

THE NIGHT BEFORE TAXES

*'Twas the night before Taxes and all through the house
Not a creature was stirring, but me and my mouse
The stock folder hung by the chimney with care
While Marlana's Tax Organizer made me tear out my hair*



*My dependents were nestled all snug in their beds
While visions of undeductible expenses danced in their heads
Mamma in her mansion and I in my rental
Had just settled a loan modification monumental*

*When out on the deck there arose such a melee
I sprang from my PC and spilled half my latte
Away to the carport I flew like a flash
Where I spied an old dude decompacting my trash*

*He spoke not a word but went straight to his work
Perusing my papers, then turned with a jerk
"Your '09 tax record keeping is beneath mention
I fear there's no hope but to file an extension*

*On travel, on mileage, on capital gains
You've not done your homework, it's painfully plain
On profits, on losses, you've made no attempt
At due diligence, Marlana will be ferkleempt!"*

*He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old mensch
But my untidy archives made his dentures clench
His droll little mouth was drawn up in composure
'Til he grasped how close I had come to foreclosure*



*He had a broad face that was wreathed all in smiles
'Til he saw that I had not kept track of my miles
"And WHAT?! No receipts for your gifts and donations?!
You can't deduct bupkiss without substantiation!"*

*His eyes how they twinkled as he turned his back
And took a new adding machine from his pack
He added, subtracted, adjusted, allotted
He itemized, amortized, reckoned, and plotted*

*And then in a twinkling he gave me a wink
Chuckling, "This stuff's not so taxing as you might think!"
And what he did next made me shout out with glee:
He handed my Tax Organizer to me*

*Filled out to perfection with figures and facts!
How Marlana would love me--now I could relax!
And I heard him exclaim as he drove out of sight
"Merry Taxes to all--and to all a Good Night!"*

