

The Planet Will Erase Us

by Gary Hardaway

with waves of water and waves of illness.

With waves of heat and waves of drought.

Wind and tides will evacuate our shores.

Our control of nature is a silly story we've told
ourselves as long as I can remember. We control

nothing. Not the ocean currents,
not the upper level wind currents,

not the rate at which the earth warms
burned by coal, petroleum, and methane.

Imagine Venus. Imagine Earth
cloaked in gasses that allow the heat in

and then retain it. We will be erased
by forces we ignored and can't

comprehend. The mounds of our dead
will stink up the skies for awhile

then vanish as creatures we can't imagine
evolve to replace us with a greater wisdom.

