

SCENE ONE: The Toy Shop

(We are in a child's paradise with toys of every shape and size: wind-up toys, rolling toys, clacking toys, tooting toys - everything for everyone. A prominent sign reads "Toys by Geppetto." Above the shop is Geppetto's bedroom. This is a man who lives and breathes his work.)

BLUE FAIRY

We'll start in your toy shop the morning before the wish - the morning you introduced your new toys to the town.

(The Blue Fairy gestures for Geppetto to enter the scene and get it started. He crosses to the doors of the shop. He swings them open and a stream of CHILDREN and their PARENTS pour into the toy shop. The Blue Fairy and Fairies in Training tuck themselves away to watch.)

#2 - Toys

[Ensemble, Geppetto]

CHILD 1

I WANT THE MODEL TRAIN THAT BLOWS REAL SMOKE!

CHILD 2

I WANT THE ROCKING HORSE WITH BIG BROWN EYES!

CHILD 3

YOU KNOW GEPPETTO'S LATEST
ARE SURE TO BE THE GREATEST

CHILD 4

LIKE THAT FLYING FISH THAT REALLY FLIES!

CHILDREN

THERE'S TOYS OF EV'RY SHAPE AND SIZE!
I DON'T KNOW HOW I'LL EVER MAKE MY CHOICE
FROM ALL YOUR NEW CREATIONS, DEAR GEPPETTO
ALL SPRING I KEPT AN EYE OUT
NOW I CAN'T WAIT TO TRY OUT
EACH NEW TOP AND BOAT AND BLOCK
AND MARIONETTE, OH...

TOYS - I'M IN A ROOM THAT IS FULL
OF TOYS - I'M IN A SHOP THAT IS BURSTING
WITH TOYS - THINGS YOU CAN PUMMEL AND PULL

(CHILDREN)

I SEE TOYS YOU JIGGLE, TOYS YOU JUGGLE
TOYS YOU HOLD AT NIGHT AND SNUGGLE
BOYS OR GIRLS, WHICHEVER THE CASE
NEED TOYS TO PUT A SMILE ON OUR FACE
BEFORE THEY LOSE THEIR PIECES
OR THEIR WHEELS OR THEIR SHINE
GIVE ME TOYS
I LOVE TOYS
ESPECIALLY WHEN THEY'RE MINE!

GEPPETTO

Welcome, everyone! Everything you see is satisfaction guaranteed!

CHILD 5

I WANT THAT CASTLE WITH THE WORKING MOAT!

CHILD 6

I WANT THOSE MARCHING SOLDIERS, AND TO HAUL THEM
THIS LITTLE WOODEN WAGON!

CHILD 7

BUY ME THAT SCARY DRAGON!

CHILD 8

CLIMBING MONKEYS!

CHILD 9

DANCING DONKEYS!

CHILDREN

LOOK AT ALL THEM
TOYS - I'M IN A ROOM THAT IS FULL
OF TOYS - I'M IN A SHOP THAT IS BURSTING
WITH TOYS - WITH THINGS YOU PUMMEL AND PULL
I SEE TOYS YOU WIGGLE
TOYS YOU WIND UP
HOW'LL I EVER MAKE MY MIND UP?

(The parents try to gain a measure of control over their now frenzied children. Geppetto watches them and shakes his head. This is not how he would handle the situation.)

MOTHER 1

NO, DEAR, THAT'S MUCH TOO FRAGILE

FATHER 1

NO, DEAR, THAT'S TOO EXPENSIVE

MOTHER 2

NO, DEAR, THAT MAKES TOO MUCH NOISE -
REMEMBER MOMMY'S HEADACHES!

FATHER 2

NO, DEAR, YOU'LL ONLY BREAK THAT

MOTHER 3

NO, DEAR, YOUR DAD COULD MAKE THAT

PARENTS

YOU ALREADY HAVE SO MANY TOYS!
DON'T BE GREEDY!

