



**The Adventures of Pinocchio**

**Carlo Collodi (1826 - 1890)**

**Translated by Carol Della Chiesa (1887 - 1972)**

Read by:	Mark F. Smith	Format:	MP3 CD in DVD case
Length:	4 hours 40 minutes	Catalog:	DB-1117
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*The Adventures of Pinocchio* by Carlo Collodi is a novel that chronicles the many mischievous adventures of a marionette named Pinocchio and his creator, a poor wood-carver named Geppetto. The character is famous for his nose, which begins to grow long whenever he tells a lie. The plot steers Pinocchio and his father through many situations and incidents that introduce a host of memorable fairy tale characters: a Talking Cricket, the Fox and the Cat, the Fairy with the Turquoise Hair, an Owl, a Parrot, and so on. The story began life in 1881-2 as a serial in *Il Giornale per i Bambini* in Rome, the first Italian newspaper for children, and became an instant hit. It originally ended with Pinocchio's being hanged for his many transgressions. The second half was added at the request of his editor, in which Pinocchio is rescued by the "Blue Fairy" and turned into a real boy who acquires a deeper understanding of himself. The completed tale was more suitable for children, became a cornerstone of children's literature and inspired hundreds of adaptations, most notably the classic animated film by Walt Disney. It has been translated into over 240 languages, making it one of the most translated and widely read books of all time.

**Carlo Collodi** is the pen name of Italian writer Carlo Lorenzini (November 24, 1826 – October 26, 1890) who achieved worldwide recognition as the author of *The Adventures of Pinocchio*. He was born one of eleven children in Florence and raised in his mother's home town of Collodi. He served in the Tuscan army during the Italian Wars of Independence in 1848 and 1860 and took an active interest in political affairs, founding the satirical newspaper *Il Lamopione*, which was censored by the Grand Duke of Tuscany but resurrected in 1860. He achieved fame with his novel *In vapore* in 1856 and worked extensively for political newspapers, writing satirical sketches and stories, most notably *Giannettino*, a series of stories speculating on the reunification of Italy through the ironic thoughts and actions of the title character. His entry into children's literature began with a translation of French Fairy tales by Perrault in 1875. He began work on "the story of a marionette" in 1880 which became *The Adventures of Pinocchio*. At the time of his death in 1890 he was well respected as a writer and social commentator, but unaware of the worldwide recognition he would achieve with the 1892 English translation by Mary Alice Murray.