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Playboy

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PLAYBOY

Don't remember the last magazine I
bought.

Gorgeous, surprising
people always inside them though.
Like pop-up stories.

Don't remember how much I
paid last
time
to see the price
of beauty.

And you come up to
register #1
all old and lonely
and ask me,
all young and fulfilled,
to ring up
your emptiness.

\$6.95 is
the price to
pay for your lack of
humanity.

And the old pigeon
hands me the change after
diggin' for awhile in that
deep, big ol'
pocket
of his hopin'
for the perfect
exact
direct
precise
change to put
in my little
hot
hand.

He grins and
I hope to God
I don't
remind
him of the one on page
twenty-three.
I know he
thinks that
because I, too, am
grass-like and
fresh.

And he walks out of the store
strollin' and laughin' to himself
like he just pleaded guilty
to a crime.
I grimace as
he strolls out
laughin',
because I
have just seen
the sad
picture
that lust
poses for
and the lack of humanity
purchasable
all over the world.

— *Sarah Tasic*