Caveat Vendor

Nancy Carver*

*Iowa State University

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Abstract

A renovated brick facade Encloses their world A land of sturdy oxfords, Glass counters and Coat-hanger smiles A place where “The customer is Always Right,” Is emblazoned in their minds And on their paychecks...
Caveat Vendor

by Nancy Carver, Journalism Senior

A renovated brick facade
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Glass counters and
Coat-hanger smiles
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Computer-like minds recall
The darling snowflake mittens
Stocked two years ago and
When the Currier and Ives
Crewel kits go on sale
Noon hours are for
Catching up on gossip
In the tearoom
Or for stalking treasures
In others' territory
Perfume is eyed ruefully
Before they settle for
The $3.95 cologne in the
Drugstore around the corner
Like the heroine in *The Scarlet Letter*
They are marked for the world to see-
"Ester," "Mary Nell," "Lila"
Outside the doors each has
Her own past and future
Yet within their special world
They seem like endless clones
Repeated in store after store
Across the land