



Pinocchio

by Stephen Duckham

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PINOCCHIO

CHARACTERS

THE BLUE FAIRY	
GEPPETTO	A toy maker
MAMA MACARONI	The Dame and owner of a shop
LAMPWICK	Her son
FOX) A couple of confidence tricksters
CAT)
STROMBOLI	The owner of a puppet show
JIMINY CRICKET	A quick-witted, comical cricket
PINOCCHIO	A wooden boy
PIRATE LEADER	

CHORUS OF TOWNSPEOPLE, PLEASURE ISLANDERS, PIRATES

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

ACT ONE	
SCENE 1	THE GROTTO OF THE BLUE FAIRY
SCENE 2	OUTSIDE GEPPETTO'S SHOP
SCENE 3	ON THE BEACH
SCENE 4	INSIDE GEPPETTO'S SHOP
SCENE 5	THE ROAD TO SCHOOL
SCENE 6	THE MARIONETTE THEATRE
SCENE 7	THE ROAD TO SCHOOL
SCENE 8	OUTSIDE GEPPETTO'S SHOP

ACT TWO	
SCENE 1	PLEASURE ISLAND
SCENE 2	SOMEWHERE AND NOWHERE
SCENE 3	ALL AT SEA
SCENE 4	ON BOARD A PIRATE SHIP
SCENE 5	INSIDE A WHALE
SCENE 6	ON THE BEACH
SCENE 7	FINALE

CHARACTERS

The Blue Fairy	A kindly, all-knowing character with a warm heart and smile. Don't play her as the typical 'fairy tale fairy', she should have a modern feel about her.
Geppetto	A warm fatherly figure. Good sense of comedy to play off Mamma.
Mamma Macaroni	Larger than life Italian 'Mamma'! Good sense of knock-about comedy. If possible it adds to the comedy if all her costumes have something relating to her character and profession.
Lampwick	Her son. A typical 'teenager'.
Fox & Cat	As there character suggests – the Fox is wily and more of a leader. The Cat is bored and only goes along with him to get her next meal. Whenever the dialogue has a 'cat' reference, she should play it to the hilt.
Stromboli	The 'baddie'. Played in true 'music hall villain' style.
Jiminy Cricket	Can be played by a small female if needed. Quick-witted and comical.
Pinocchio	His costume and make-up has to resemble a puppet. There are many ways to create his growing nose. The best way is to make a half mask to fit over the head and down to nose level with the nose part made on similar lines to a telescope. The actor playing the part can pull out or push back the 'nose' during a light effect. Whatever way you do it make sure it has a 'magical' effect!
Pirate Leader	Cameo role. Menacing and gruff!

SUGGESTIONS FOR SCENERY

ACT ONE

Scene 1	Gauze front cloth or tabs. If tabs are used bring up a light down right for the Blue Fairy and one down left for the various characters to appear in.
Scene 2 & 8	Full set with Geppetto's shop one side and Mama's the other.
Scene 3, 5 & 7	These scene can be a front cloth or played on tabs.
Scene 4	Geppetto's shop with a practical door to one side and a counter. Backed by a cloth or flats.
Scene 6	A platform centre with Stromboli's office and a cage set on one side of the stage.

ACT TWO

Scene 1	Full stage with bright colours and lights to give the impression of a fun fair. To one side a platform stage (can be a double of the one in Act 1 Scene 6)
Scene 2	Repeat the gauze from Act 1 Scene 1
Scene 3	Front cloth or tabs.
Scene 4	Depending on facilities this scene can either be a half stage cloth with added pieces to represent a pirate ship or a truck that turns to become the next scene.
Scene 5	Either a cloth or the reverse of a truck used in the previous scene. A large 'epiglottis' hangs down from the flies.
Scene 6	Repeat Act 1 Scene 3
Scene 7	I have suggested that the whole scene takes on the look of a giant toy store, but you can do a conventional walk-down if preferred.

The placing of the musical numbers and who sings them is suggested in the script, but it is up to the director to decide what to use. A word of advice: Pantomime audiences – particularly the younger members – like the story to keep moving, so don't make the musical sequences too long, especially the ballads.

I hope you enjoy doing this version of 'Pinocchio' and have a great success with your production.

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ACT ONE

SCENE 1 THE GROTTO OF THE BLUE FAIRY

[A gauze front cloth scene that shimmers with stars. The BLUE FAIRY is discovered down right. SHE is on a brightly coloured mobile phone.]

