

Just Take A Sick Day Steven Zelin

1. Dear I.R.S.

Words by Steven Zelin and Mark Donohoe Music by Steven Zelin

I am an average citizen, in the top one percentile.
I'm all for corporate welfare; outsourcing makes me smile.
When it comes to tax evasion, you won't find me on trial.
'Cuz I know all the loopholes, and a shredder is my office file.

I make a modest living, on paper anyway!
Have you seen my new Mercedes and my mansion by the bay?
It helps to report earnings ... of less than 30K ...
and when your funds are offshore, every day ... is Christmas Day!!

But lately I'm feeling squeamish
As I clutch my millions tight.
I can't stop thinking 'bout prison.
I put down my golf clubs and write:

"Dear I.R.S., I can't sleep at night!
I cheated on my taxes, just a tiny oversight.
Enclosed find a check, I know you won't protest."
(And if I still can't sleep, I'll send the rest).

I have a corporation, and a subsidiary.
Party "A" loans money for shares in party "B."
The interest is deductible and dividends are tax-free,
And all the money funnels to a bank account owned by me.

But lately I'm feeling queasy.
I'm afraid to turn on the news.
The butler pours me my brandy,
While I call to cancel my cruise.

"Dear I.R.S., I can't sleep at night!
I cheated on my taxes, but now I've seen the light!
Enclosed find a check. I know you'll be impressed."
(And if I still can't sleep, I'll send the rest)

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2. The Lucky One Words and Music by Steven Zelin

You may be grateful for all you have, and share it with those who need.
You may be grateful for your courage, and the way you take the lead.
You may rise up each morning grateful for the sun,
but when I'm holding you, I'm the lucky one.

You may appreciate your spirit, and the strength of all your hope.
You may appreciate the good times, and you can laugh at a good joke.
You may enjoy a challenge and appreciate a job well done,
but when I'm holding you, I'm the lucky one.

I feel your boundless love every time I take your hand.
I see you live your truth and it helps me understand.
Baby just watching you helps my world expand.
And that helps me be exactly who I am.

You may be thankful for each moment, as you journey down the road.
You may be thankful for each step you take, no matter where you go.
You may lie down to sleep thankful, dreaming of what's to come,
but when I'm holding you, I'm the lucky one.

You may rise up each morning grateful for the sun,
but when I'm holding you, I'm the lucky one.

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3. The Island of Manhattan Blues

By Steven Allard and Steven Zelin

I live on the Lower East Side in a run-down tenement.
Just got out of college, can't afford the rent.
I share the place with 5 guys; it smells of butts and booze.
Got the It's expensive livin' on The Island of Manhattan Blues.

My baby's in Tudor City living with her family
They got a rent-controlled 2-bedroom but there ain't no privacy.
With 3 sisters and 2 brothers, the place is like a zoo.
She got the Can't afford her own place on The Island of Manhattan Blues.

When I pick her up in the evening I gotta wait outside.
I'm double-parked by a hydrant on the wrong alternate side.
I don't wanna gamble, get a ticket if I lose.
I got the Parking laws are crazy on The Island of Manhattan Blues.

Takeout from Gray's Papaya is my baby's birthday meal.
I go inside to get it; she waits behind the wheel.
Then we eat driving down Broadway drippin' mustard on our shoes.
We got the We don't need no Zagats on The Island of Manhattan Blues.

When we want to be alone we can only go one place.
The back seat of my car is where we embrace (that's right).
Yeah, we fog up all the windows of my tiny Subaru.
We got the Can't afford a hotel on The Island of Manhattan Blues.

We hunt all night to find a spot where we can legally park,
With not too much foot traffic and preferably dark,
Where we won't be showing up in security camera views.
We got those Someone's always watching on The Island of Manhattan Blues.

At 2 a.m. a space opens up behind Chelsea Piers.
A cop taps on the window telling us, "Don't do that here.
Under Bloomberg's rule book that's lascivious and lewd."
We got those Mikey's micromanaging The Island of Manhattan Blues.

