

# *The Christmas-time lie*

It's Christmas time  
a time of good cheer.  
She said to her kids  
we don't have enough money this year.  
What she didn't tell them was  
she still had enough for her beer.

She promised so much in the past  
and it was catching up with her.  
She tried to recall all the things  
she promised and it was a blur.

How long must this lie go on  
and will it ever end?

She tires of this charade  
her life she would like to mend.

She has been here before  
having to borrow from relatives.  
Why is it easier to take more  
than what she gives?

Her self-esteem is dwindling

leaving an empty shell.

How many more times will  
she create her own little hell?

She ponders life and all its good  
and wonders if this is all there is.  
Then her children hug her and  
give her a big kiss.

Her moment of defeat quickly  
passes

she forgets why she was so sad.  
After all, her children still love her  
and that's not bad.

Then she leaves the house and  
feels very light.

The liquor store is sitting where  
she left it last night.

Evelyn Day  
Bethel