

flood of energy into the stream of life; and these are the reactions automatically provided for by the cosmic process.

From the materialistic and the energetic standpoint alike, carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen, each by itself, and all taken together, possess unique and preëminent chemical fitness for the organic mechanism. They alone are best fitted to form it and to set it in motion; and their stable compounds, water and carbonic acid, which make up the changeless environment, protect and renew it, forever drawing fresh energy from the sunshine.