## **LOST ON DRESS PARADE by O.Henry**

This story by O.Henry impressed me greatly. It tells us about a young man, Mr. Towers Chandler, who was employed in the office of an architect. He considered architecture to be truly art and adored his job. Out of each week’s earning he set aside $1 and at the end of each ten week he put on his only luxurious and expensive suit and took himself to Broadway, to pretend to be a rich man, to see the brightest life and there dined with taste and luxury. Then he met a girl, who, as he fought, was not very wealthy and had to work hard to earn a living, because she wasn’t dressed in a fancy way. She had twisted her ankle and young gentlemen offered her to make him a company and have a dinner together. During the dinner Chandler pretended to be aan idler of means and taste he thought that this young lady would sympathize with him, but she said that such a way of life was futile and purposeless. After dinner Mr. Towers Chandler thought that if he had told her the truth instead of all that razzle-dazzle they would be together. At the same time, it turned out that that girl was wealthy enough. She said that she would like to marry a handsome and kind man, but only if he had an ambition and a job he loves, but she would never marry someone who just lives an idle life.

What amazed me most of all in this story is that both characters had an attraction to each other and if only the young man had told this lady the truth about him, about his work, his life and his goals she would close her eyes on his poverty and they probably would be happy together, get married, have kids and live happily ever after. But instead of this he made a fool of himself showed off and lost his chance. This story addresses the issue of pretense and lies which is very urgent nowadays. Many people try to fake who they really are, because they are sure that thus they can attract more people. Personally, I think that it is very important to accept yourself and be who you really are, because lies and hypocrisy definitely will not bring your happiness. A real you will attract more people than you think, and because of pretending you can loose your true friends or love.

Usmanova Neonila