

AT A LUNCH COUNTER

A Humorous Monolog

by
Kathryn Wayne



Wetmore Declamation Bureau

**Box 2695
Sioux City, IA 51106**

**www.wetmoredeclamation.com
Email: speeches@wetmoredeclamation.com**

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SCENE: A lunch counter on the pike in Long Beach, California.

Mrs. Twittem enters breezily--talking as she enters.

Hello! What's the idea of another eating house next door? You needn't answer. Just another fly buzzing around the honey pot.

(Seats herself on stool at counter) What have you today?--Spareribs and sauerkraut? Oh for goodness sake, you KNOW I never eat it. Doctor'd have a fit! Sauerkraut--above all things! What else have you?--Beef broth and noodles! On this hot day? Oh for goodness sake! I'd MELT! And goodness knows my blood pressure is high enough already. What's this?--Halibut? All right. That's good for the nerves, and has more reducing qualities. I don't know what the qualities are exactly. I've gained three pounds since Saturday. Maybe you'd better not give me the fish. Something's wrong. Maybe it's the fish--Oh no, I don't mean the fish isn't fresh--and then again, one never knows. That IS fresh of course? Well--(Nods head that she will take the fish. Looks around complacently) What are you putting on the cooking board there, to fry it in?--You know what I mean. I know you don't fry things on a board. I mean the iron sheet you use. What are you pouring on it to cook the fish in? Not bacon grease is it?--Oh--Crisco. Well that will do. It's much weaker than bacon grease. I have to watch my stomach you know, or I'll never live to pay the Doctor's bill! You'd think I was his daughter, the care he takes of me. I'm supposed to inherit three thousand dollars in June. I'm going to Europe in July--No, no coffee--heart you know!

(Adjusts napkin--looks up suddenly) What was that I heard you say you had--ham and fried apples? Oh--pork and applesauce!--No, no thank you. I thought you said ham and fried apples, and I was going to countermand the fish order, because I am WILD over HAM and FRIED APPLES!--Applesauce! Oh no, not for me. Warned against it. They can all say "An apple a day, keeps the doctor away," but they're POISON to me! Of course an apples isn't an apple when it's sauce--is it? Well, you might give me just a small order--not TOO small--Thank you. (Takes dish of applesauce and eats it).

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