MOTHER 4

PLEASE, DEAR, DON'T START THAT SNIVELLING

FATHER 3

PLEASE, DEAR, DON'T THROW A TANTRUM

MOTHER 5

YOU KNOW MOMMY HATES IT WHEN YOU WHINE -

It's so ugly!

PARENTS

JUST SAY "GOODBYE" AND "THANK YOU"
DON'T MAKE ME HAVE TO SPANK YOU!
DON'T MAKE ME SORRY THAT YOU'RE MINE...

(Off to the side of the shop floor is a roped-off area where Geppetto's workbench and tools lie. In the center of the wooden work table is a shiny silver cloth covering some unknown toy. A CHILD stands behind the ropes, staring at the cloth. Her MOTHER approaches as Geppetto listens nearby.)

CHILD - Girl

I want that!

Exhausted
MOTHER

But darling, it's all covered up -

Spoiled child
CHILD

That's why I want it!

GEPETTO

(approaches)

Can I help you?

MOTHER

My child would like whatever that toy is on the table.

GEPETTO

I'm sorry, it's not for sale.

CHILD

But I want it!

MOTHER

Don't start with me. The man said it's not for sale.

CHILD

You promised. You said I could have any toy in the store! You promised! You promised!

(The child starts bawling.)

MOTHER

Stop crying! I told you if you started crying that we would go home. Is that what you want?

(The child cries harder. Geppetto leans down and holds out his closed hands.)

GEPETTO

Pick a hand.

(The child continues to cry.)

Go on - pick a hand.

(The child tentatively picks a hand, crying a little less.)

I would pick the other one.

(The child does. Geppetto opens his hand to reveal a sparkling, glittering piece of candy. The child stops crying immediately and stares at the candy, mesmerized.)

CHILD

It's chocolate!

GEPETTO

Go ahead. Take it.

(The child takes the candy.)

(GEPETTO)

Hold on to it until your mother says you can eat it—

(The child gobbles up the candy.)

Or eat it now, either way...

(The child smiles broadly and runs off to play. Geppetto stands and faces the mother - see how easy that was? The mother runs after her child. Geppetto shakes his head and addresses the covered toy.)

WHY IS IT THE PEOPLE WHO SHOULDN'T HAVE CHILDREN
WHO HAVE CHILDREN?
WHY IS IT THE PEOPLE WHO DON'T KNOW HOW LUCKY THEY ARE
WHO ARE BLESSED?
WHY IS IT THE ONES WHO SEE CHILDREN AS BOTHERS
ARE THE ONES WHO GET TO BE FATHERS?
WHEN SOMEONE LIKE ME
CLEARLY WOULD BE
THE BEST?
THERE MUST BE A SLIP-UP IN HEAVEN'S WORKSHOP
OR A WRINKLE IN NATURE'S DESIGN
THAT I SPEND MY DAYS WITH THE CHILDREN
OF THE PEOPLE WHO SHOULDN'T HAVE CHILDREN
AND NONE OF THEM ARE MINE
NONE OF THEM WILL EVER BE MINE...

(A rise in the commotion level in the shop pulls Geppetto out of his reverie. Children are pulling parents and pointing at various toys.)

CHILDREN

LOOK! LOOK!
THAT WHIRLAGIG WITH THE THINGAMAJIG
IS A TOY I NEVER HAD!

PARENTS

WHAT IS IT?

CHILDREN

I DON'T KNOW
BUT I WANT IT REALLY BAD!

Please? Pleeeeeeeease?!?

(The frenzy builds even more as children, parents and Geppetto sing in counterpoint.)

CHILDREN

TOYS - I SEE A ROOM THAT
IS FULL OF
TOYS - I SEE A SHOP THAT
IS BURSTING WITH

TOYS - WITH THINGS TO
PUMMEL AND PULL
I SEE TOYS YOU JIGGLE,
TOYS YOU JUGGLE
TOYS YOU HOLD AT NIGHT
AND SNUGGLE

BOYS OR GIRLS,
WHICHEVER THE CASE
NEED TOYS TO PUT A SMILE
ON THEIR FACE
BEFORE THEY LOSE THEIR
PIECES OR THEIR WHEELS
OR THEIR SHINE
GIVE ME TOYS,
I LOVE TOYS

PARENTS

NO, DEAR, THAT'S MUCH TOO
FRAGILE
NO, DEAR, THAT'S TOO
EXPENSIVE
NO, DEAR, THAT MAKES TOO
MUCH NOISE...

