EMILY

Yes, Officer, we're aware that Buddy thinks he's Mr. Hobbs' son, but...

POLICEMAN #1

Good. Guess we came to the right place.

(to POLICEMAN #2)

Let's go.

EMILY

Wait a second, you can't just leave him here!

POLICEMAN #2

Hey lady, have a heart. It's almost Christmas and he's homeless.

EMILY

Well...

POLICEMAN #1

BUDDY

Okay, bye Buddy.

(as he hugs the two POLICEMAN)

Bye, Vinny. Bye, Doug! Thanks a whole lot. And Merry Christmas!

POLICEMAN #1 & #2

Merry Christmas!

(The two POLICEMEN exit with a wave.)

BUDDY

I can stay here! Yay, I can stay here!

EMILY

Well, yes, but just for tonight. Then you'll have to find a place of your own.

BUDDY

But I like it here.

START

(notices the contraption on the table)

Oh, wow, a model of a turbine wind machine!

MICHAEL

You know what it is?

BUDDY

Sure. I've built a few of them at Santa's workshop.

MICHAEL

A few of them? How many?

BUDDY

Only about seven thousand. This one <u>is</u> kinda weird-looking. You'd never get Santa to okay it.

EMILY

So, you know Santa pretty well, do you?

BUDDY

Yes! Santa's, like, my best friend!

MICHAEL

You still believe in all that flying reindeer stuff?

BUDDY

No! Of course not. Santa hasn't used reindeer for years and years. Ever since he got that nasty letter from PETA. Nowadays the sleigh is powered by Christmas spirit alone. Which is a problem because of people like you. I mean, look at this place; no tinsel, no tree—have you even written your letter to Santa Claus yet?

EMILY

Buddy, I'm sorry, but I'm too old to write to Santa Claus.

MICHAEL

Me, too. Way too old. Anyhow...

(indicating the contraption)

I'm gonna flunk if I can't get this stupid science project working.

BUDDY

Tell you what, if you get into the Christmas spirit and write that letter to Santa right now, I'll fix your wind machine.

MICHAEL

You will? Well....okay, it's a deal. Okay, Mom?

BUDDY

Okay, Mom?

EMILY

(shrugging)

Okay.

BUDDY goes upstage to the contraption and begins fiddling with it. EMILY and MICHAEL sit down together. EMILY takes out a pen and paper.

(EMILY)

So, how do we do this?

MICHAEL

You're asking your 12 year old son how to write a letter to Santa Claus? What does that say about this family, mom?

EMILY

Okay, Dr. Drew. Settle down. Well, in the spirit of Christmas, what do you want for Christmas?

#5 - I'll Believe In You

MICHAEL

I don't know. I know what I don't want for Christmas.

I DON'T WANT A CHECK THAT'S MADE OUT TO CASH OR A CORPORATE RE-GIFT FROM SOME SECRET STASH

I'D LIKE A DAY WITH MY DAD

EMILY

JUST A DAY?

MICHAEL

MAKE THAT TWO
IF YOU CAN DO THAT SANTA
I'LL BELIEVE IN YOU

EMILY

I DON'T WANT A TRIP
TO SOME HIP SALON
OR TRENDY PERFUME
I'LL NEVER PUT ON
I'D LIKE TO FEEL LIKE HE CARES

MICHAEL

EVEN IF IT'S NOT TRUE

MICHAEL & EMILY

IF YOU CAN DO THAT SANTA
I'LL BELIEVE IN YOU

3

ACT TWO SCENE 3

The living room in the Hobbs' apartment, as in Act One, Scene 8. MICHAEL and EMILY are reading BUDDY'S note on the Etch-a-sketch.

EMILY

(reading the note)

"...I don't belong at the North Pole, either. Nobody wants me, Nobody needs me." Poor thing, wandering the streets in that dorky elf suit.

MICHAEL

Why did he do it?

EMILY

He had a fight with your father.

START (examining the Etch-a-sketch more closely)

This really is amazing. I can barely draw a straight line on one of these things.

MICHAEL

We have to find him! We have to bring him home!

EMILY

We will find him, but after that I think we need to get him some help.

MICHAEL

What do you mean "help"?

