The Salesman

Elderly Navajo
sells belt buckles
alongside quiet road
laced with shifting red sand.
Midday sun
bouncing blindingly off
polished silver
inlaid with turquoise.

Old man is deep brown,
wrinkled, thin as bailing wire.
Dusty felt hat
with beaded band
maintaining
position on gray head
despite warm breeze;
long thin pony-tail
flicking across his back
like a horse’s tail swatting flies.

Aged Navajo
and his belt buckles
pass time
within a timeless landscape.
Tourists in fast cars
occasionally make
sudden cloudy halt,
tires sliding upon dirt;
interrupting
eternal
high desert silence.

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