

## **Difranco Ani**

### **"Hat Shaped Hat"**

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in walked a man in the shape of a man  
holding a hat-shaped hat  
he held up two fingers and said 'how many fingers?'  
and i said 'Peace man, that's where it's at'  
i said you are what you do in order to  
prevent becoming what you're busy not doing  
and if you do do it truly  
then you arrive at it newly  
then in the end you are absolved  
and the problem of heaven is solved

and the man broke into a smile,  
like he was breaking into a song  
and he was broken and smiling  
and i was singing along  
and we agreed completely agreeetly about most things  
'til the sun set sweetly  
like it does in those paintings  
the ones they hang in hotel rooms  
the ones they bolt to the wall  
as though anyone would want to steal them at all

we talked like children without breathing  
'til i stopped this lady as she was leaving  
and i said 'excuse me,  
but do you know what time it would be  
if we were on mars ?'  
and she held up her hand  
like a crossing guard stopping the cars  
and she said  
five in the morning

in walked a man  
in the shape of a man  
holding a hat shaped hat

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