

Excerpt from: **PINOCCHIO**

by Carlo Collodi, adapted to the stage with original music by Christina Myers (2018)

PINOCCHIO was first performed in June 2018 at the Red Lion Recreation Center in Red Lion, PA. It was produced by the Cobblestone Players in association with the Cultural Alliance of York. There was a cast of 31, ages 8 to 18 with a four string quartet consisting of two youths (violin and viola) and two adult professionals (cellists).

SCENE 9

Enter the desperate **PINOCCHIO** rushing back to the town of, “Trap for Blockheads.” He goes directly to the “Courts of Justice.” The **JUDGE** is a respectable ape of the gorilla tribe wearing gold spectacles without lenses (on account of an inflammation of the eyes that has tormented the ape for many years). The **JUDGE** sits in a big chair behind a tall wooden table and wields a hammer.

PINOCCHIO

Judge! Judge! Please hear me!

JUDGE

I do! I do!

The **JUDGE** listens to **PINOCCHIO**'s account with great compassion and takes a lively interest in his story; being much touched and moved by it all.

PINOCCHIO

I've come to denounce two knaves who have robbed me!

JUDGE

(blinking rapidly)

I see.

PINOCCHIO

They led me away from my dear papa...

JUDGE

No!

PINOCCHIO

...and my benevolent fairy...

JUDGE

Oh!

PINOCCHIO

...in order for me to plant my four gold pieces in the Field of Marvels!

JUDGE

Four!

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Those two rascals promised me that instead of four gold pieces...

JUDGE

(leans in)

Yes?

PINOCCHIO

...by tomorrow they might become one or two thousand!

JUDGE

(falls back)

That many!?

PINOCCHIO

And instead of leaving the gold pieces in the ground where they might grow...

JUDGE

(drawn in again)

Yes...

PINOCCHIO

...when my back was turned those two scoundrels dug up my seedlings...

JUDGE

They didn't!

PINOCCHIO

...and took them!

JUDGE

Of all the--!

PINOCCHIO

I know this to be true because when I tried to dig the gold pieces back up, they were...
gone!

JUDGE

The gold gone!

PINOCCHIO

And what's more, I have the eye-witness testimony...

JUDGE

(blinking furiously)

Eye-witness!

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...of one named, "Parrot" who saw it all.

JUDGE

Dear Parrot!

PINOCCHIO

The constructors of this infamous fraud of which I am the victim are namely one Fox and one Cat.

JUDGE

Fox and Cat!

PINOCCHIO

Fox often walks with a limp...

JUDGE

(taking notes)

Fox has a limp!

PINOCCHIO

...and Cat now has a newly injured hand in addition to being mostly blind in both eyes from time-to-time.

JUDGE

(still note-taking)

...from time... to... time!

PINOCCHIO

(with conviction)

I demand justice!

JUDGE

So noted! (stretches out his hand and rings a bell)

JUDGE

(pointing to **PINOCCHIO** and calling offstage)

That poor devil has been robbed of four gold pieces! Take him away and put him immediately into prison!

PINOCCHIO

(petrified)

What? No! This is an unexpected sentence! I protest--!

--end of excerpt--