When the North Pole Melts¹

Lyrics and Two² Acoustic Guitars—1988 arrangement

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$$\begin{vmatrix} 4 & C & ^{8fr} \setminus & Em^{7fr} & | F^{8fr} \setminus & Am^{7fr} & | C^{8fr} \setminus & Em^{7fr} & | C & ^{8fr} \setminus & G^{3fr} & | \\ C & Am & | Dm & C & | F & G & | C & G & | \\ C & Am & | Dm & C & | F & G & | C & G & | \\ C & Am & | Dm & C & | F & G & | C & G & | \\ C & Am & | Dm & C & | F & G & | C & G & | \\ C & Am & | Dm & C & | F & G & | C & G & | \\ Rust at to tell you 'bout the greenhouse effect, and a little ozone hole that Christmas time but now I ski on a lake. Scanda-see the conomy grow. So their story because the ending's not very nice. You \\ C & fr & Em^{7fr} & | C & ^{8fr} & Em^{7fr} & | C & ^{8fr} & | G^{3fr} & | \cdot & | \\ C & G & | B & 1 & C & G & | \\ C & G & Em^{7fr} & | C & ^{8fr} & Em^{7fr} & | Dm^{10fr} & Em^{7ham} Am^{75fr} & | G^{3fr} & | \cdot & | \\ C & G & | B & 1 & C & | & | & note ^{4} & | \\ C & G & | & Em^{7fr} & | & C & ^{8fr} & Em^{7fr} & | & Dm^{10fr} & Em^{7ham} Am^{75fr} & | & G^{3fr} & | \cdot & | \\ 1 & started out over Ant... & arctica but has a ractica but has a ractica but has a ractica but has a now spread to the North Pole. You will emmons and limes and Que, we will tow Santa from the E quator to the South Pole. If the may not believe in Christ. But & | & note^{5} & | & | & note^{6} & | \\ 1 & B-flat & | & | & note^{5} & | & note^{6} & | \\ 1 & Soon see every warm & | & note^{5} & | & note^{6} & | \\ 1 & Soon see every warm & | & note^{5} & | & note^{6} & | \\ 1 & Soon see every warm & | & ether man at the now has grown to the en... & tire Con.t.i.. & nent But a grown to the en... & tire Con.t.i.. & nent But a law grown to the en... & tire Con.t.i.. & nent But a law grown to the en... & tire Con.t.i.. & nent But a law grown to the en... & tire Con.t.i.. & nent But a law grown to the en... & tire Con.t.i.. & nent But a law grown to the en... & tire Con.t.i.. & nent But a law grown to the en... & tire Con.t.i.. & nent But a law grown to the en... & tire con.t.i.. & nent But a law grown tree on & christ warning 'bout the & christ a law grown tree on & christ a law grown tree on & christ a law grown to the en...$$

1,2,3									
	Em7 ^{harm} z z G \ \ \ What will		G ^{10fr} \\ \\\ G \\ \\\ do	4 4 \ \ \ \ \ _? When the No_					
(bass)				Ho-ho-ho-ho when the No_					
4. <u>3</u> 4 (bass)	G \\ That's	Dm ^{5fr} z z Em ^{7f √} G \ \ Em \ That's That's That's That's	what Santa will	$G^{3fr} \setminus F^{8fr} \setminus G^{10ft} \setminus \setminus $ 4 $4 Em \setminus Dm \setminus G \setminus \setminus $ do When the do Ho-ho-ho When the					
	$C^{8 \mathrm{fr}} \parallel \parallel C \mid \mid \mid$		$ F^{8fr} \rangle \rangle \rangle \\ Dm \rangle \rangle \rangle$	$\begin{array}{c c} & G^{10ft} \\ & & \\ & $					
1,2,3,orthPole starts to melt, what is gonnahappen to his littleelves? Willthey4.NorthPole starts to melt, what is gonnahappen to his littleelves? Willthey									
Am	$\mathbf{n}^{\mathrm{5fr}} \setminus \setminus \setminus$	$G^{10ft} \setminus \setminus$	$C^{8fr} \setminus \setminus \setminus$	$ Em7^{harm} Dm7^{10fr} G^{10ft} \setminus $					
 F 	$\land \land \land$	 G \ \ \ 	C \ \ \	Em F G \ 					
be to	o busy swimm	in' to make the toys?	And	what will Santa do if the N					
 	$C^{8 \mathrm{fr}} \parallel \parallel$	$ Em^{7fr} \land Am^{5fr} \land \\ \\ \land C-(Gbass) \land \\ $	Dm7 ^{10fr} \ Dm7 ^{10fr} \ (note ⁷) F \ D7 (F#-bass) \ 	$ C^{8 fr} \setminus \setminus $ $ Am \setminus \setminus \setminus$					

__orth Pole melt too fast, is this Christmas gonna be his last? What will

1,2,3.