Remember Mommy's headaches!
NO, DEAR, YOU'LL ONLY
BREAK THAT
NO, DEAR, YOUR DAD COULD
MAKE THAT
YOU ALREADY HAVE SO
MANY TOYS!
Don't be greedy!

PLEASE, DEAR, DON'T START
THAT SNIVELLING
PLEASE, DEAR, DON'T THROW
A TANTRUM
YOU KNOW MOMMY HATES IT
WHEN YOU WHINE...
JUST SAY GOODBYE AND
THANK YOU
DON'T MAKE ME HAVE TO
SPANK YOU!
DON'T MAKE ME SORRY

GEPPETTO

WHY IS IT THE PEOPLE
WHO SHOULDN'T
HAVE CHILDREN
WHO HAVE CHILDREN?

WHY IS IT THE PEOPLE
WHO DON'T KNOW
HOW LUCKY THEY ARE
WHO ARE BLESSED?

THERE MUST BE A SLIP-UP
IN HEAVEN'S WORKSHOP
OR A WRINKLE IN
NATURE'S DESIGN

THAT I SPEND MY DAYS
WITH THE CHILDREN
OF THE PEOPLE WHO
SHOULDN'T HAVE
CHILDREN

CHILDREN

ESPECIALLY WHEN THEY'RE...

PARENTS

SORRY THAT YOU'RE...

GEPPETTO

NONE OF THEM ARE...

ALL

MINE!

CHILDREN

#3 - Toys (Playoff)

[orchestra]

(As the children and parents exit, Geppetto slowly walks to the covered toy and removes the cloth. It is a wooden marionette, still a work in progress. He picks up a jar of paint and a small paintbrush.)

BLUE FAIRY

(to the Fairies in Training)

And now, the wish—

GEPETTO

You would have had so much fun today, Pinocchio. All those toys. All those children to play with.

(painting)

Just a little bit more...

(finishes painting the mouth and steps back to examine his work)

There. You look perfect.

(picks up the puppet's strings and makes him stand, then bow)

You're welcome - oh, and so polite! Your father certainly has done a fine job raising you.

(examines the puppet from all angles)

Well, my little boy, we should let you dry.

(gently braces the puppet against the wall, then takes a music box from the shelf and winds it up)

A little music to help you sleep.

(Geppetto gently opens the music box.)

#4 - Empty Heart

[Geppetto]

(GEPETTO)

Besides it's way too quiet in here.

(looks over at the puppet with a touch of longing)

I KNOW MY HEART IS LARGE
 THAT'S WHY IT FEELS SO EMPTY
 IF I COULD HAVE JUST ONE WISH COME TRUE
 I'D FILL THIS EMPTY HEART

(GEPETTO)

I FILL MY DAYS WITH WORK
 I FILL MY NIGHTS WITH DREAMING
 AND WAIT IN HOPES OF A SOMEONE WHO
 CAN FILL THIS EMPTY HEART

LIKE AN OPEN SHELL ON THE SHORE
 LIKE A RIVERBED DRY OF ALL WATER
 NOTHING'S GROWING HERE ANYMORE
 IS IT TOO LATE FOR LIFE TO START?

(looks off into the distance and sees the wishing star shining brightly)

ON SUCH A MAGIC NIGHT
 WHEN ALL THE WORLD IS SHINING
 MY FOOLISH PRAYER, MAY IT TRAVEL FAR
 I'D EVEN WISH ON THE WISHING STAR
 TO FILL THIS EMPTY HEART

FAIRIES IN TRAINING

And then what happened?

BLUE FAIRY

(stepping into the scene)

I miraculously appeared and said:

#5 - The Blue Fairy**[orchestra]****(BLUE FAIRY)**

(full of dramatic flair)

Good Geppetto, you have given so much happiness to others. You deserve to have your wish come true.

