Torzolo the Street-Organ Monkey

Jim Hayden
College of DuPage
We should go out tonight
and head over to the downtown square.
We’ll grab a bite to eat
then go see that trainer
and his little dancing monkey!

Haven’t you seen them yet?
Oh you really should.
If you fancy style
it doesn’t cost a thing
and Torlozo makes it quite worth your while.

In a faded blue vest
and holey purple slippers,
he whirls and twirls and twists
to that mesmerizing tune
the organ grinder spins.

Then he holds out his red top-hat
for cab fare,
and perhaps two bits
so he can eat somewhere.
But about that time
it might be late
and we’ll have to hurry home
from our date
though surely someone will fill his plate,
and isn’t it just wonderful how good people can be?

So slip into your mink fur coat,
fetch your diamond-studded gloves
but leave the change purse home.
I’m taking you out for a night on the town
and we’ll show Torlozo
how good people can be.