

# Thick Air

*by* Gary Hardaway

The air is very heavy today. And thick. You breathe it in and it doesn't want to go and once it's in, it doesn't want to leave. It leaves this residue and it's very hard to catch your breath. Your head gets congested as if the residue has jammed the gears inside your brain. The only thoughts that come are old ones that are so needy they keep circling through for attention or the practical ones like you're almost out of toothpaste.

The air's been heavy a lot the last two years. Maybe it's because this city's too close to sea level but nowhere near the sea and its nice sea breezes. They say that Denver has thin air up there in Colorado. Maybe it's time to move to where the air is thin and isn't heavy and full of residue; maybe new thoughts would have a chance to cycle through in Denver.

