Penny Candy

by Tina Barry

Rows of sweets on green-edged glass. Teeth tear a tiny colored dot from a long roll of paper. A star disappears on the tongue. Thank you for the card with the lovely sentiment. Thank you for the flip book with the woman dancing, bird wing elbows, knees this way and that. And the one with two iced cakes for breasts, her waist lost in a cloud of calico, white bloomers snagged on a short black boot.