EMILY

Professional help. Honey, Buddy is crazy.

MICHAEL

Mom.

EMILY

No, he is. We have to accept that.

MICHAEL

He's my brother.

EMILY

I know. You have a crazy brother. Lot's of people do.

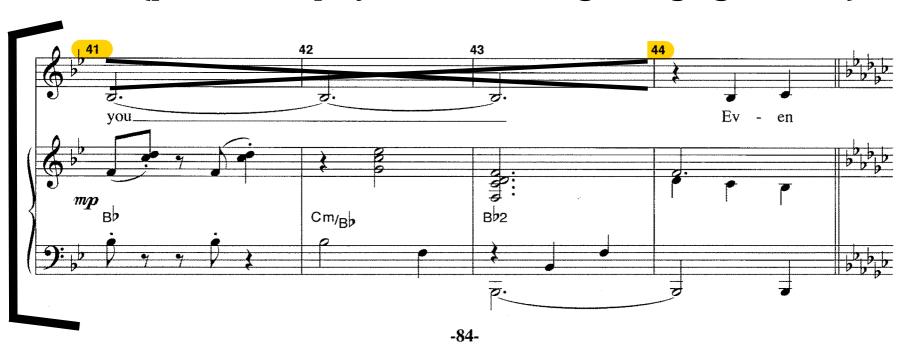
MICHAEL

Just because somebody believes in Santa Claus, doesn't mean they're crazy.

END

MICHAEL "I'LL BELIEVE IN YOU" Page 1 of 4

START (pianist will play from m. 41, begin singing at m. 44)

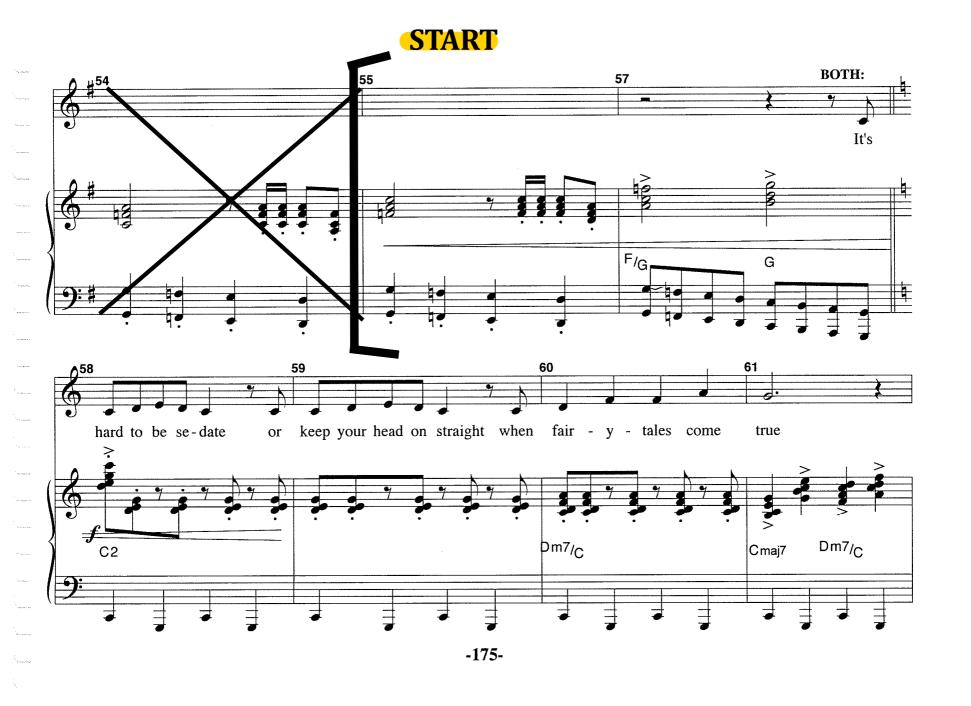








MICHAEL "There Is A Santa Claus" Page 1 of 4



MICHAEL "There Is A Santa Claus" Page 2 of 4



MICHAEL "There Is A Santa Claus" Page 3 of 4



MICHAEL "There Is A Santa Claus" Page 4 of 4

