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 Synthesis of a Carbodicyclopropenylidene: A Carbodicarbene Based Solely on Carbon
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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 $-60\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$. 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.

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