

**HARK AND HAROLD & THE CHRISTMAS STAR**  
**By Karen Jones**

*(Excerpts may be used royalty free for auditions.)*

**AUDITION** -- for 3 adults, 2 children

*In this scene, Hark and Harold get a chance to explain themselves.*

*(MICHAEL enters escorting HARK and HAROLD. Their gowns are dirty, their hair is disheveled and their halos are skewed. They have their heads down and are carrying the missing harps. Michael has his hands full of conductor batons.)*

**GABRIEL:** Well, that was quick. Where were they? And what were they into?

**MICHAEL:** Remember I was asking about a meteorite storm when I came in earlier?

**CHLOE:** Them?

**MICHAEL:** Yes. They were using the harps as bows to shoot these across the heavens. *(Places the batons on Gabriel's desk.)*

**CHLOE:** Lyric's missing batons.

**GABRIEL:** Boys, what did I tell you about playing your games around Earth?

**HARK:** We weren't playing games. We were signaling the Earth.

**GABRIEL:** Signaling the Earth?

**HAROLD:** Yeah. We heard that God was sending His Son down to Earth to save it. So we thought we'd send them a message that help was on its way.

**CHLOE:** By shooting batons across the sky?

**HARK:** Well, we wanted to make sure we got their attention.

**HAROLD:** Man, you should have seen them streaking across the night sky. It was awesome.

**MICHAEL:** It was a nice little fireworks display, I admit. It had me fooled.

**GABRIEL:** But didn't I tell you that your little capers could scare the people on Earth?

**HARK:** Why would it? They're used to seeing shooting stars. It's not like last time.

**HAROLD:** Yeah, we didn't throw our halos, not even once.

**GABRIEL:** Now, boys, I think you know what I meant.

**HARK:** We're sorry, sir. We just wanted to do something to help. We got kicked out of the choir, you know.

**GABRIEL:** Yes, I heard about that. Tell me, did you two do anything to upset Lyric that caused her to dismiss you?

**HAROLD:** Oh no, sir. We were real eager to sing. But after a few verses, she sent us down to Miss Rachel to help with the music. Said our talents were better suited for other things.

**GABRIEL:** Hmm, I wonder. Do you mind singing a few bars of the song Lyric was teaching you?

**HARK AND HAROLD:** *(Stand at attention, throw back THEIR heads and squall out.)* "Glory to God...Glory to God in the Highest....And peace to men of good will."

*(BOTH are off-key and not in unison. CHLOE, GABRIEL, and MICHAEL have looks of horror on their faces.)*

**CHLOE:** Oh my!

**GABRIEL:** Ahem...very well. So, you were asked to report to Rachel after that.

**HARK:** Yes, we were and we did. Only thing - Miss Rachel wasn't too eager to have us either. Said she didn't have enough time to teach us properly.

**CHLOE:** So that's when you decided to take the harps.

**HARK:** Well, we didn't think anyone would miss them. After all, Harold and I were supposed to be the ones playing them. And since we couldn't, we came up with a different use for them.

**HAROLD:** We didn't mean any harm. We just wanted to help.

*(HARK and HAROLD look down and shuffle their feet.)*

**CHLOE:** Oh, sir, surely you can find them something to do.  
They just want to be a part of things.

**MICHAEL:** Yeah, Gabe. Think of something. You have to admit they're pretty ingenious.

**GABRIEL:** Unfortunately, their ingenuity keeps getting them in trouble.

**MICHAEL:** (*Picks up a baton.*) Tell me something. Just how long have you been planning this little venture? You seem to have a large collection of these.

**HAROLD:** Oh, we've got hundreds of them. We find them lying around everywhere.

**HARK:** Yeah, we've been stockpiling them. Never know when they could come in handy.

**CHLOE:** Didn't you ever think of turning them in to the lost and found?

**HARK:** Why? After we found them, they weren't lost anymore.

*(MICHAEL fakes a cough to hide a laugh.)*

**GABRIEL:** You're not helping things, Michael.

**MICHAEL:** Sorry, just a little cough.

**GABRIEL:** (*Turns to the BOYS.*) Now, guys, as I've tried to explain before, everything has a designated purpose. These batons are meant for the director to conduct the choir.

**HAROLD:** But they also make swell arrows. We shot them clear across Jupiter.

**CHLOE:** Using the harps?

**HARK:** Oh yeah, those strings are mighty strong.

**MICHAEL:** And you should hear the sounds they make. They had a regular symphony going on.

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