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Botched Robbery

by Frank De Canio

The lass observes my oldster's unarmed heist
but browses through the store with mock aplomb.
She seems more piqued that goods are overpriced
than troubled as to where I'm coming from.
No patronizing smiles to mask her fear
or keep me busy while she makes a dash
to her beloved should the coast be clear.
Enriched by passion's sureties of cash,
she doesn't even try to call police
who earnestly patrol the street beside
the candy counter. Neither does she cease
to look at sweets as other patrons bide
my raid on bankrupt hearts. For nothing's won
from pricey stores without a loaded gun.



Photo (detail) by Joel Kendall