All-Carbon Carbodicarbene

**Significance:** The authors present the first carbodicarbene stabilized by two cyclopropenylidenes. Compound 3 is made by deprotonation of the corresponding triafulvene cyclopropenium salt and is characterized by NMR at –60 °C. The divalent electron-donating property of the center carbon on 3 is confirmed by generating main-group and transition-metal complexes.

**Comment:** A carbenoid carbon is usually stabilized by amino groups through charge delocalization. Herein the authors use a phenyl group to serve a similar purpose and the carbodicarbene, which is based solely on carbon without any heteroatom, is very impressive. The stable complexes 4–6 are all characterized by single-crystal X-ray diffraction.

**Equations:**

1. $\text{[Ph}_{3}\text{C}]_{2}\text{BF}_{4}$ (2 equiv)
2. $\text{HBF}_{4}$, 2 Ph$_3$CH
3. KHMDS, Et$_2$O, –45 °C
4. B(C$_6$F$_5$)$_3$
5. GaCl$_3$
6. Au$^+$, Dipp–OTf

**Key words:**
- carbodicarbenes
- bent allenes
- carbon donors
- gold complexes