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I Strolled into a Lovely Restaurant

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LOUIS MAZZARI

I Strolled into a Lovely Restaurant

I strolled into a lovely restaurant

and ended up punching the cook.
For the life of me, I can't say why.
I mean, I never go on Sunday,

but whenever I pass a church,
I always make the sign of the cross.

Springtime flooding the window
was filled with happy notes.

Maybe the menu made me sad—
I may not have liked the type.

The clatter of silverware is too loud
when I'm seated with my back to the room.

I remember the waiter's teeth
were crooked, and that upset me
in a room full of light and flowers.