

Begettings

by Gary Hardaway

Dysfunction cascades--
parent to child to grandchild
and so forth down the line—

until someone's smart enough
to be infertile or celibate
or erectile dysfunctional.

Fucking heredity
and its handmaids,
nurture and abuse.

However did we make it this far
without murdering one another
as the other sleeps

and blaming it on madness
or the demons the id will conjure
just for the hell of it?

