

2010

# Only Waitress At The Truck-stop Who Never Uses The Cash Register

Justin Hyde

Follow this and additional works at: <https://ir.uiowa.edu/iowareview>

Part of the [Creative Writing Commons](#)

---

## Recommended Citation

Hyde, Justin. "Only Waitress At The Truck-stop Who Never Uses The Cash Register." *The Iowa Review* 40.1 (2010): 175-177. Web.  
Available at: <https://doi.org/10.17077/0021-065X.6865>

This Contents is brought to you for free and open access by Iowa Research Online. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Iowa Review by an authorized administrator of Iowa Research Online. For more information, please contact [lib-ir@uiowa.edu](mailto:lib-ir@uiowa.edu).

ONLY WAITRESS AT THE TRUCK-STOP WHO  
NEVER USES THE CASH REGISTER

JUSTIN HYDE

pamela  
is half indian,  
gray-black hair  
in a double braid  
down her back.

every time  
she serves me  
another waitress  
rings the ticket.

i figured  
she was slow  
or bad with numbers,  
maybe had a  
theft charge  
in her past.

but yesterday  
on my way out  
she was sitting  
on the  
hood of her car  
smoking a  
cigarette.

175

come here a sec  
tell me  
what this says,  
she motioned over  
and handed me  
a white piece of paper  
creased in thirds.

told me  
she found it  
taped to her  
apartment door  
that morning.

176

i told her  
it was a note  
from her landlord  
saying she had  
five business days  
to get rid of  
her dog.

she stood up  
and snuffed out  
the cigarette  
with her heel.

bear's been  
with me  
since idaho,  
she said  
and walked back in  
leaving the note  
in my hand.