Island of Manhattan Blues

Island of Manhattan Blues

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4. Free Furniture Day Words and Music by Steven Zelin

You've just signed the lease on your apartment. You've got the keys right in your hand.
You're bank account's running on empty, but you can feel your whole world expand.
You walk across the wood floor, look around your empty space.
You ask yourself one question: How 'm I gonna furnish this place?

Who can afford to shop at Macy's? Ikea is way too far.
Where can you get a decent sofa for an apartment the size of a car?
Come close and I'll tell you a secret -- it's the art of garbology.
Just wake up early on Wednesday and go for a shopping spree;
it's
Free Furniture Day in New York City.
Look at all the great stuff outside.
If you don't get what you want, it's a pity.
You never know what you're gonna find.

The people at Seaman's are friendly; they're nice to me over there.
Last week they had another big sale. I could almost afford half a chair.

Just Take A Sick Day Steven Zelin

Come close and I'll tell you a secret – it's the art of dumpster diving.
Just wake up early on Wednesday, and by Thursday you'll be
smiling; it's
Free Furniture Day in New York City.
Look at all the great stuff outside.
If you don't get what you want, it's a pity.
You never know what you're gonna find.

I've got a canopy bed, a microwave, an almost-new chest of drawers,
A coffee table, a sofa-bed, and a chair that's Louis Quatorze
(XIV); it's
Free Furniture Day in New York City.
Look at all the great stuff outside.
If you don't get what you want, it's a pity.
You never know what you're gonna find.
Free Furniture Day in New York City.
Look at all the great stuff outside.
If you don't get what you want, it's a pity.
You never know what you're gonna find.

Even the cops don't mind. Seek and you shall find.

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5. Park Enforcement Officer Words and Music by Steven Zelin

I was riding my bike in New York City over on the Upper West Side.
I pulled in to Riverside Park to rest from my ride.
I took a breath of fresh air and thanked the lord in a life that's often too hard.
I found a peaceful place to watch the sun go down. Was like having my own backyard.

But as I got on my bike to leave,
There was an army of dark green cars comin' at me, led by a

Park Enforcement Officer.
I was blinded by his shiny badge. He was a
Park Enforcement Officer, and
He was lookin' mighty mad.

He wore a pair of big, dark, thick sunglasses so I couldn't see those angry eyes.
His forest ranger hat and army boots were all part of the same disguise.
I couldn't try leave, I had nowhere to go. He had fifty in his entourage,
Wearing their dark green uniforms, the perfect camouflage.

The papers say they don't make any deals.
They went through multi-million-dollar training on training
wheels, and he was a

Park Enforcement Officer.
I feel like I've been had. He was a
Park Enforcement Officer,
And he was getting' out his pad!

He said, "Get off your vehicle now, punk, and take out your ID.
You're in a "no bicycle" zone and I've got witnesses as you can see.
I'm givin' you a fine and you're gonna do some time, you criminals are all the same.
Don't give me any little crying, it's the mayor you can blame."

I hear the city's cracking down on every jaywalking thug,
Unless you're dealing drugs or you like to mug. He was a

Park Enforcement Officer
Ready to persecute. He was a
Park Enforcement Officer
Not afraid to shoot.
And he earned a New York salute!

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6. Just Take A Sick Day Words and Music by Steven Zelin

Lover, I miss you; you're always at work.
I hear you complaining, how your boss is a jerk.
Paper keeps piling up, so you can't even breathe.
And the worst part about it, they won't let you leave.

Just Take A Sick Day.
Tell your boss to get lost!
Forget about your projects,
Start rehearsing your cough.
What more can I say?
Just Take A Sick Day.

You always think of others, never yourself.
But we have to think about our mental health.
I know your job's important, and I'm not one to blame.
But I'm forgetting what you look like; hardly remember your name.

Just Take A Sick Day.
Tell your boss to get lost!
Forget about your projects,
Start rehearsing your cough.
What else can I say?
Just Take A Sick Day.

