

The Cool Courage Of Bomb Squad Officers

Robert Calvert

Late in the night he woke to a phone call.
They'd found a device and it was unstable.
They'd thrown a cordon and evacuated.
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He walked through the glass doors dressed in a flak-suit.
The silence was deafening. It was so acute.
He unscrewed the back-plate revealing the circuit.
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He tried to defuse it, tasting the salt sweat.
The striped resistors; a nest of insects.
He touched a component, it started ticking.
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