

pam reichman

Ice Cream Will Melt

There she was
this old woman in the
market line trying
to cash her welfare
check her clothes were
ten years too late
and she hadn't watched
her weight and she probably
had stretch marks from
too many kids

She was slow and didn't
sign fast enough
so the man with the
ice cream
the dripping
ice cream
and keys to his
porsche yells
words
bitch-can't-you-move-your-fat-ass
and she drops her pen
and his ice cream
drips
and he yells
words
goddamn-you-bitch-can't-you-move-your-fat-ass
and she signs and shuffles out
of his way
and smiles