

(The ELVES go back to work. BUDDY starts making an Etch A Sketch® clumsily. CHARLIE walks along the line.)

START

CHARLIE

How you doing, Buddy?

BUDDY

Um, fine Charlie, but... I guess I'm gonna be a little short on today's quota.

CHARLIE

That's all right, Buddy. Just tell me, how many Etch A Sketches® did you get finished?

BUDDY

I made, uh, eighty-five!

Audition Sides - Charlie, Buddy, Elf #1, Elf, #2, Elf #3, Elf #4, Elf #5, Shawanda

CHARLIE

Eighty-five? It's ten a.m. and you've only made eighty-five?

BUDDY

Why don't you just say it? I'm the worst toy maker in the whole wide world. I'm a Cotton-Headed-Ninny-Muggins.

CHARLIE

You're not a Cotton-Headed-Ninny-Muggins. You have lots of talents, uh, special talents in fact, like, uh...

ELF #1

You're the best basketball player in the whole North Pole!

ELF #2

Even better than Santa!

ELF #3

And you're the only baritone in the Jinglesingers!

ELF #4

You bring us down a whole octave.

ELF #5

In a good way!

CHARLIE

See, Buddy? Hey, these elves are getting pretty thirsty. Would you mind doing a round with the cocoa cart?

BUDDY

Yay! Cocoa cart! Cocoa cart!

(BUDDY leaves. CHARLIE motions to SHAWANDA to join him.)

CHARLIE

Hey, Shawanda.

SHAWANDA

Yeah, Charlie?

CHARLIE

I hate to do this to you, but do you think you could pick up the slack with those Etch A Sketches®?

(BUDDY returns. He listens, unnoticed.)

SHAWANDA

No problem.

Audition Sides - Charlie, Buddy, Elf #1, Elf, #2, Elf #3, Elf #4, Elf #5, Shawanda

CHARLIE

I appreciate it. I feel bad for the big guy. I just hope he doesn't get wise.

SHAWANDA

Well, if he hasn't figured out by now that he's a human I don't think he ever will.

BUDDY

Human?!? I'm human?

(Beat.)

CHARLIE

(desperately whispering to ELF #1) Get Santa!

(ELF #1 runs off to get SANTA.)

BUDDY

You said I'm human!

CHARLIE

No. No.

SHAWANDA

No, not you Buddy. We we're talking about some other Buddy. Some Buddy... else.

BUDDY

END

(SANTA arrives, accompanied by a now panicking

SANTA

Buddy...

BUDDY

Santa? Is it true what they said? Am I human?

SANTA

Good question.

No you weren't!

ELF #1.)

(#2 - SIT ON SANTA'S LAP begins. SANTA walks over to BUDDY.)

Once upon a time there was this young woman, Susan Welles, she had a baby, but she passed away soon after he was born. That baby was put in an orphanage, and one Christmas night he crawled into my toy sack, and I brought him back here by mistake. The elves took him in, raised him as one of their own.