

## Creating Classroom Discussion about Reviews

- Choose excerpts from eight to ten critical reviews and write each on a separate large sheet of paper.
- Some examples of excerpts:
  - “The splendid truth of Carver’s stories lies in what hasn’t happened yet” (Caldwell 244).
  - “Carver’s characters know a good deal less than the author does” (Weber 94).
  - “One aspect of what Carver seemed to say to us—even to someone who had never been inside a lumber mill or a trailer park—was that literature could be fashioned out of a strict observation of real life” (McInerney 24).
- Post these sheets around the classroom and ask students to circulate through the room, reading and responding in writing to each quotation.
  - Students can respond directly to the quotations, or they can write a response to another student’s comment.
  - Students initial their own responses, or, if colored pencils are available, each writes in a different color.

These examples are excerpts taken from reviews of Raymond Carver’s work and are taken from the book *Raymond Carver in the Classroom: “A Small, Good Thing”*. (Rubenstein. NCTE, 2005)