Remember the free time we used to spend?
I think they have a name for it -- it's called "the weekend."

Just Take A Sick Day.
Tell your boss to kiss off!
Forget about your projects,
Start rehearsing your cough.
It's the American way!
Just Take A Sick Day.

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7. Golden Shoulder Words and Music by Steven Zelin

Had a friend a long time ago.
We shared a lot of time.
Always thought we'd be together.
Always thought she'd be mine, mine all mine.

I still remember the French poem
She had to memorize. And the
Kisses we shared on 4th Street
Before we said goodbye, goodbye.

I don't need her Golden Shoulder
Beside me when I wake.
I don't need her Golden Shoulder,
But how can I go on another day?

We had a secret language
To say what we used to feel.
But her promises unspoken
Never became real, never became real.

I don't need her Golden Shoulder
Beside me when I wake.
I don't need her Golden Shoulder,
But how can I go on another day?

Just Take A Sick Day Steven Zelin

I never think about her,
Our picnics in the park.
I walk past traces of the memories
That were written in the dark.

I don't need her Golden Shoulder
Beside me when I wake.
I don't need her Golden Shoulder,
But how can I go on (another day)?
I don't need her Golden Shoulder
Beside me when I wake.
I don't need her Golden Shoulder,
But how can I go on another day?

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8. Where Is This Relationship Going?

Words and Music by Steven Zelin

I met her in the park in Mexico City while I was on a business trip.
She gave me a tour of Chapultepec castle; I admired the jeans on her hips.
She said she also worked in banking, as a corporate management strategist.
I explained how I learned Spanish, and suddenly we kissed.

I had some vacation time coming to me; I knew that we could have some fun.
I said, "Why don't we meet for a week in Cancun? honey. We'll take in some sun."
When I got to Cancun she was ready, and totally in command.
We did it in the jacuzzi, in the pool, on the terrace and in the sand.

She took me aboard a lobster dinner cruise, we left at 8 p.m.
We sat hand-in-hand admiring the sunset; the evening was a perfect ten!
'Til she leaned into me closely, and said, "I've got something to say.
I enjoy your companionship, but tell me, are you just here to play?"

And she said, "Where Is This Relationship Going?"
I couldn't believe my ears!
I didn't know she could speak such good English!
I just wanted to disappear.

She came for a visit to New York City, and I happily took her around.
She said, "Why, you've got a lot of friends that are pretty." I could tell
she was tightly wound.
She seemed a little bit anxious that I wasn't taking things seriously.
But there's no need to buy the whole cow when you're getting all that
sweet milk for free.

And she said, "Where Is This Relationship Going?"
I couldn't believe my ears!
I didn't like that question in Spanish or English.
I just wanted to disappear.

She surprised me by getting a work visa, and by working real hard at her firm.
She got herself a mighty big promotion; I had no idea how much she'd earn.
Then her company bought out my company, and I got annoyed.
Then she became my boss and said, "Amigo, you're now unemployed."

Then I said, "Where Is This Relationship Going?"
She said, "I'll make it perfectly clear."
She said, "I'll tell you right now where this relationship is going.
It's over! Now get out of here!"

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9. Missed Opportunities Words and Music by Steven Zelin

I said, "How you gettin' home on this rainy night?"
She said, "Don't worry about me, boy, I got my bike."
I said, "Hey, you got room for one more on your next outbound flight?"
She said, "If you can balance, I think I just might."

Then my body and my tongue decided to freeze.
She rode off into the misty fog.
And landed right into my box of Missed Opportunities.

Walkin' down the street, heading to the park,
Get in some tennis before it gets dark.
Two blonde bikinis set off a spark.
I needed courage to make a remark.

But my brain was not wise like that of Sophocles.
So I let 'em pass by without even saying a word,
And watched them dive into my box of Missed Opportunities.

Will I ever learn?
Will my fate ever turn?
When can I light this box on fire to make it burn?