BLUE FAIRYand they all lived happily ever after. *[Sighs, and then spots the audience.]* Got to run, I've got company, I'll call you back! *[Puts the phone away and smiles at the audience.]* Hello. I'm so pleased to see you all. I'm the Blue Fairy and you're the first visitors I've had in nearly a year! Are you all ready for an adventure? *[Ad lib with audience.]* Alright, well here we go. It's a heart-warming story set in a town in Italy and tells the tale of a toymaker called Geppetto and his son, Pinocchio. But he wasn't his son to start with – he was a lump of wood! *[SHE laughs.]* Dear Geppetto, he made toys for all the children in the town and wished that he would one day make a toy for his own child. That's where I come in. But I'm getting ahead of myself. First of all I better introduce you to all the characters. Through the wonders of modern technology you can see them in HD! Here is Geppetto. *[A light comes up behind the gauze showing GEPPETTO at work making a toy.]* And then there's Mamma Macaroni who lives across the road. *[Lights come up on MAMMA who is making sausages.]* She sells many mouth-watering things in her deli, but is most famous for her big Italian sausages. She has a son – Lampwick – who is a bit of a handful. *[LAMPWICK moves into the light and tries to take a sausage, for which HE gets a clip round the ear.]* Now the next is a very important character. *[Lights up on JIMINY CRICKET.]* It's Jiminy Cricket, an old friend of mine, who I might need to give me a hand. Then we have a few villains – well every story has to have some characters you can boo! *[The lights come up on STROMBOLI, FOX and CAT.]* And when you see them up to no good you can boo as loud as you like! And last but not least there's Pinnochio. *[The lights come up on a piece of wood.]* Just my little joke – but you'll see him all in good time. *[The lights fade on all the characters.]* So there they all are. Now to begin my story. Down in the square the townspeople are excited because every year on the first of May Geppetto produces a new range of toys – and this one was no exception.

[SHE waves her wand and the scene changes to.....]

SCENE 2 OUTSIDE GEPPETTO'S SHOP

[To one side of the stage is Geppetto's toy shop and on the other is Mamma Macaroni's food shop. Outside the food shop is a stand with various food items on display. Other buildings are seen and the quay and ocean in the background. The CHORUS is on singing a rousing song of celebration.]

CHORUS NUMBER

[At the end of the number a member of the COMPANY crosses to the toy shop and knocks on the door.]

1st MAN

Come on Geppetto, you've kept us in suspense for long enough.

1st WOMAN Yes, we want to see what you have got for us this year.

[General calls from the rest of the COMPANY. GEPETTO opens his door.]

GEPETTO Good morning my friends. *[Feigning innocence.]* And what can I do for you today?

2nd MAN Very funny. You know what we want to see.

2nd WOMAN What's your latest creation?

GEPETTO My latest creation? You really want to see it?

3rd MAN Of course we do.

GEPETTO Well, all right. I'll bring it out for you. *[HE exits back into the shop. ALL buzz with excitement. HE returns pushing a small table on wheels with a toy on top that is covered by a cloth.]* Here it is. My new toy guaranteed to keep children amused and happy. *[With a flourish HE pulls off the cloth to reveal a brightly coloured toy. It can be of any eccentric design as long as it consists of things that move and play a tune. On the top is a funnel and near the bottom a shoot where sweets can come out and empty into a container. There is a handle to one side that operates the toy. The idea of the toy is that water and flavourings are place in the funnel and then various things move while a tune plays and finally wrapped sweets come down the chute.]* There.

1st MAN What is it?

1st WOMAN What do you call it?

GEPETTO It a Fruity Tooty.

2nd MAN How does it work?

GEPETTO *[HE operates it as HE describes it.]* Well, you put some water and some fresh fruit in the funnel and turn this handle. The Fruity Tooty goes to work playing a merry tune and very soon – *[Some sweets come down the chute into the container. ALL applaud.]*

2nd WOMAN That's wonderful.

GEPETTO And healthy. This way the kids get their five a day! *[ALL agree.]* Do you think some of the children out there would like some sweets from my new toy? *[Audience reaction.]* All right. Here goes. *[HE puts the fruit and water in and turns the handle. The tune plays and the sweets come out.]* There we are. *[ALL help to throw sweets out to the audience. At the end of the sequence the CHORUS start to exit saying goodbye to GEPETTO.]* Goodbye all. I'll be taking orders for the new toy from tomorrow. *[He turns to go back into his shop when a noise and shouting is heard off stage.]*

MAMA M *[Off.] Stop that you crafty canine sausage stealer! [MAMA MACARONI back out of her shop holding one end of a string of fat Italian sausages. It stretches back into the shop.] Let go you mangy mutt!*

GEPPETTO Mama Macaroni! What's going on?

MAMA M *[Still pulling at the sausages. There are dog snarls coming from off stage.] That dog that's always hanging around the place tried to nick my new batch of sausages. [With a big shout.] Let go! [With one last pull the sausage are released and MAMA MACARONI falls backwards into a heap.] Owwww!*

GEPPETTO *[Running to help her up.]* Are you all right?

MAMA M I'll make mincemeat out of him if he comes near my shop again. Have you seen him, Geppetto? He's a right tramp! *[SHE is now on her knees and rubbing her behind.]* He's already had a go at my salami!

GEPPETTO Let me help you. *[HE helps her to her feet.]*

MAMA M *[Coyly.]* Thank you. It's nice to know there are still a few gentlemen left. *[SHE puts the string of sausages around her neck like a string of beads.]* Oh look, I could start a new fashion!

