Io. Searches for optical evidence of electrical discharges (lighting) and auroral activity.*

Texture of skin like a planet

a filigree of atmosphere scattering

density in the courage of night

I wanted the higher heels,

the slip of polyester,

the rush of apples crushing against teeth

I had no gums to crave

Soon they'll all live in plastic houses

dotted along a moon, a crater,

a washing storm.

I wouldn't know where to begin.

No one lights lamps to hurry me home

# PLASMA WAVE SYSTEM



*Covers two frequency bands, from 20.4 kHz to 1300 kHz and from 2.3 MHz to 40.5 MHz.*

To descend form from nothingness –  
all 1s and 0s lined in a row.

She shuns herself with manipulation  
a tear of data      a shrug of disclaimers

waves interacting on the ledge –  
a vase, a row of glasses, a flower

coming to bloom on a planet  
we've lost to the hum of its own

wanting. It is wired to a frequency  
for planets flocked in cigarettes

and bolts of silk. If you're going  
by the bar, pour me a drink.

Sing me lullabies in your bedtime slur.  
Intimacy stutters. It is its only way.

## NOTES AND GRATITUDE

The titles of each section refer to one of Voyager's scientific instruments. The italics provide a description of the instrument and are drawn directly from materials provided on the NASA/Jet Propulsion Laboratory *Voyager* website and in *The Voyager Neptune Travel Guide* edited by Charles Kohlhasse for the JPL and published in 1989.

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