



The Emperor's New Clothes

Characters

Narrator
Emperor
Tailor 1

Tailor 2
Servant
Child

Setting

This reader's theater takes place in a town. The town is in the middle of an empire. A vain emperor rules the empire.



Act I

Narrator: Two tailors sit by the side of a road. The road leads into a town. There is a palace in the town.

Tailor 1: We need to make some money. It is time to get to work.

Tailor 2: Work? You want to work?

Tailor 1: I want to do what we do best. You know what I mean.

Tailor 2: Oh, yes! Let's get to work!

Narrator: Just then, a child passes by.



Tailor 1: Who lives in the palace, child?

Child: The emperor lives there.

Tailor 2: Is he a smart man?

Child: No, he is not. He is handsome, though. He likes to look in the mirror.

Narrator: The tailors smile at each other. They wave to the child. Then they walk to the palace.

Poem: Old King Cole

Emperor: Just look at me, will you? Have you ever seen a more handsome man? I could look at myself all day!



Servant: Yes, sire. You are handsome. I am lucky to serve you.

Emperor: That is true!

Servant: Can I get more mirrors for you?

Emperor: No. These ten will do.

Servant: I think I hear a knock at the door. May I leave you to answer it?

Emperor: Yes, but be quick. You will be sad to be far from me.

Narrator: The servant bows and goes to the door. He opens it.

Servant: May I help you?