

## Wilderness House Literary Review 7/2

*Carl Palmer*  
**mirage**

no trees no traffic just this ruler straight  
interstate leading to a blue mountain  
range floating beyond the far horizon

silver lakes evaporate at our approach  
a sea ahead completely covering the road  
retreats in the heat before we can arrive

deserted ancient ocean sand not even damp  
as another oasis appears draws us never nearer  
to ever distant mountains in the western sky