(waving her magic wand)

Little Pinocchio, prove yourself brave, truthful, and unselfish, and someday you will be a real boy.

(The puppet slowly comes to life as PINOCCHIO.)

PINOCCHIO

(seeing Geppetto)

Daddy!

GEPPETTO

Pinocchio?

(Pinocchio runs across the stage to Geppetto and gives him a big hug. Geppetto melts into the embrace.)

BLUE FAIRY

(to the Fairies in Training)

Listen to what he said next.

GEPPETTO

(still in the moment)

Finally, a boy of my own.

BLUE FAIRY

(self-satisfied)

Wish granted!

GEPPETTO

(breaking out of the moment)

Hold it, hold it, hold it! That was before I knew what he was like. Things started to go wrong the very next day.

BLUE FAIRY

Like what?

GEPPETTO

Well, like... for instance... You know, this would be a lot easier if you could just use your magic to take us to that day, and I could show you.

BLUE FAIRY

(sighs)

"Use your magic. Use your magic." That's all I hear from you people. Okay, fine - we'll go see his first day.

(to the Fairies in Training)

Girls, here's a chance to practice your magic.

(The Fairies in Training step forward. They each hold a musical instrument: a drum, a whistle, a flute and a pair of cymbals.)

ARANCIA

Pinocchio's first day, coming up!

ACT 1 Scene 2

#6 - Rise and Shine (Part 1)

[Fairies in Training]

(The Fairies in Training march in a circle, singing and playing their instruments.)

FAIRIES IN TRAINING

BING BONG, BING BONG, TEMPUS FUGIT
MINUTES MARCHING IN A LINE

(Three TOWN FATHERS appear in the center of the circle, frozen.)

BING BONG, BING THE SUN IS HUGE, IT
SAYS THIS BRIGHT NEW DAY TO COME IS
FULL OF JOY AND HOPE AND PROMISE
TIME TO RISE AND SHINE!
TIME TO RISE AND SHINE!

(Crash!! Sue bashes her cymbals right by Geppetto's ear. He cringes.)

GEPPETTO

(to Pinocchio)

Are you as excited as I am?

PINOCCHIO

Yes, Dad!

GEPPETTO

(smiles)

Okay, son. Ready to meet the town fathers?

PINOCCHIO

I guess so.

GEPPETTO

(pauses)

I feel like I'm forgetting something...

#7 - Geppetto and Son (Part 1)

[Geppetto, Pinocchio]

(GEPPETTO)

I know! The song! When I was about your size, my father taught me a little song that only he and I knew. I always told myself if I ever had a boy of my own, I would teach it to him. It goes like this:

GEPPETTO

No. This is my son!

TOWN FATHER 2

Your son! Congratulations!

(Geppetto beams.)

TOWN FATHER 3

What's your name, little one?

PINOCCHIO

Pinocchio.

TOWN FATHER 3

Pinocchio - a beautiful name. What does it mean?

(Pinocchio looks up to his father to find out.)

GEPPETTO

"Eye made of pine."

TOWN FATHER 1

(beat)

Lovely!

GEPPETTO

He's extremely bright. And talented. Watch this! Pinocchio, let's show the town fathers what we've just been practicing -

PINOCCHIO

Are there town mothers, too?

GEPPETTO

Uh, no.

(beat)

Okay, you ready? I'm going to start.

PINOCCHIO

Do I have a mother?

GEPPETTO

Not... as... such... Pinocchio, please try to stay focused here.

(Geppetto gives a quick smile to the town fathers - as if to say, "everything's okay")

PINOCCHIO

Do we have a last name?

(The town fathers have folded their arms, politely waiting for whatever it is that Geppetto is trying to show them.)

GEPPETTO

(laughing uncomfortably)

Would you excuse me?

(pulls Pinocchio out of earshot)

Pinocchio, don't you want to impress the town fathers?

(Pinocchio shrugs - he has no idea.)

