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Untitled Photograph 5

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woman smiles at the clerk when the girl asks how she is doing this evening, as if to say to the girl, "you don't really want to know".

The clerk sorts the change on the counter into her drawer. "Have a nice night", said as an afterthought to the woman's back as she drags her bags and children out the door. The clerk checks her cell phone and texts her boyfriend, then she stares out the window into the artificially illuminated night. She thinks about how much she has saved up this past year so that she could go away to the big university. This coming fall she is really going this time...really. Then maybe she will be free of this town...Maybe...someday.

Adrianna Schommer