GEPPETTO *[Rolling his eyes.]* Very nice!

MAMA M You know you remind me so of my dear Alberto. What a man he was. Tender and considerate – just like you.

GEPPETTO *[Slightly embarrassed.]* Oh, er, well thank you.

MAMA M *[Seeing the new toy.]* Is this your new toy?

GEPPETTO Yes. It's called a Fruity Tooty. It makes healthy fruit sweets for the children.

MAMA M Oh you are so clever. And look – there's one left. *[SHE is looking into the container.]*

GEPPETTO *[Taking the sweet and offering it to her.]* For you.

MAMA M *[As though she had been offered the crown jewels.]* Oh, really? How sweet of you. *[SHE realises what she has said and laughs.]* Sweet of you! Get it? *[SHE gives him a rather strong shove.]* Sweet of you!!

GEPPETTO *[Regaining his balance.]* Yes. Very funny. Well I must get back to my shop. I'm expecting a lot of orders for my new toy. *[HE takes the toy and moves towards his shop.]*

MAMA M I'll see you later. We can share a bowl of spaghetti and I'll give you extra meatballs! *[With an astounded look he exits.]* Oh what a wonderful man. *[SHE goes to unwrap the sweet and then notices the audience.]* Oh hello, I'm Mama Macaroni. But I should say buon giorno. That's good morning over here. Would you all like to try it? *[SHE gets the audience to say "buon giorno".]* You know your accent

is nearly as bad as mine! Now we're all friends. Some of you look as though you've already had some of Geppetto's sweets from his new toy. Have you? *[Reaction.]* Who didn't get one? *[No doubt hands will shoot up! SHE chooses someone from the front of the audience.]* Well here you are. You can have mine. *[SHE throws sweet.]* I really shouldn't eat sweets; I have to look after my figure! Mind you it's not too bad is it? *[SHE points to the various parts.]* 42, 34 and fifty pence a pound! My late husband liked me to be well proportioned. He used to say he wanted to come home to something warm and satisfying, so I always had a bowl of spaghetti waiting! I had five husbands you know. Not all at the same time of course. Now I'm on the lookout for number six and I think Geppetto is just the right man for the job! He's so clever with his hands. The things he can do with a piece of wood bring a tear to your eye. We've sort of been going out together for a while now and I think he knows how I feel about him. I love him – I worship him – I treasure the very bank he deposits with. All it needs is a bit of a push and I'm sure he'd propose. And besides, my son Lampwick needs a father. Have you met him yet? *[Reaction.]* Oh he'll be around here somewhere. Not the brightest candle in the box, but a good lad. *[She points to her shop.]* And this is my shop. I pride myself in selling only the finest Italian food. My Bolognese is beautiful, my Spaghetti is stupendous, my Lasagne is luxuriant and my Tagliatelle will titillate your taste buds 'til you're twirling like a top! How's that for advertising? And talking of advertising, I've been working on a new slogan for my business. Would you like to see it? *[Reaction. SHE goes to her shop and brings out a large sign which has the following slogan written on it: 'Eat with your friends or on your own-ee, Pasta and Pizza by Mama Macaroni'.]* There. What do you think? *[SHE reads it out in a rhythmic chant.]* Good, isn't it? Would you like to do it? *[Reaction.]* I know - I've just had a wonderful idea. Whenever I see you I'll say the first line and you answer back with the second line. How about that? Shall we have a go? *[SHE says the first line and the audience responds.]* Oh come on. You can be louder than that! I want everyone to know how wonderful Mama Macaroni's food is. Now let's try it again. *[The chant is repeated.]* That's much better. Now I'll put this over here so you won't forget to shout back when I say the first line. *[SHE puts the sign on a stand down stage left of the proscenium arch.]* Now I better find out what my lazy son is up to. *[SHE calls.]* Lampwick. Lampwick, are you there? *[To the audience.]* He should be up by now. He'll be late for school. *[She calls again.]* Lampwick!

LAMPWICK *[Off.]* Yes Mom?

MAMA M Come out here. *[LAMPWICK enters. HE is a pleasant lad but somewhat dishevelled in his dress.]* Look at you. Half dressed. And in front of all our friends out there. Say 'hello' to them.

LAMPWICK Hiya. *[Audience responds.]* Do you want to come and play in our back yard?

MAMA M No they don't! And you better look sharp or you're going to be late for school.

LAMPWICK Oh Mom. Do I have to go?

MAMA M Of course you do.

LAMPWICK But I don't like it.

MAMA M What do you mean, you don't like it. *[Indicating the audience.]* Look at all those boy and girls out there. They love to go to school - don't you? *[Audience reaction.]* What do you mean "no"! Oh yes you do. *[There's an 'Oh no we don't/Oh yes you do sequence']* You have to go to school to learn everything.

LAMPWICK But I know everything. Go on ask me a question.

