



The emperor's new clothes

This is the story of an Emperor who was so vain that he made a laughing stock of himself in front of everyone.

Once upon a time in a very far-off land there lived an Emperor. He was so vain that he spent all day trying on clothes, hats, capes and crowns in front of hundreds of mirrors that he had ordered hung up all over the palace.

He was so terribly vain that every day of the year he wore a brand new suit of clothes.

Word of the Emperor's vanity had spread throughout the kingdom and one day, his reputation attracted two imposters to the palace, who passed themselves off as famous tailors highly acclaimed in the world of fashion. But most important of all, they said they owned the most beautiful cloth in the world and that the extraordinary cloth was invisible to the eyes of stupid and incompetent people.

When the Emperor heard the news, he immediately ordered them to make him a suit with the fabulous invisible cloth. The two scoundrels agreed, but they asked for a chest full of gold coins and precious stones in exchange. So as soon as they received their payment they started to pretend to sew, but there was nothing in their hands.

A few days later, the Emperor summoned one of his valets and said:

"Go and see how the work is proceeding, but come back right away and let me know; I can't wait to see my new suit."

The man went to the workshop where the two scoundrels were working and he froze when they placed a dummy in front of him without a stitch of clothing on it, not even the tiniest stitch of cloth covering its private parts.

"Isn't it magnificent?" asked one of the imposters.

The poor valet couldn't see a thing, but since he was afraid of appearing stupid or incompetent, he answered,

"It's beautiful! I think it's a superb suit, extraordinary! And that's exactly what I'll tell the Emperor."

The servant ran back to the Emperor to give him the good news.

"Your Majesty, with that suit you will undoubtedly be the most elegant man on the face of the Earth. You can't imagine how beautiful it is. You'll be the sensation of the kingdom! The eighth wonder of the world!!!"

After hearing the flood of praise, the Emperor couldn't resist the temptation to see for himself.

Of course, he didn't see a stitch of clothing on the dummy either. But he, too, reacted the same way and out of fear of being taken for an idiot or an incompetent fool, he exclaimed enthusiastically,

"Everything I've heard is true! It's a marvelous suit, quite worthy of me! I want it ready by next week so that I can wear it for the court festival."

And while the two fake tailors were doing everything they could to keep from laughing, they promised to have it ready. But they told the Emperor he would have to understand that working under such pressure was more expensive. And without the slightest hesitation, they asked him for even more gold coins and precious stones.

Finally, the day of the festival arrived. Early that morning, the two rascals went to the Emperor's chambers. They undressed him and pretended to be dressing him in the imaginary clothes.

"Marvelous! The fabric is so elegant!" said the first one.

"The cut is perfect! It fits him to a tee!" added the second one.

The emperor kept gazing at himself in the mirrors that surrounded him, but there was no way he could see the suit. He didn't say a word; he didn't dare open his mouth out of fear that someone might find him stupid or incompetent.

After a while, it was time for the ceremony to start. The Emperor had to greet the most important men and women in the country. The pages accompanying him pretended to be holding up the train and the Emperor walked out stark naked in front of the crowd that had gathered to see his famous new suit.

"Magnificent!" "Marvelous!" "It's so beautiful," cried out the people as he passed by. He was shivering from the cold, but was good at pretending, so convinced was he that everyone, except himself, could see his new suit.

The farce went on for quite a while. No one dared to say a thing out of fear of being branded stupid or incompetent.

And this went on until, finally, a little girl said,

"The Emperor has no clothes on!"

And then a little boy the same age as the girl exclaimed,

"The Emperor is naked!"

That was when everyone dared to admit the truth. The Emperor, who turned as red as a beet, realized that he had appeared in front of his subjects stark naked and had been miserably duped.

Since he had made such a fool out of himself, he cancelled all of the court festivities. When he reached the palace, he had a nasty cold and he swore he would never let himself be fooled again. From then on, he would never again trust the people close to him who only said what they thought he wanted to hear.

The two imposters who had duped him took off with their gold coins and precious stones and no

one ever heard from them again. And the Emperor stopped being so vain and showed his gratitude to the little girl and boy for their sincerity.

Script: J.M Hernandez Ripoll

- 
- 
- Amb el suport de 

© CCRTV Interactiva, S.A. | Televisió de Catalunya, S.A.

- [Avís legal](#) |
- [Segell de qualitat](#) |
- [Contacta 5480](#) |
- - [Idiomes](#)
 - [Català](#)
 - [Castellano](#)
 - [English](#)