Christopher Citro

In This Reality, You Exit at the Next McDonalds for Fries and a Shake

Somewhere in some alternate universe, there's a reality where you do get off at the next exit just to photograph the red barn. You're not a professional, but why should you let that stop you from taking a good, artsy picture now and then? Who knows, maybe you're an outsider artist and don't even know it? And even the professionals have to start somewhere. If you don't end up with a picture you can sell, at least you'll have something to show friends when they're over the house getting tanked on margaritas. It's a pleasant thing to show someone a photograph you took yourself. You watch the lines on her face soften. A smile blooms. She looks from the photo to you, then back to the photo, and you can see in her eyes that you're somehow more than you were before.

First published in The Cincinnati Review, Vol. 4, No. 2