Thin Air
(for Perley the Magician)

By Ian LeTourneau, City of Fredericton Poet Laureate
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We hit the jackpot with Perley,

literally. He could reach into our ears to pay

the parking meter. Thin air:

the substance into which he reached

to pull out our sense of wonder —

a handkerchief, a card, a coin.

A master of sleight of hand,

each performance included

his greatest magic trick, a conjuring

of something out of nothing:

out of thin air, on the faces

of all who watched, he revealed smiles.

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