MAMA M All right. *[Points to his trousers.]* If you had a pound in that pocket and a pound in that pocket, what would you have?

LAMPWICK Someone else's trousers on!

MAMA M Oh you silly boy. I bet you can't even count up to ten.

LAMPWICK I can.

MAMA M Go on then.

LAMPWICK One two three four five six seven eight nine ten.

MAMA M Very good. What comes after that?

LAMPWICK Jack, Queen, King.

MAMA M Ooooh!

LAMPWICK See. I'm not a complete idiot.

MAMA M No, there are still a few parts missing! Now before you go to school keep an eye on the shop for a minute. I'm just going to have a word with Geppetto. *[To the audience.]* Bye all. *[With a wave SHE exits into Geppetto's shop.]*

LAMPWICK Oh honestly. I don't feel like school today. I'd rather hang out with my mates. Trouble is I don't have many mates. In fact I don't have any! *[Gets sympathy from the audience.]* But you'll be my mates, won't you? *[Reaction.]* And if you get all your mates to be my mates – and they get all their mates to be my mates then I'd soon have mates all over the world! And we could all be on Facebook! Wouldn't that be fantastic? And on my birthday I'd get hundreds and hundreds of presents. Wow! *[Stops and thinks.]* But then I'd have to buy hundreds and hundreds back! I'd be bankrupt before I opened a bank account! *[Looks at the front row of the audience and picks someone out.]* I know why don't just you and me be mates? *[Stage whispers.]* Don't tell anyone else!

[HE goes into the song and the CHORUS enter and join him.]

NUMBER – LAMPWICK AND CHORUS

[At the end of the number they all exit. After a moment FOX puts his head around the upstage corner of a building.]

- FOX It's all clear. No one around. *[HE comes down stage with wily moves. After another moment, CAT puts her head around and follows him on.]*
Well Cat, I wonder if this town is going to bring us some luck.
- CAT It could be just *purrfect* for us.
- FOX As long as you don't create another 'cat'-astrophe and get us thrown out like the last time.
- CAT What do you mean catastrophe? It was you who tried to dupe that old man out of his life savings.
- FOX And I would have done if you hadn't lost your nerve and dropped the disguise as my secretary.
- CAT But it started raining and you know how we cats hate water.
- FOX Just another few minutes and I would have sold him that fake insurance policy.
- CAT My fur was getting wet.
- FOX Your fur! Always thinking about yourself. We'll never get rich and be able to retire.
- CAT I'm hungry. Any food around?
- FOX You'll have to steal some. I'm skint.
- CAT *[Seeing the food in MAMA MACARONI'S shop.]* Oh look over there. All that food just waiting to be eaten. And the shop looks empty. *[SHE starts to cross to the shop food display in front of the shop and picks up some sausages. LAMPWICK runs on. The FOX and CAT quickly move to the opposite side of the stage.]*
- LAMPWICK Are you trying to bag me bangers without paying?
- FOX Not at all my good sir. We were just admiring them. They must be very popular.
- CAT Very deliciousssss.
- FOX Do you make them?
- LAMPWICK No. My mother does. She runs our shop. *[He points to the sign.]*
- FOX Mama Macaroni.
- LAMPWICK That's her.

CAT She must be a very talented lady. *[Eyeing the food in the shop window.]* All that food.

LAMPWICK Yes. And all for sale.

FOX *[Pushing CAT towards an exit.]* We need to get to the bank. Then we'll be back to sample the delights of your mothers establishment.

CAT You don't have a problem with mice do you? I could be of assistance.....

FOX *[Aside.]* Get out. *[THEY quickly exit.]*

LAMPWICK What a strange pair. I've got a feeling they were up to no good. Do you think I'm right? *[Audience reaction.]* Oh well, they've gone now. *[HE looks towards Geppetto's shop.]* And look – here comes mother.

[MAMA MACARONI enters from the toy shop. She shouts the slogan and the audience respond. GEPPETTO follows her.]

MAMA M Have you been looking after everything, Lampwick?

LAMPWICK Yes mom.

MAMA M Oh you are a good son.

GEPPETTO He is indeed. I wish I had a son. Don't you think that sign above my shop would look much better if it said 'Geppetto and Son'?

MAMA M *[Coyly.]* Well, you know there's still time.

GEPPETTO Oh I don't think so. I'm getting too old.

MAMA M Nonsense. Look at me. Five husbands and I could still pass for a woman of thirty-five!

GEPPETTO *[Astounded.]* Thirty five?

MAMA M Yes. You only have to look at my delicate complexion.

LAMPWICK Delicate complexion? I've seen better skin on a rice pudding!

MAMA M You cheeky thing.

GEPPETTO I think my next project will be to make a puppet in the shape of a boy. Something along the lines of what I think a son would have looked like.

MAMA M That's a wonderful idea. And have you got a name for your 'son'?

GEPPETTO I was thinking of something quite unique. A name no one else has around here.

LAMPWICK How about Fred?

