

# Three in a Major Key

*by Gary Hardaway*

## **A Gentle Rain**

has fallen half the day.  
It's mid - August in North Texas  
and such weather isn't common.  
I embrace and welcome it.

One can watch the grass green  
in response. One can watch the world green  
in response. The moment grows  
beyond its natural boundaries,  
green and glistening.

## **Setting the First Stone Aside**

Your parents were as fucked  
by their parents as you were by yours.  
Cut them some slack. Grant them

the forgiveness you want.  
It won't hurt you and might help them.  
Forgiveness brings no harm,

only a small chance for everyone  
to stop fingering the scars  
that only fade but never heal.

## **Our Children Outgrow our Meager Resources for Teresa Chapman**

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Available online at *«<http://fictionaut.com/stories/gary-hardaway/three-in-a-major-key>»*  
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This room is far too small to pin up  
all you are. We would need a convention center  
to capture, on the walls, all you are.

In that sense, we can't afford you. You exceed  
all our budgets and grow larger, still.  
It is a sadness and a joy. We want

to capture you and release you at the same time.  
It is a conundrum we can't afford  
nor can afford to set aside.