Out on the dance floor, movin' all around,
Shooting words and arrows at the girl whose eyes are brown.
Her skin so soft, her soul so deep, I thought I'd almost drown.
She told me she was tired so that we could go to town.

But then a blonde started dancin' with me.
Then her boyfriend showed up and I was all alone.
And did the two-step into my box of Missed Opportunities.

I met her at a wedding on a Saturday in June.
I was clearing the buffet table when she walked into the room.
She researched sleeping patients, that's what she said she did.
I told her I'd do anything to be her guinea pig.

But she said, "That girl you came with, isn't that your main squeeze?"
And I looked back at my date and thought of the long drive home
And had to toss this goddess into my box of Missed Opportunities.

Will I ever learn?
Will my fate ever turn?
When can I light this box on fire to make it burn?

Why is it that I never miss an opportunity to miss an opportunity?

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10. Stealing From The Company Words and Music by Steven Zelin

Raise your hand if there's somewhere else that you'd rather be
Than sitting in your cubicle in the corporate hierarchy.
If you're waiting for that big raise, you'll be waiting for eternity.
You've got to make your job work for you!

There are plenty of ways to win the game; I'll give you just a bunch
Spend all morning at the gym, then take a four-hour lunch.
Then go back to your computer and give it just one key punch.
That's enough work for the day!

You can take advantage of your corporate discounts.
When your boss isn't looking you can change the amounts.
But don't get too funny when you're Stealing From The Company.
Don't wire the money to a personal account.

When you're sittin' at your desk I know it's hard to stay awake.
So take a coffee break, a smoking break, and don't forget to calculate
Your sick days, your comp days, and all of your vacation days.
Then we can talk about religion.

Just Take A Sick Day Steven Zelin

Since you're part Christian and you're Jewish, part Islamic and Hindu-ish,
You take Christmas, Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and Kwanzaa,
And Saint Valentine's and Clementine and any saint that you may find
That makes your life less stressful.

You can start to run your own office supply store.
You can even build yourself your own cubicle door.
But don't get too funny when you're Stealing From The Company,
Don't wire the money to your personal account personal account.

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11. It Sucks To Be Santa In Summer Words and Music by Steven Zelin

I had a great Christmas last year.
Dressed as Santa I made everybody cheer.
Not to glamorize but I am the perfect size
To dress up as Santa each year.

I had the red hat and the beard.
At first, I felt a little weird.
Everything was in conjunction, there was no wardrobe malfunction.
I found the perfect winter career.

It may look like fun to play Kris Kringle.
You can't imagine the presents I commingle!
But on Christmas Day 'round dawn, when my special day is gone,
I'm forced to sing this little jingle.

It sucks to be Santa in Fall.
I can't get anyone to call.
When I ask the girls to carol, they roll me like a barrel.
And they won't even let me in the mall.
Yeah, it sucks to be Santa in Fall.

At Christmas they line up like a parade.
And I can't believe how much the parents paid!
With just one day's earnin', I got cash I could be burnin'.
Didn't need to stay on Medicaid!

But it Sucks to be Santa in Spring.
No matter how many gifts I bring.
I'm just looking for a date, but the girls all hesitate.
And I can't even have a little fling!
Yeah, it sucks to be Santa in Spring.

It Sucks To Be Santa In Summer.
It looks like it's gonna be a bummer.
I ain't packin' napkins and I can't go on Atkins.
Why can't I fit in a little Hummer?

(hum hum hum)

Yeah, It Sucks To Be Santa In Summer.

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12. She's Got Some Funny Ways Of Showing Me She Loves Me Words and Music by Steven Zelin

Well I met her at a party; we were drinking some Bacardi;
She looked at me and said, "You'll do."
But we need to walk the aisle before I make you smile."
I said, "What?" She said, "Before we screw."
I was very new to this, thought that marriage would be bliss,

So I said, "Sure, let's tie the knot."
And we had a little wedding; to my bedroom she was heading!
But she fell asleep before I could even start!

