

Player one #1 (Gepetto)

BLUE FAIRY

Pinocchio, you don't know the half of it...

PINOCCHIO and BLUE FAIRY exit.

Lights shift.

Scene Four

Where's That Boy?!

GEPETTO is pacing nervously. CELEBRÉ 'chirps' off-key, obviously distressed.

begin

GEPETTO

I know! I know! He should have been home hours ago! I'm so worried about him!

CELEBRÉ 'chirps'.

GEPETTO

But what should I do?! Call the Polizia?!

CELEBRÉ 'chirps'.

GEPETTO

There all sorts of malcontents he could have run into! Smugglers, thieves, pickpockets, scammers, schemers, scoundrels, shysters, crooks and shady characters abound!

CELEBRÉ 'chirps'.

GEPETTO

We must go look for him! He is my son! My bambino! I shouldn't have sent him off on his own. I have to know he's safe! We must be off to search for-

CELEBRÉ 'chirps'.

GEPETTO

Stopping in his tracks.

What's that?!

CELEBRÉ 'chirps'.

GEPETTO

Oh! Of course! I will leave him a note. Surely he has learned his letters and is able to read by now. He's been in school for one entire day!

GEPETTO scribbles out a note.

GEPETTO

Now... Where to leave it...?

He looks out into the onstage audience and searches about and picks a child.

GEPETTO

You there! Young (miss/squire)! If he returns... Will you relay this message to my son, Pinocchio? Tell him Celebré and I are off to find him! Thank you! I am ever so grateful! Now Celebré, our journey begins! To find my son, my Pinocchio!!!

end

GEPETTO exits hurriedly with CELEBRÉ.

Scene Five
The Straight & Narrow

As GEPETTO exits, PINOCCHIO and BLUE FAIRY immediately enter. PINOCCHIO is bursting with excitement to tell his adventurous tale.

PINOCCHIO

Papa! Papa, I'm home! I promise I will do better next time. Don't be angry.

Silence.

PINOCCHIO

Papa? Papa, where are you?

Silence.

PINOCCHIO

Getting anxious.

Papa?! Celebré?! I have learned a lesson. I won't lose your money again... I'm sorry I'm so late! I can explain! There was this creepy Fox and a weird blind Cat and... Hello? Papa?!!! WHERE ARE THEY?!!!

Player one #2 (Volpe)

VOLPE

A fool and his money are soon parted. Come along, Gatto. We've some procurement to do.

GATTO

Right, Volp... Procurement it is.

VOLPE

Oh boy? Excuse me, boy?

PINOCCHIO

Me? I am not a boy.. At least not yet. I'm a marionette, but some day I *am* going to be a real boy.

VOLPE

Well good for you, my little friend.

GATTO

Good for you.

begin

VOLPE

I am Signore Volpe and this is my associate, Gatto. We couldn't help but hear your song.

GATTO

Sí, you were singing and we heard you.

PINOCCHIO

Yes, I have five coins! To buy a book! And, go to school!

VOLPE

Formal education has its place, but I am a believer in learning at the feet of the master.

PINOCCHIO

I'm not sure what you mean.

VOLPE

For instance, your singing. It was a fine effort... But it is obvious you have not been exposed to great talent. Your singing would improve immediately by such exposure- Right, Gatto?

GATTO

Great talent? Right! Absolutely.

PINOCCHIO
Where would I find a great talent to learn from?

VOLPE
You must find a great artiste... Or perhaps, two.

GATTO
Indicating themselves.
One... Two.

PINOCCHIO
You are great talents? Great Artistes?

VOLPE
But of course. We have played the great stages from Milano to Siracusa. If only we could perform for you...

PINOCCHIO
Can't you?

VOLPE
My little friend... Artistes must be paid to perform.

end
GATTO
Yup, we must get cash-money... Before we can perform.

PINOCCHIO
I could give you a coin!—Would that do?

VOLPE
For two coins, we could give you a preview...

GATTO
Just a sampling... But, cash first!

PINOCCHIO hands over two of his precious coins.

VOLPE
It's show time!

VOLPE and GATTO do a brief soft shoe routine. The routine accents VOLPE's lame leg.