MAMA M Fred? But there are lots of Freds.

LAMPWICK Not made of wood.

GEPPETTO But I don't want to think of him as being made of wood. No, I have a name picked out.

MAMA M What is it?

GEPPETTO Maybe I should wait until he's ready before saying.

MAMA M Ohh. Well hurry up and create him. I'm dying of curiosity.

GEPPETTO I need to find a special piece of wood. A good strong piece.

MAMA M Well the sooner you do – the sooner you'll have your 'son'! *[Turns to LAMPWICK.]* And in the meantime my son better get himself off to school.

LAMPWICK Mom.....

MAMA M I won't tell you again. Now move it. *[SHE pushes him towards an exit then turns back to GEPPETTO.]* At least yours won't keep answering you back! *[SHE exits into her shop as GEPPETTO exits to his. LAMPWICK speaks to the audience.]*

LAMPWICK We're not doing much at school today. Just going on a nature walk to learn about flowers and trees. I know I'll go on my own nature walk and try to find a piece of wood for Geppetto to make his puppet out of. See you later. *[HE waves to the audience and exits. Music starts as the CHORUS come running on. STROMBOLI enters carrying a dummy which he operates with one hand.]*

STROMBOLI Buon giorno ladies and gentlemen. This is your lucky day. I, the great Stomboli, am here to announce that my world famous puppet theatre is coming to town. We will be joining the fair on the outskirts of town for the next few weeks. *[The dummy whispers to him.]* Oh I nearly forgot. For the first ten lucky customers there will be a discount of twenty-five – *[The dummy whispers again.]* – oh all right fifty per cent. *[Reaction from the crowd.]* So tell your family and friends that Stromboli will give them a show they will remember all their lives.

NUMBER – STROMBOLI AND COMPANY

[During the number Stromboli gives out flyers advertising his show. At the end the COMPANY disperses and STROMBOLI speaks to his dummy.]

STROMBOLI So how much money do you think we can make in this town? *[HE speaks as the dummy.]* About as much as we made in the last one. *[As himself.]* Which was? *[As the dummy.]* Hardly enough to buy a sandwich and a bottle of beer! *[As himself.]* Don't be such a wise guy. How was I to know that I needed a licence to perform there? *[As the dummy.]* You soon found out when you had to pay the fine for not having one. *[As himself.]* Alright, alright. It's easy for you puppets. All

you do is dance around the stage singing silly songs. Why is it me who has to do all the hard work maintaining the act and finding the bookings? *[As the dummy.]* Because you're the one pulling the strings. *[The dummy laughs at his joke. STROMBOLI grabs the dummy around the neck as though trying to strangle it.]* Oh you think you're so clever, don't you? Well one of these days I'll find a new act and all of you will be thrown onto the fire. Then we'll see who the dummy is! *[HE laughs maniacally and continues strangling the dummy. MAMA MACARONI enters. SHE shouts the slogan.]*

MAMA M What are you doing.

STROMBOLI *[Spinning round to see her.]* Oh! Scusi Signora. I was just rehearsing my act. Maybe you have heard of me? Stromboli, the world famous puppeteer.

MAMA M *[As though she had heard of him.]* Ohhh.....

STROMBOLI Ah ha!

MAMA M *[Straight faced.]* No!

STROMBOLI Oh! But you will very soon. When my show opens tonight everyone will want to see it.

MAMA M Really?

STROMBOLI Of course. And may I offer you and your husband discounted seats for a performance.

MAMA M Oh I'm afraid I'm a widow.

STROMBOLI *[Acting shocked.]* No! Such a beautiful lady like you should not be alone.

MAMA M *[Coyly.]* Oh you're just saying that. *[SHE gives him a hefty shove.]*

STROMBOLI *[Wincing on pain.]* No, it's true. Surely there must be someone special in your life.

MAMA M Well I have had my moments. *[SHE flutters her eyes at him.]*

STROMBOLI *[Looking away, horrified.]* I'm sure all the single men around here must be desperate...

MAMA M *[Sharply.]* What?

STROMBOLI Er.. desperate to escort you for an evening out.

MAMA M *[Glancing towards GEPPETTO'S shop.]* Well there is one who has a special place in my affections.

STROMBOLI *[Producing two tickets.]* Only five lira each and the best seats in the house.

MAMA M Well.... Oh why not? *[Seductively.]* But better make it the back row!
[SHE pays STROMBOLI for the tickets.]

STROMBOLI You won't be disappointed.

MAMA M I better not be! *[SHE crosses to GEPPETTO'S shop.]* Geppetto, I have a surprise for you. *[SHE exits.]*

STROMBOLI Our first sale. Now at least I can eat tonight. I'm starving. *[HE sees the sausages.]* Oh my. What delicious looking sausages. Just what I could do with. *[HE crosses to the sausages and LAMPWICK runs on.]*

LAMPWICK 'Ere, what you doing? Stop fiddling with me frankfurters!

