## The Old Silk Hat

by Samuel Stokes (www.SamuelStokesMusic.com)

Running time: Approximately 2 minutes and 45 seconds

Characters: JOE KELLY CHRIS (the Christmas Tree)

(*KELLY* is inside decorating the Christmas tree when JOE runs in from outside with an old silk hat)

JOE: Hey Kelly! Look what I found!

KELLY: Wow, what a neat old silk hat!

JOE: Yeah, it kind of looks like a magic hat, doesn't it?

KELLY: (gasping) Wait a minute, it's an old silk hat you found, and it's magical...

JOE: That means... it could be the hat that belonged to...

BOTH: FROSTY THE SNOWMAN!

KELLY: Oh my goodness! Oh my goodness! What should we do? Should we make a snowman?

JOE: Well, it doesn't really snow much here in Louisiana, and even when it does, it's not necessarily enough to build a snowman.

KELLY: I guess that's true, hmm. Hey! Why don't we put it on the Christmas tree instead?!

JOE: Great idea! Let's try it!

(JOE puts the hat on the Christmas tree)

CHRIS (the Christmas tree): (waking up groggily, yawning. Slow opens its eyes and notices the two of them, and speaks unenthusiastically) Oh, hello there.

JOE: Wow!

KELLY: Yippee!

JOE: It worked!

KELLY: I can't believe it!

CHRIS: (unenthusiastically) Hmmm....

(uncomfortable pause)

KELLY: Well?

CHRIS: Well, what?

JOE: Aren't you going to do something magical, like get up and dance around?

CHRIS: I'm a tree.

KELLY: Yeah, but you're a tree with a magic hat.... Say, what's your name anyway?

CHRIS: I don't know, I'm a Christmas tree, call me.... Chris, I suppose.

JOE and KELLY: Nice to meet you Chris!

CHRIS: Uh-huh.

(uncomfortable pause)

JOE: So you don't dance or anything?

KELLY: Like Frosty the Snowman does?

CHRIS: Well, he's a man, but I'm a tree. Do you know many trees that dance around?

JOE: Well, uh, no.

CHRIS: There, you see?

KELLY: Oh, well if you don't dance, do you at least sing?

CHRIS: Not really...

JOE: Oh...

(uncomfortable pause)

CHRIS: (sighs) Okay, if it'll make you happy, I'll sing something.

JOE and KELLY: Hooray!

CHRIS: Hmm, now let me see... hmmm, oh I've got it. *(singing)* Nobody know the trouble I've seen. Nobody knows my sorrow. Nobody knows...

KELLY: Um, I don't mean to complain, but do you know any songs that are, well, more jolly?

CHRIS: Do you know very many jolly trees?

KELLY: Well, no, but...

CHRIS: There you have it then...

JOE: But you're a Christmas tree!

CHRIS: And?

KELLY: Well, you have all these pretty decorations... you *look* jolly.

CHRIS: You put these decorations on me...

KELLY: Well, yeah, because you're a Christmas tree.

CHRIS: Whatever you say.

(JOE and KELLY look at each other and then JOE whispers something in KELLY's ear and KELLY nods her head and winks)

KELLY: (clearly acting) Say, Joe, it's getting awfully cold in here.

JOE: (also acting) It sure is, Kelly, maybe we should build a fire in the fireplace.

KELLY: Oh no, but we're all out of firewood! (CHRIS raises an eyebrow)

JOE: You're right, well, I suppose if our magical Christmas tree doesn't sing or dance, then...

CHRIS: (*suddenly jumps up and starts dancing and singing*) Oh Christmas tree! Oh Christmas tree! How lovely are my branches! Oh Christmas tree! Oh Christmas tree! How lovely are my branches!

JOE and KELLY: Yay!!!