

Test

by Gary Hardaway

They test the siren in the park.
It dopplers through the neighborhood
as it turns through all the compass points.

It is only a test.
No imminent hail or twister
on this clear cold Saturday in March.

No incoming Stukas,
Migs, or intercontinental
ballistic missiles.

We're safe as houses
and unmoved. We grow
accustomed to the sound

so when the real
emergency emerges,
we can shrug it off.

