



A PANTOMIME WITH NO STRINGS ATTACHED BY
TOM WHALLEY

CAST

IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

THE BLUE FAIRY – *The magical spirit.*

GEPETTO – *A nimble old woodcarver with a twinkle in his eye.*

LAMPWICK – *The dim-witted son of Mamma Mia. The Comic.*

MAMMA MIA – *Owner of the local pizzeria. The Dame.*

SIGNORE VOLPE – *A sly fox.*

SIGNORE GATTO – *A conniving cat.*

STROMBOLI – *A ruthless Italian puppet master. The Villain.*

PINOCCHIO – *The puppet with no strings! Mischievous and wide-eyed.*

JIMINY CRICKET – *Pinocchio's guide and conscience.*

[EXCERPT FROM ACT ONE – SCENE FOUR]

GEPPETTO: Lampwick! I'm afraid the toy shop is shut...

LAMPWICK: I'm not here to play today! I brought you your supper Signore.

GEPPETTO: You are a good boy! What is it?

LAMPWICK: My Mamma's special spaghetti and meatballs.

GEPPETTO: What's 'special' about it?

LAMPWICK: It's special because it's just like her...

GEPPETTO: Ah! Because it's *saucy*! A little *cheesy*!

LAMPWICK: ...and it's got balls!

MAMMA(OFF): I heard that!

MAMMA ENTERS IN HER NIGHTWEAR: **MUSIC CUE: MAMMA ENTRANCE**

MAMMA: Buongiorno! [*To audience:*] You forgot didn't you?! Let's try again...
Buongiorno! Bravo! Lampy! How could you say such things about your poor mother?

GEPPETTO: Mamma Mia, you're in your night suit...

MAMMA: It's a good job I'm not in my birthday suit! Is my son proving to be a pest Geppetto?

GEPPETTO: No, no! He brought me my supper.

MAMMA: What took you so long?

LAMPWICK: I was draining the pasta...

MAMMA: He once spent twenty-four days draining pasta.

LAMPWICK: That's because I was using my advent colander! [*To audience:*] We've got your money now you might as well laugh!

GEPPETTO: It's just as well you're both here...look!

GEPPETTO WHIPS OFF THE SHEET TO REVEAL PINOCCHIO SAT ON THE TABLE.

MAMMA: Magnifico, Geppetto!

LAMPWICK: *Wood* you look at that!

MAMMA: He almost looks like a real boy!

GEPPETTO: If only...

MAMMA: It's true what they say; you have magic hands!

GEPPETTO: All he needs now is a name. What to call you?

LAMPWICK: [*Reeling off ideas:*] Steve... Ian... Keith!

MAMMA JABS HIM IN THE RIBS.

LAMPWICK: Ow!

GEPPETTO: You're made of pine... and you have beautiful eyes just like your Papa. *Occhi bellissimo!* I know! We'll call you... *Pinocchio!*

MAMMA: I mean, I preferred 'Keith' but Pinocchio it is!

LAMPWICK: Pleasure to meet you woody!

GEPPETTO: Don't be shy Pinocchio! Say hello!

GEPPETTO BEGINS TO PUPPETEER. LAMPWICK OPENS A WOODEN MUSIC BOX. PINOCCHIO DANCES. **SFX CUE: MUSIC BOX** AFTER THE SHORT PUPPET ROUTINE, PINOCCHIO FLOPS ON THE TABLE.

LAMPWICK: He's like limp spaghetti!

MAMMA: Speaking of spaghetti, it's *pasta* your bedtime Lampwick...

LAMPWICK: Yes, Mamma! Buona notte, Geppetto!

MAMMA: Buona notte, Pinocchio! Did you hear that [NAME OF MAN]? Time for bed!

LAMPWICK: Mamma Mia!

LAMPWICK DRAGS MAMMA MIA OFF.

GEPPETTO: Yes. Time for bed my little wooden head!

GEPPETTO LOOKS OUT TO THE AUDIENCE. A BEAM OF STARLIGHT HITS HIM.
MUSIC CUE: WISH UPON A STAR UNDERSCORE

GEPPETTO: Look, Pinocchio! The wishing star!
*Oh wishing star, sparkling bright, please grant an old man's wish tonight,
I wish that Pinocchio, my precious toy, could one day be a real boy!*

GEPPETTO DIMS THE LAMP AND EXITS:

GEPPETTO: [*With a yawn, wistfully:*] A real boy...

SONG CUE: TOY DANCE ['WAITING FOR A STAR TO FALL']

THE BLUE FAIRY ENTERS AND SPEAKS OVER THE SONG'S INTRO:

BLUE FAIRY: *I heard your wish sweet Geppetto! Blue knows what to do...
See, when you wish upon a star your dreams always come true!
Fantoccio Pinocchio! Time for magic spells to start,
For miracles don't grow on trees, they're made in the heart!*

THE BLUE FAIRY TAPS PINOCCHIO'S HEAD WITH HER WAND. THE ENSEMBLE ENTER AND DANCE AS ENCHANTED TOYS – TEDDY BEARS, JACK-IN-THE-BOX, DOLLS ETC.

PINOCCHIO: I can move! I can talk! O.M...DF! Who are you?

BLUE FAIRY: *Don't be afraid puppet! There's no need to be wary,
I'm your azure accomplice, they call me the Blue Fairy!
This is your lucky night you enchanted little toy,
Your Papa, Geppetto wished for you to be real boy!*

PINOCCHIO: Am I a real boy?!

BLUE FAIRY: Not yet! You see Pinocchio, Geppetto may have made the wish but only you can make it come true.

PINOCCHIO: How?

BLUE FAIRY: You have to learn three lessons...

PINOCCHIO: I've only been alive for one minute and now I have to go to school?!

BLUE FAIRY: You must learn to be honest, brave and good. That's what it takes to be a real boy. *For if you cannot be all three, you might as well just be a tree!*

PINOCCHIO: I don't want to be a tree. I want to 'branch out'!

BLUE FAIRY: Then you need to learn to choose between what is right and what is wrong.

PINOCCHIO: But how will I know?

BLUE FAIRY: Your conscience will tell you. You need a guide by your side and I know just the one!

THE BLUE FAIRY WAVES HER WAND AND JIMINY CRICKET SPRINGS ONTO STAGE TAKING PINOCCHIO BY SURPRISE. **SFX CUE: MAGIC WAND WAVE**

PINOCCHIO: Jiminy Cricket!

JIMINY: That's my name! Don't wear it out!

BLUE FAIRY: I hate to *bug* you but will you look after Pinocchio, Mr. Cricket?

PINOCCHIO: I need a conscience!

JIMINY: You're not the only one!

BLUE FAIRY: Will you Jiminy?

JIMINY: This is a very big decision! I'll have to think about it!

EVERYONE STANDS STILL AS JIMINY THINKS: **SFX CUE: CRICKET CHIRP**

JIMINY: I'll do it!

JIMINY AND PINOCCHIO HIGH FIVE. IT HURTS JIMINY'S HAND.

JIMINY: Ow!

PINOCCHIO: Did I give you a splinter Jiminy?

JIMINY: No...I used to get splinters all the time but I don't anymore – touch wood!

BLUE FAIRY: I knew I could count on you cricket!

JIMINY: Anything for you Blue! Don't you worry Pinoke! Us insects are very loyal. I'll always *bee* here for you! I'll never *flea* when others *mite*! I *tick* all the boxes!
[To audience:] I'm making these up on the *fly*...

BLUE FAIRY: Enough chirping on! Remember Pinocchio...
*If ever you're in trouble, just whistle and I'll be right by your side,
So don't forget and always let your conscience be your guide!*

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