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“Science magazine reporter Kean views the periodic table as one of the great achievements of humankind, "an anthropological marvel," full of stories about our connection with the physical world. Funny, even chilling tales are associated with each element, and Kean relates many. With a constant flow of fun facts bubbling to the surface, Kean writes with wit, flair, and authority in a debut that will delight even general readers.”

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Find *The Disappearing Spoon* at www.amazon.com

Strange Tales from the Periodic Table: The Disappearing Spoon

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Strange Tales from the Periodic Table:
The Disappearing Spoon

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What famous U.S. landmark contains decorative aluminum?

A) The Liberty Bell  
B) The Washington Monument  
C) Henry David Thoreau’s cabin at Walden Pond  
D) The Statue of Liberty  
E) The Alamo
Can the Periodic Table Tell a Story?

![Image of the book "Of the Disappearing Spoon" by Sam Kean]

![Image of three scientists looking at a document]
Alabamine

Virginium

Illinimum

[Image of a man in a military uniform]
Why did many chemists oppose the idea of naming an element after Glenn Seaborg?

A) He wasn’t a U.S. citizen
B) He’d worked on controversial parts of the Manhattan Project
C) There were rumors of fraud in his laboratory
D) He named names during McCarthyism
E) He was still living at the time
Figure 22—Periodic Table by Markins and Hall.
### Strange Tales from the Periodic Table: The Disappearing Spoon

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Title: “Boys Behind a Science Experiment”
Artist: Unknown, British
Date: Late 1850s

Caption #1
Caption #2

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