SCENE 7: SANTA VISITS

As the song ends and the music fades, the kids all gather as they begin to hear the sound of jingle bells.

BUDDY
Do you hear that?

BERNARD
Is that jingle bells?

HERMIE
You don't think it could be...

SANTA (V.O.)
HO,HO,HO!

ENSEMBLE
SANTA!!!

SANTA
Why hello, little ones! I suppose it's time to let you in on the biggest Christmas secret of all: That hat was never magical. Its purpose was simply to remind you that the real magic lies in each and every one of you. With every act of kindness, every moment of courage, and every choice to believe in not only me but also in yourselves -- why, that's what makes Christmas truly magical!

CURTIS
You mean, we can make Christmas magic even without the hats?

SANTA
Especially without the hats.

JUDY
But I love my Santa hat! Does that mean I need to stop wearing it?

SANTA
Of course not, 'tis the season after all. Now, there's lots of work to be done before Christmas. I must get going, but you kids keep making that magic!

ENSEMBLE
Thanks, Santa!

CURTIS
Well, that was inspiring.