

1973

Untitled

Patrick Rode

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Patrick Rode

Golconda: gas station and diner.
The old dog tied to the stake
picks his way through the
backyard trashpile.

The highway sign says
"Only gas for 50 miles"
The pumps that were shiny clean
and new long ago,
stand beside the mountain town
waiting for the occasional cars.
People swing in and the
dog looks up then resumes
his way.
The old ranch hands chewing cigars
and drinking beer watch
the lady from Los Angeles pump gas,
she dropped by about twenty years back.