STROMBOLI I wasn't fiddling with them. I was just admiring them.

LAMPWICK Well I'm sure my mother will sell you some if you are interested.

STROMBOLI *[Quickly.]* Oh no. I never eat before a performance.

LAMPWICK Performance?

STROMBOLI Yes. I am the internationally famous Stromboli. Renowned puppeteer.

LAMPWICK Puppeteer? How wonderful. I love puppet show. Geppetto over there makes puppets in his toy shop.

STROMBOLI *[Unimpressed.]* Really? Well mine are crafted by Italy's finest woodcarvers. Only the best for Stromboli!

LAMPWICK Geppetto wants to make a new puppet. One that he can call his son.

STROMBOLI All of my puppets are like a family to me and I am their papa! *[As the dummy.]* More like a jailer. *[As himself, through gritted teeth.]* One more crack like that and it will be the fire for you! *[The dummy trembles through the next bit.]* Tell all your friends my boy, the world famous Stromboli puppet show is coming to town.
[LAMPWICK runs off as STROMBOLI reprises the last part of his song.]

REPRISE – STROMBOLI

[HE finishes with a flourish as the lights fade and the scene changes to.....]

SCENE 3 ON THE BEACH

[A front cloth depicting a beach and trees and the sea in the background. Before the scene starts the BLUE FAIRY is seen down right.]

- BLUE FAIRY Well now, you've encountered a few of the characters in my story. But there's still one left for you to meet. Where is he, I hear you asking. Well he's over there. *[SHE points to an area down left and a light picks up a piece of driftwood.]* Of course he's not himself yet! But that lump of wood is going to be turned into something special – with a little help from yours truly! But first I need to get it to Geppetto – *[SHE looks off left.]* and here comes the perfect person to assist in the matter. *[SHE waves her wand and exits right as the lights come up and LAMPWICK enters left.]*
- LAMPWICK *[Not noticing the wood.]* I've walked miles looking for a piece of wood that will do for Geppetto's puppet. Nothing anywhere. You'd think there'd be some old piece lying around, especially down here on the beach. *[To the audience.]* You haven't seen anything have you? *[Reaction from the audience with LAMPWICK looking in all the wrong places. After a moment MAMA MACARONI enters left and shouts the slogan. SHE then turns and trips over the wood.]*
- MAMA M Who left that piece of wood lying around? A person could break her neck!
- LAMPWICK *[Running over and picking up the wood.]* That's perfect.
- MAMA M Lampwick, I thought I told you to get yourself off to school. What are you doing down here?
- LAMPWICK I was looking for this.
- MAMA M I always knew you weren't the sharpest knife in the box, but missing school to go wasting your time picking up bits of old wood.....
- LAMPWICK But mom, don't you see? This is just what Geppetto needs to make his puppet out of.
- MAMA M Driftwood?
- LAMPWICK Yes. Look, it's a good strong solid piece. I'm sure he'll love it.
- MAMA M I've never heard anything so ridiculous. *[Looking the wood over.]* It's so rough he'll get no end of splinters. The best place for this is back in the ocean where it came from.
- LAMPWICK But mom.....
- MAMA M You have had some crazy ideas in your time but this – *[There is a musical sting and they freeze as the lights change. The BLUE FAIRY enters and makes a pass with her wand. SHE exits as the lights return.]* – is one of the best you've ever had. *[SHE is smiling now.]* I'm sure it will make the best puppet for Geppetto.

LAMPWICK *[Confused.]* But what about the splinters?

MAMA M Splinters? What are you talking about? I haven't got splinters. Look, here comes Geppetto. Let's show him what we've found.

[GEPETTO enters left.]

GEPETTO Oh hello. I've looked everywhere for a good piece of wood for my puppet, but there's nothing around.

MAMA M What type of wood?

GEPETTO Well it needs to be strong.

[MAMA MACARONI takes the wood from LAMPWICK and tries to break it. There is lots of face pulling and straining. GEPETTO doesn't notice what she is doing.]

LAMPWICK What else?

GEPETTO Solid. No weak spots where it could break when I'm working on it.

[LAMPWICK knocks on the wood which gives a solid sound. (NB. Sound effect. MAMA MACARONI drops to her knees under the strain.)]

MAMA M What sort of size were you looking for?

GEPETTO *[Measuring with his hands.]* Oh about this size.

[MAMA MACARONI gets up and plonks the piece of wood into GEPETTO'S outstretched hands.]

MAMA M Well how about that?

GEPETTO Why, that's perfect. Wherever did you find it?

MAMA M *[Trying to sound very important.]* Oh I have connections with the 'do it yourself' trade.

LAMPWICK Yes, she's the original B & Q. Bodge it and quit! *[MAMA MACARONI glares at him.]* She tripped over it down there.

GEPETTO Well I don't care where you got it from; it's just what I want. I shall go home and start work at once.

MAMA M Can we watch?

GEPETTO No. I can only work on my own, but you shall be the first to see the finished result.

