## A Woman in Charge by Carole Lydon

Carly's duties await
At the rusty old gate
Where a granny in defiant repose
Sits shaking her fist
At a cataract mist
That prevents her from
Using the stove

Carrots, spuds and peas She prepares with ease As granny tells back in the day How food was so scarce She had to confess She escaped a blackmarket fray

You see granny was canny And known by many As the farmer's wife proud to say That she'd kept a little something From the Ration Department To sell on a quiet Sunday

While granny collected
It truly affected
The ego of a young inspector
So he laid in wait
At that shiny new gate
To nab his cheeky defector







Next stop, By Lisa Conolly

At 7 hours and 10
He sent in his men
To catch the young lady red-handed
But she'd sold all of it
Dropped returns in a pit
And sat back as the men demanded
An explanation in vain
To please madam explain
The folk wandering off
contrabanded

With a gracious grin
Granny's heels dug in
As she wove her delicate story
With tremendous clarity
Of innocent charity
For the inspector, there would
be no glory

So Carly, my dutiful rose
A woman whose money flows
And is willing to be at large
Is a woman who glows
In the knowledge of those
That she will always, always be
In charge