

12.22.12

*by* Gary Hardaway

No jagged bits of crust were thrust up  
through the prairie's black gumbo  
to give us cataclysmic mountain views.

Road noise reverberates  
off the fake brick walls along  
both sides of West Parker Road,

same as it ever was. Oak leaves fall  
collecting in a coarse brown snow  
atop the cut-for-winter beige

of Bermuda and St. Augustine.  
The holly fruit burns plump and red  
for Cardinals and Jays.