She's Got Some Funny Ways Of Showing Me She Loves Me,
Not all of them are very kind.
She's Got Some Funny Ways Of Showing Me She Loves Me,
And my friends all think I'm blind.

She said she likes to travel, promised me some razzle dazzle,
so we made some plans to take a little trip.
Yeah, we packed up all the bags, got to the airport in a cab --
She took the tickets but gave me the slip.
I couldn't board the plane, had no money for a train,
So I camped out there at JFK.
She came back two weeks later, gave me a fuzzy alligator,
Got herself a trainer named Jose.

She's Got Some Funny Ways Of Showing Me She Loves Me,
Well maybe it's because she's shy?
She's Got Some Funny Ways Of Showing Me She Loves Me,
And my friends all think I'm gonna die.

'Cause she made me dinner, asked if my blood's getting thinner,
see, there was something in the meatloaf with a kick.
I didn't see any on her plate, and I began to speculate,
But by then I was feeling kind of sick.
When I told her I felt ill, she said that she was thrilled
and said, "I think you'll need a brand new suit."
Then she came back from shopping as my energy was dropping,
and helped me sign insurance papers too.

But while she was busy shopping and I was nearly flopping,
I managed to investigate the spices.
I smelled something rancid; it was carbolic acid!
And resembled my meatloaf slices.
I had the wherewithal to make a phone call;
My friend googled "poison" on his laptop.
Then I slipped into a coma but woke up to the aroma
Of my wife, my friends, and a cop!

She had some funny ways of showing me she loved me,
And sometimes I think my friends were right.
She had some funny ways of showing me she loved me,
But when she gets out of jail, I think I'll let her spend the night.

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13. Bagel Store Words and Music by Steven Zelin

I go down to the bagel store
Looking for you.
I take a deep breath as I open the door,
And I walk through.

Wish you'd say, "Are you new to the area?"
Then I could say, "Yes, I am."
Then you could say, "Can I show you around some time?"
And I would say, "Yes, you can."
Is this the day? The day my dream comes true?
What will you say?

Cranberry muffin, please,
And chamomile tea.
Your breath is the softest breeze,
A song to me.

Just Take A Sick Day Steven Zelin

Wish you'd say, "Are you new to the area?"
Then I could say, "Yes, I am."
Then you could say, "Can I show you around some time?"
And I would say, "Yes, you can."
Is this the day? The day my dream comes true?
What will you say?

As I walk away, I can't help but wonder
If, like mine, your heart beats like thunder.

I go down to the Bagel Store.

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14. My Friend Jen Words and Music by Steven Zelin

We braved the pouring rain the night we met.
The way you looked at me, I can't forget.
My ship was safe in the harbor, holding on to shore.
But then you took my hand and said that's not what ships are for.

I want to sail with you,
Sail the night away,
And gently kiss your eyes,
And hope you realize
I love you, My Friend, Jen.

It's been just two short days since our walk down Riverside.
My feelings cannot wait, and neither can they hide.
Thanks to you my ship is ready for the roughest storm.
Steer my heart to any port, your love will keep me warm.

I want to sail with you,
Sail the night away,
And gently kiss your eyes,
And hope you realize
I love you, love you, I love you, My Friend, Jen.

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15. Baby I'm Yours (But I'm Mine Tonight)

Words and Music by Fred Bogert and Emily Kaitz

It's no sacrifice, to give you my all,
but I'm not into leaning so hard on you that we both fall.
There comes a moment when together's not right.
Baby I'm Yours, but I'm mine tonight.

My time away gives me something to share,
And you're safe in believing that I am leaving my heart in your care.
I'll meet you tomorrow in the lovers' moonlight.
Baby I'm Yours, but I'm mine tonight.

I'll make no apologies for not taking you with me.
But we'll stand together, oh so much better,
if we don't forget how to stand alone.

I know that freedom is good for you too.
And I love you so much it's easy to trust you to do what you'll do.
I look to a future spent holding you tight.
Baby I'm Yours, but I'm mine tonight.
Yeah, you know I'm yours, but I'm mine tonight.

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