Well I do. So here's what we're going to do. You're going to play by yourself over here, and when you hear me sing:

WHO? GEPPETTO...

You'll sing—

PINOCCHIO

AND SON!

#8 - Geppetto and Son (Part 2)

[Geppetto]

GEPPETTO

Exactly! Okay. Good. Perfect.

(hurries back to the town fathers)

He can be a little shy.

TOWN FATHER 2

Totally understandable.

TOWN FATHER 1

I can be a little shy myself.

(Pinocchio gets distracted and goes off to explore.)

GEPPETTO

So as I was saying, Signore, he's everything a father could hope for, if I do say so myself. Now, watch this!

WHO'S BEST, YOU ASK

THE WORLD'S GREATEST TEAM?

WHO? GEPPETTO...

(No response.)

(GEPETTO)

Now, Pinocchio!

WHO? GEPETTO—

(Still no response. Geppetto looks around.)

Pinocchio? Pinocchio - where are you?

TOWN FATHER 1

You do know you have to keep an eye on him, don't you?

TOWN FATHER 3

They're awfully mischievous at that age.

GEPETTO

I'm sorry about this. He's not usually— I— Excuse me for just a second.

(Geppetto moves away to look for Pinocchio.)

TOWN FATHER 2

Some are harder to control than others.

TOWN FATHER 1

And some have better role models...

(The town fathers mumble in agreement. Geppetto addresses the Blue Fairy, who's been watching the whole time.)

GEPETTO

See?

BLUE FAIRY

See what?

GEPETTO

How he embarrassed me? First day out and he's already misbehaving. He had no respect for the town fathers, no respect for me...

(sees that the Blue Fairy isn't impressed)

Well, there's more.

(thinks for a moment)

There's the day I tried to teach him about being a toymaker.

(Getting the hang of the time-traveling magic, ROSA assertively steps forward.)

ROSA

Pinocchio's second day - coming right up!

#9 - Rise and Shine (Part 2)

[Fairies in Training]

(The Fairies in Training form a circle again and start marching and singing. The Blue Fairy proudly steps back to watch.)

FAIRIES IN TRAINING

BING BONG, BING BONG, TEMPUS FUGIT
MINUTES MARCHING IN A LINE

(An unfinished toy train appears in the middle of the circle.)

BING BONG, BING, THE SUN IS HUGE, IT
SAYS THIS BRIGHT NEW DAY TO COME
IS FULL OF JOY AND HOPE AND PROMISE
TIME TO RISE AND SHINE!

(Geppetto sees Sue coming towards him with the cymbals. Geppetto quickly moves to the other side of the stage.)

TIME TO RISE AND SHINE!

(Sue doesn't bang her cymbals in musical time, but rather crosses to Geppetto and slams them right by his head. Geppetto cringes. The Fairies in Training open their circle and the scene begins inside the toy shop.)

#10 - Geppetto and Son (Part 3)

[Geppetto, Pinocchio]

GEPETTO

Pinocchio!

(Pinocchio enters.)

Come over here and stay where I can keep an eye on you - today is a very big day!

TODAY YOU EARN
ANOTHER FRESH START
FROM GEPETTO
TO...?

PINOCCHIO

TO SON

GEPETTO

That's right!

TODAY YOU LEARN
THE TOYMAKER'S ART

(GEPETTO)

FROM ...?

PINOCCHIO

GEPETTO TO SON

GEPETTO

TODAY MY TECHNIQUE WILL
BE PASSED TO MY SEQUEL
OUR FUTURE'S BEGUN
FOR GEPETTO AND--

PINOCCHIO

But I don't want to be a toymaker.

GEPETTO

What? Of course you do. You just don't know it yet.

PINOCCHIO

I want to be a train engineer!

(picks up the toy train)

Choo! Choo! All aboard! Choo! Choo!

GEPETTO

(taking the train)

Give me that.

(puts the train up on a shelf out of Pinocchio's reach)

We come from a long line of toymakers. My father was a toymaker and his father before him. Now, pay attention - you have to really concentrate here.

(examines a new toy)

See, the gears have to be perfectly aligned...

