

## *Brinjals ~ King of Vegetables*

*An Eggplant in North America, New Zealand and Australia  
in Britain an exotic aubergine  
In India and South Africa, a brinjal they will be  
But their official name is Solanum Melongena*

*It seems quite incomprehensible  
that they would be classified as a berry  
at nine inches long and four around the belly  
hanging gloriously from bushes of lilac petal*

*Their shiny smooth skin in hues of deep purples  
a fruit elongated in shape  
relatives of the tomato and potato nightshade  
and known as the royal king of vegetables!*

*When preparing these love-apples for the table or jar  
it is best to sprinkle them with salt  
to stop them absorbing oil by default  
and they make a tasty poor-man's-caviar!*

*So whatever you may call these delicious nobles  
these purple fruit crowned royal highness  
no matter how enormously officious  
Brinjals will always remain the King of Vegetables*