

Russian Man Caught Stealing 3-Million-Ruble Park Statue for His Girlfriend

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Russian Interior Ministry Moscow Branch

While out for a stroll in Moscow on Monday night, a 32-year-old man laid eyes upon a gold-plated statue in Sokolniki park, glimmering in the moonlight. He then grabbed the statue — it would be a gift for his girlfriend.

The man didn't get very far, however, before police officers caught him [redhanded](#). He explained that he saw the statue while walking through the park, and decided to take it as a gift for his girlfriend. The officers then decided to throw him in the back of a patrol car. He was later charged with theft and released on his own recognizance, until trial.

According to a preliminary assessment by local police, the statue is worth 3 million rubles (almost \$50,000), the news agency Interfax reported.

In October 2015, unknown persons in Moscow stole a statue dedicated to the famed Soviet actor Evgeny Leonov, which stood outside the entrance of the Mosfilm film studio. Two days

later, the statue was discovered at a metal processing plant. The monument had been sawed to pieces.

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