MAMA M Ohh I can't wait. Come on let's get going.

[ALL THREE exit left. The lights change and the BLUE FAIRY enters right.]

BLUE FAIRY Well that went smoothly enough. But I know there will be a few twists and turns in the plot which I can't always have control over. So I need someone to act as an assistant. *[Off stage we can hear someone whistling.]* Of course. The very person.

[JIMINY CRICKET enters right and passes the BLUE FAIRY without noticing her. SHE coughs. HE stops whistling and listens for a moment. Hearing nothing else HE continues across the stage.]

Oh Jiminy. *[HE stops again.]*

JIMINY Somebody call?

BLUE FAIRY Jiminy, don't say you have forgotten me already.

[JIMINY spins round.]

JIMINY Blue Fairy! I didn't see you there.

BLUE FAIRY Oh you know me. I pop up from time anywhere and everywhere.

JIMINY And what brings you to this part of the world.

BLUE FAIRY I'm working, of course! Gepetto, the local toymaker, really wants a son, so I'm doing what I can to help him.

JIMINY Good for you! *[HE starts to exit.]*

BLUE FAIRY But *[JIMINY stops and sighs.]* I'm going to need some help.

JIMINY Oh now wait a minute. I'm a bit too old to become someone's son! I've been through the whole "pack up the X-Box – do your homework – no Facebook tonight" routine. I'm afraid you'll have to find someone else.

BLUE FAIRY *[Laughing.]* I don't mean you. I've already picked out who it is going to be. He's just not been made yet.

JIMINY Made?

BLUE FAIRY You'll see. I want you to be his conscience. *[JIMINY looks confused]* Yeah, big word for a little cricket, I know. I want you to do is be his guide. Make sure he doesn't get into any scrapes. Keep him out of trouble. His father won't be able to watch him twenty four seven, so you will be a sort of surrogate mother.

JIMINY *[Astounded.]* Mother?? I'm not putting on a dress. Not even for you!

BLUE FAIRY All right then, a friend. A good pal.

JIMINY A pal. OK that's better.

BLUE FAIRY Oh thank you.

JIMINY So where is this 'pal' you want me to keep an eye on?

BLUE FAIRY I'll tell you when the time is right. Wait for my call.

JIMINY Don't I always?

[THEY smile at each other as the music begins.]

DUET – BLUE FAIRY AND JIMINY

[At the end of the number the lights fade out and the scene changes to.....]

SCENE 4 INSIDE GEPPETTO'S SHOP

[The interior of the toys shop. Various toys are on display. On the right is a door to the street with a window beside it and left is a door to another part of the shop on the other. A counter/workbench is to one side of the stage where GEPPETTO is working. The almost completed puppet of PINOCCHIO is lying on the workbench. HE has strings attached to his head, hands and feet, the other ends of which are attached to a cross piece of wood that acts as a control. It is late at night and as the scene starts, GEPPETTO is just finishing painting the features on PINOCCHIO'S face.]

GEPPETTO A little more red for the mouth and I think we are about finished. *[Looks at the puppet.]* There, just as I imagined a son would be like. Pinocchio. That is my name for you. *[Moves PINOCCHIO to sit up.]* My finest creation. You know what I wish Pinocchio? I wish you were a real boy. Oh well, I suppose it's not to be. Now I better let you dry. *[Lies PINOCCHIO down again and yawns.]* And I better get to bed. It's after midnight and tomorrow I want to show you off to the rest of the town. *[A light shines through the window. GEPPETTO looks out of the window.]* Will you look at that? A wishing star. Oh if only my dearest wish would come true. *[He crosses to the left door.]* Goodnight Pinocchio. *[HE exits. The light through the window gets brighter as magical music starts.]*

MUSIC – BLUE FAIRY

[The light becomes a special magical effect and the BLUE FAIRY appears in the shop.]

BLUE FAIRY So Geppetto has made his puppet. Isn't he a clever man? And tonight, when the wishing star was at its brightest he made his wish. So after all the happiness he has given to others through his toy-making, I'm here to grant his wish. Now let me make sure I have the right spell. The Fairy Godmother just text it to me! *[SHE checks her phone.]* Yes that's it.
To make Geppetto's dream come true
I grant the gift of life to you.

[SHE waves her wand and the lights create an effect. Slowly PINOCCHIO sits up, turns and gets off the counter. HIS strings are still attached. (NB. If it is possible to attach the strings control to a line in the flys this will add to the effect when the BLUE FAIRY casts a

spell to remove them.) First HE takes a tentative step, then another. Then HE raises an arm, then the other and claps. HE staggers backwards and then regains control. HE looks up at the BLUE FAIRY and laughs. SHE casts a spell and the strings are flown away leaving PINOCCHIO standing on his own.]

There. Now remember this Pinocchio; be a good boy and always let your conscience be your guide. Prove to be brave, truthful and kind to others and in time you could become a real boy.

PINOCCHIO *[Saying his first words.]* I – I – will.