$ F^{8fr} \setminus Dm7^{10fr} \setminus$	$ G^{10ft} \setminus Em7^{harm} \setminus $	$C^{8fr} \setminus \setminus \setminus$	$G7^{7fr} \setminus B-aug^{7fr} \setminus $
 F \\\ 	G \\\ 	C \ \ \	G7 \ G-aug \
 Parents have to Parents have to Parents have to 	tell their girls and tell their girls and tell their girls and	Boys Boys Boys	: You

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$\mid F^{8fr} \ \setminus \ Dm7^{10fr} \ \setminus$	$ G^{10ft} \setminus Em7^{harm} \ \setminus \\$	$ C^{8fr} \setminus \setminus \setminus$	$ Dm7^{10fr} z D#m7^{11fr}$	^{fr} z Em7 ^{harm} zzz G
 F \ \ \	 G \ \ \		 Dm z F# z	
Parents have to	tell their girls and	Boys		

NOTES

¹ This is the arrangement for two guitars. The bottom line is the 1st guitar; the top line is the 2nd guitar. The 1st guitar plays at the bottom of the neck with some open strings wherever possible. The 2nd guitar plays toward the top of the neck. For example, "Em^{7fr} "means that you play an E-minor bar chord on the 7th fret. "Em", by contrast, means that you are playing the second frets for the A and D strings, and the other four strings are all open. In general, the two guitar chords played as written combine to yield the chord that the chorus is singing during the 1st and 3rd beats of the measure.

In each case, the name of a chord means play that chord for one beat. The backslash "\" means play the same chord another beat. The "z" means a quarter note rest—sorry I don't have better fonts. Parentheses mean that you could just skip this

chord and keep playing the previous chord—in fact I skipped this chord in the recording. The vertical lines are intended to represent a measure—the words are pretty much in the correct measure, but not necessarily aligned below the beat. Refer to the choral arrangement which pretty much has everything along those lines.

² What if you only have one guitar? The only time it really matters is if you have two singers. The 1st (lower) guitar part always includes the bass note. So if one singer is singing melody and the other is singing bass—which makes the most sense since that's Santa--then play the second guitar because Santa is covering the bass note. If the other singer can't go that low, then play the first guitar part—and it's probably best to have the other singer do second tenor. If you have a full chorus, you can play either part—or whatever mixture you like—I'd suggest going up the neck to do the measures with the "Dm7, Em7 12th fret harmonic" transition,. even if you otherwise do first guitar.

If it's just you singing, first guitar by itself works. Or play the combined chord implied by the two guitar parts, if that chord is obvious to you. Somewhere, I have my original arrangement for one guitar but I can't find it—let me know if you need it but if you even have the patience to be reading this note you can probably figure something out.

³ About this copyright: If you asked Captain Sea Level or his brother for an arrangement and one of them emails it to you, you are entitled to make 5 copies for personal, non profit use. Merry Christmas. You are also authorized to sing this song for any performance in which either there is no admission fee or the admission fee is donated to a charitable purpose. However, if you ever make any money on this, then you owe Captain Sea Level whatever royalties would normally apply—whatever that means, I'm not a copyright lawyer. Realistically, you will probably not make any money so all this is moot, so I'll throw this in: If you ever play this song in public, and if you have a decent tape recorder, you have to send me a cassette or mp3 of you doing the song. Please!? If you did not get this arrangement from Captain Sea Level or his brother, then you must contact him before making copies.

⁴ By "Em7 harm" I mean play the Em7 chord on the 12th fret by just striking a chord consisting entirely of the 12th fret harmonics—don't worry about that 12th-fret A that is not part of the chord—you play an A on the next beat anyway.

⁵ By "D open 5th" I mean only play D and A. The easiest way to do this is finger the bottom-of-the-neck D-chord but deaden the top and bottom strings, which would otherwise be proving an F#. You really don't want an F#. If there is only one guitar, another option is "D-suspended", that is C-major with a D in the bass.

⁶ By "add 9" I mean play the B-flat but use your pinky to play a C-natural on the top string.

⁷Different inversions of Dm7 are used. In the first half of the measure, the B-string is playing an A (i.e. 10th fret). You can do this either by barring (with one finger or two) the 10th fret and only laying the low E, D, G, and B strings, or by barring the 10th fret and playing the 12th fret of the A string (but deaden the high-e string). Either way, the highest note from the guitar in an A. In the half of the measure, your pinky is playing the 12th fret of the B-string, i.e., the highest note on the guitar is a B.