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People-Watching at Ruby Tuesday

by Bonnie Lyons

Who is this
behemoth biker with a greasy bandana
tied around his head, belly slopping
over jeans that barely cover his ass
sleeves ripped out to flaunt
beefy tattooed arms? What is he
doing with that tidy, high-heeled woman
and her Banana Republic daughter?
A one night stand in her wild days? Maybe
the woman's brother, an embarrassment
she will meet only in a soulless restaurant chain
where people just passing through fuel our bodies
for tomorrow's 600 miles? When he removes
his goggle shades, scared puppy eyes
return my gaze and my disgust boomerangs.