(Geppetto has been so focused on his work that he hasn't noticed Pinocchio climbing up onto the shelf to retrieve the train. Pinocchio grabs the train but knocks down the shelf - sending toys, tools and other materials clattering to the floor.)

Pinocchio!

PINOCCHIO

I didn't do it!

GEPETTO

(not believing)

Really.

PINOCCHIO

It wasn't me. I was just sitting here, listening to you, when... this wind came in through the window and... uh... knocked the shelf down and—

(his nose suddenly grows longer)

What's happening to my nose??

GEPETTO

You can always tell when a little boy lies, Pinocchio.

PINOCCHIO

But I'm not! I'm not lying! I'm not, I'm not, I'm not!

(Pinocchio's nose grows longer with each lie.)

GEPETTO

Obviously, your nose doesn't agree.

(mustering his "fatherly" abilities)

You know what? You're grounded!

(Pinocchio starts to cry. Geppetto softens.)

Well, you don't have to cry about it—

(Pinocchio cries harder.)

Oh, come on, stop that.

(Pinocchio continues. Geppetto feels terrible. He tries to think of something to say, but can't. He is suddenly struck with inspiration. He reaches into his pocket and then holds both hands closed in front of Pinocchio.)

Pick a hand.

(Pinocchio just keeps crying.)

Go ahead, pick a hand.

(Pinocchio bats Geppetto's hands away.)

PINOCCHIO

(through tears)

I don't want to pick a hand.

GEPETTO

(at first stunned, then annoyed)

Fine. Then cry if that's what you want to do.

(Pinocchio runs off. Geppetto turns to the Blue Fairy.)

(GEPETTO)

Now you get it?

(The Blue Fairy rolls her eyes.)

No, of course you don't. Well, watch what happened the next morning.

(to the Fairies in Training)

Girls -

SUE

That's "ladies" to you.

(announcing)

Pinocchio's third day!

#11 - Rise and Shine (Part 3)

[Fairies in Training]

(The Fairies in Training re-form their circle. Geppetto catches eyes with Sue, walks over to her, and grabs the cymbals from her hands.)

FAIRIES IN TRAINING

BING BONG, BING BONG, TEMPUS FUGIT
MINUTES MARCHING IN A LINE

(SIGNORA GIOVANNI, the middle-aged schoolmarm, appears in the center of the circle outside the toy shop.)

BING BONG, BING, THE SUN IS HUGE, IT
SAYS THIS BRIGHT NEW DAY TO COME
IS FULL OF JOY AND HOPE AND PROMISE
TIME TO RISE AND SHINE!

(Sue, of course, ends up right by Geppetto - but without her cymbals. Geppetto smiles smugly.)

TIME TO RISE AND SHINE!

(Sue pulls a noisemaker out of her pocket and blows it at Geppetto, getting him once again. The circle opens and several SCHOOL CHILDREN hurry over. They sit around Signora Giovanni as if for a lesson and freeze.)

GEPETTO

Pinocchio! Wake up. It's time for your first day of school!

PINOCCHIO

(yawning and stretching)

Wow! I slept like a log!

GEPPETTO

You are a log. Now, get over here.

(straightens Pinocchio's outfit)

Remember, Pinocchio, this will be your second first impression - and it's very important to make it a good one.

#12 - *Geppetto and Son (Part 4)*

[Geppetto, Pinocchio]

(GEPPETTO)

Just act like all the other children. Do exactly what they do, and you'll be fine.

PINOCCHIO

Act like the other children. Got it, Dad.

GEPPETTO

THE BELL WILL RING

A MAJOR EVENT

QUOTH GEPPETTO...

PINOCCHIO

TO SON

GEPPETTO

And then what, Pinocchio?

(Pinocchio sighs. Geppetto has clearly been drilling home all the rules over the last few days.)

PINOCCHIO

DO WELL EACH THING...

GEPPETTO

FOR YOU REPRESENT -

Who?

PINOCCHIO

BOTH GEPPETTO AND SON

GEPPETTO

Good boy. Now run along.