BLUE FAIRY I have someone for you to meet. Someone who will be with you as your guide. *[SHE calls.]* Jiminy. Jiminy Cricket.

[The shop door magically opens and a very tired JIMINY enters.]

JIMINY *[Yawning.]* Did somebody call? *[Looks around.]* Where am I?

BLUE FAIRY Wake up, Jiminy and meet your new pal.

JIMINY You pick the most unsociable hours to call. I was just having a wonderful dream that I was on a desert island surrounded by *[Name of female pop group.]*

BLUE FAIRY Jiminy, this is Pinocchio.

JIMINY Hi there little fellow.

PINOCCHIO Hello. Are you my father?

JIMINY No! And I'm not your mother either. *[Looks at the BLUE FAIRY.]* He's kind of wooden, isn't he?

BLUE FAIRY That could change if he behaves himself and proves he has the qualities to become a real boy.

JIMINY And I suppose that's where I come in.

BLUE FAIRY You know the routine.

SONG – JIMINY, BLUE FAIRY, PINOCCHIO AND TOYS

[The song ends with all the toys back in position as GEPETTO enters.]

GEPETTO *[Only noticing the BLUE FAIRY.]* What's going on? Who are you?

BLUE FAIRY I am the Blue Fairy.

GEPETTO *[Thinking she is selling something.]* I'm sorry I never buy at the door

BLUE FAIRY But you don't understand. On this special night I have granted your wish.

GEPPETTO What wish?

PINOCCHIO Hello.

GEPPETTO *[Spinning round to see him.]* What's happened?

PINOCCHIO Father?

GEPPETTO Am I dreaming? You're a puppet. *[HE runs his hand above PINOCCHIO'S head feeling for the strings.]*

PINOCCHIO Not any more. I'm Pinocchio!

GEPPETTO Oh my. This is wonderful *[To BLUE FAIRY.]* You did this for me?

BLUE FAIRY Be happy – both of you. *[The magical lighting effect happens again and the BLUE FAIRY disappears. Dawn is now starting to break.]*

GEPPETTO Wait..... *[To PINOCCHIO.]* I can't believe this is happening. You're made of wood!

PINOCCHIO And if I'm brave, truthful and kind to others the Blue Fairy says that one day I could be a real boy.

GEPPETTO This is amazing. My boy – my son. *[HE hugs PINOCCHIO. JIMINY, who has been upstage during all of this, now coughs.]*

JIMINY And I'm Jiminy – his pal.

GEPPETTO *[Looking closely at him.]* I don't remember making you.

JIMINY You didn't. *[Pointing off.]* I'm with her! The Blue Fairy wants me to keep an eye on him.

GEPPETTO Well this just gets better and better.

[A cock crows as the lights brighten for the new day.]

 I need to tell everyone what has happened. *[HE crosses to the shop door and calls.]* Everyone, come and see what I have made.

[HE crosses back to stand in front of PINOCCHIO as LAMPWICK and the TOWNSPEOPLE start to enter. There are general comments of 'what's this all about' etc.]

TOWNSPERSON Whatever's happened?

LAMPWICK What's going on?

GEPPETTO Wait 'til you see. My very latest and best creation.

[MAMA MACARONI staggers on in nightclothes and an eye mask still covering her eyes. SHE shouts the slogan.]

MAMA M What's all the noise about? Is – *[SHE says the name of a well-known pop star]* – in town?

LAMPWICK Geppetto has made something new.

MAMA M But it's the middle of the night.

LAMPWICK Mama. *[HE removes her eye mask.]*

GEPPETTO I have done what I said I would. I have created my own son. *[HE moves to reveal PINOCCHIO. Gasps of delight.]*

PINOCCHIO Hello. I'm Pinocchio.

MAMA M Geppetto, that's wonderful. But did you have to wake me from my beauty sleep so early?

LAMPWICK Face it Mama, you could sleep for a hundred years, there's no undoing THAT.

[MAMA glares at HIM]

GEPPETTO He was made from the wood you found.

LAMPWICK *[looking closely.]* But there are no strings. How does he work?

GEPPETTO *[Evading the question.]* It's – er – it's a secret device. Known only to me.

JIMINY *[Stepping forward and introducing himself.]* And me. Jiminy Cricket. Friend and confidant.

MAMA M Is that a puppet too?

JIMINY Excuse me my good woman, I am most certainly not a puppet. I'm a very *heducated* cricket.

MAMA M Well! Excuse ever so me!

GEPPETTO Jiminy is a going to be around to show Pinocchio how to grow up like a real boy.

JIMINY Yes. And hopefully keep him out of any trouble – knock on wood! *[HE knocks on PINOCCHIO'S head.]*

PINOCCHIO Oww!

JIMINY Sorry!

GEPPETTO Don't you think he's good looking?

MAMA M Yes, just like his father! A chip off the old block – so to speak!

GEPPETTO Pinocchio, this is my good friend Mama Macaroni and her son Lampwick.