

# A hard lesson to learn

KARSON  
POWERS

Column



First, you are going to enter the restaurant that she works at. Walk casually around and view the menu for a minute or so.

When you finally go up to order, order one of the cheapest food items on the menu. Then pay for your total of \$4.46 with a \$50 bill.

When she begins collecting your change, glance into the register to see around how much is in it. Make sure it's not obvious while you're scoping out the money.

As soon as she hands you back your change and before she has a chance to shut the register, pull out a wad of cash that adds up to \$80. Tell her to then count the amount out loud.

When she is done counting the money, ask for two \$50 bills and hand her another wad of cash. Make her count the new stack out loud again.

This will cause her to become flustered and lose track of how much you have taken from her.

Continue to exchange money with her and slowly, and unnoticed, start taking more money from her than you are giving. She will be too consumed, overwhelmed and nervous to notice. When you have received the amount of money you would like, hand her a \$5 bill and tell her it's for the "tip." When she looks at you appreciatively and thanks you, reply back, "Oh it's no problem." As soon as you finish your scam, you need to find a way to leave the restaurant without alerting anyone. To distract her, ask if she could grab her manager real quick so he can ask him about any available job positions. When she goes to the back, that's when you go out through the side door and leave.

When she finds her manager, she may

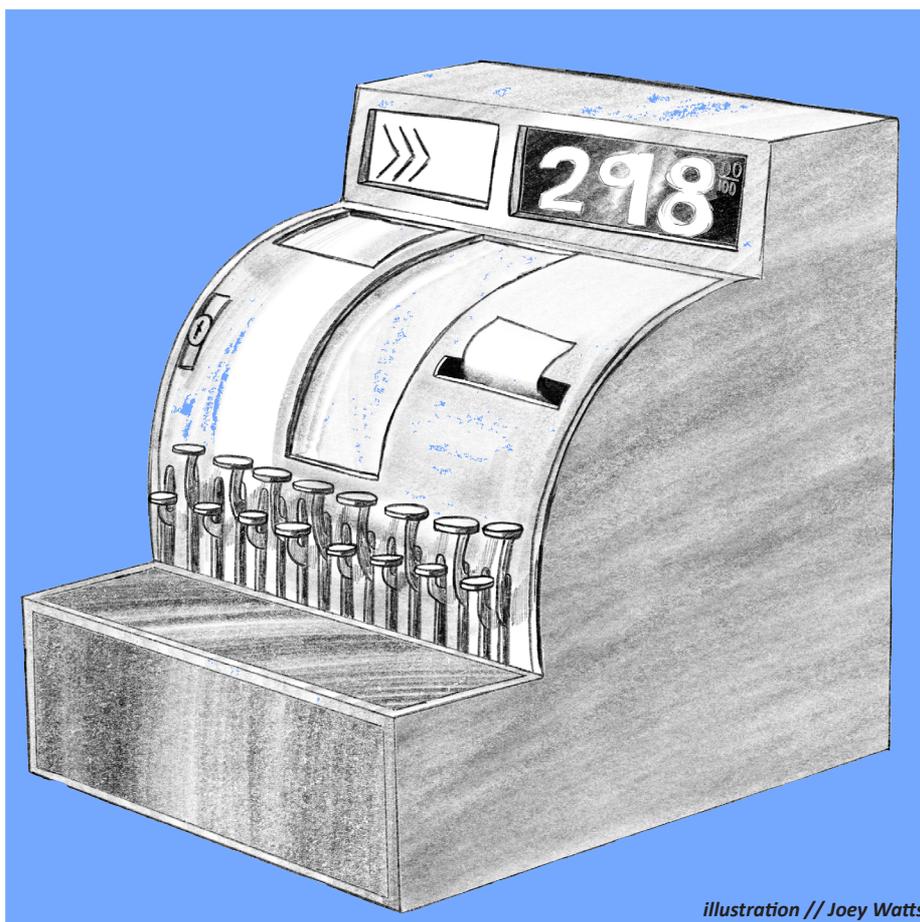


illustration // Joey Watts

mention how unusual your interaction was with her. The manager will immediately understand your scheme. The hostess will try to show her manager where you sat down to wait for your food, but you'll be long gone by then.

Her manager will count the register. It's missing \$298.

The hostess - who had worked at her first "real" job for four months and was 17 years old - will begin to cry when she realizes how careless she was and how dumb you made her feel.

But it's okay because you know she'll get over it.

I can assure you this plan will work. I was the 17-year-old girl who got hoodwinked into unwittingly giving a man \$298.

I was lucky. My boss was understanding. Some bosses would have fired the hostess and made them pay the money back.

I didn't have to do that. But what I learned was not to trust everyone who walks through the door. It was a hard lesson to learn. It's not one I'll forget soon.

## Going through the waves

BEN  
ALLEN

Column



Snaps, cutback, bottom turn, alley-oop. Carve, floater, barrels, laybacks. These are different types of "tricks" that are known by more experienced surfers, which are hard to come across in South Carolina.

Ever since I was introduced to surfing as a scrawny, red headed, four-year old at the 25th beach access on Isle of Palms, I was hooked.

The feeling of being able to control what I wanted to do when I was surfing was exhilarating. Nobody else could tell me how to surf or what to do on a wave. Everything was my choice. I had all the freedom in the world when I was surfing, and I never wanted to let that feeling go.

I began to surf in the local contests when I was about seven years old, and I'll always remember how it felt to walk up to the stand, grab my first place trophy and hear everyone cheering when I won for the first time.

The fact that I could win an award, just for doing something that I loved. It was amazing. And since then, I haven't missed a contest.

June -- Parrot Surf Shop contest, July -- McKevlins Surf Shop Contest and August -- the State Championship.

When it comes to these contests, I don't care that my dad is going to be proud. I don't care who I'm surfing against. I don't care how many times I've surfed in the same contest. I always end up as nervous as can be.

And even though I feel this way, I would never want to stop. I surf when I'm sad, I surf when I'm happy, I surf when I'm mad. I surf whenever and it will always be something that is special to me.

Surfing has a special place in my heart, and that place is South Carolina. The waves may be pretty poor here most of the time, but I wouldn't have rather grown up anywhere else.

“ I had all the freedom in the world when I was surfing, and I never wanted to let that feeling go. ”

BEN ALLEN

## What was your best or worst experience at work?



"The best thing that happened to me at work was when my friends came to visit me, they made my day and they tipped me really well."

JUNIOR  
SAVANNAH STANTON



"The worst thing that happened to me at work is when I accidentally put my finger in a fryer."

JUNIOR  
JACK BUCKNAM



"The best thing that happened at work was when I was life-guarding and I saved a kid who fell in the pool."

JUNIOR  
ALLY MONTS



"...A man came in and we forgot to say hello to him, he started screaming at everyone behind the counter for how we were indecent human beings."

JUNIOR  
JACOB TYLER