**LOST ON DRESS PARADE by O’Henry**

I just read a story called «Lost on dress parade» by O’Henry and I liked the moral of the story very much.

The story describes a romantic encounter of two young people, Towers Chandler and Marian. They both pretend to be someone else. The young man, attracted by luxury life of the upper class in New York, saves $1 every week from his small income he gets working at an architect’s office and every ten weeks he spends the money on dinner in an expensive restaurant. When he goes out one evening, dressed in his best suit, he meets Marian, who has just hurt her leg. Towers mistakes Marian for a shop girl because of her simple dress and invites her to have a dinner with him. Towers Chandler pretends to be a wealthy man and starts showing off in front of the girl, bragging about how well-off he is. Marian seems to be impressed by his stories, but she says that Towers’ way of life sounds pointless. When they part after dinner, Marian hurries home, which turns out to be an expensive mansion, and she tells her sister how much she wants to meet a handsome man with a purpose in life even a poor one, but not a clubber they meet every day. At the same time, Chandler returns to his small room and regrets about not telling Marian the truth about himself, because he really likes her. But on the second thought he assured himself that he had to play up to his clothes.

Reading this story I was very intrigued till the very end. I really wanted to know whether they will tell each other the truth. I think that the author finished the story without them staying together because they weren't being themselves. In this way he made us understand that pretending that you're someone else won’t help you. I completely agree with it. Don’t change yourself so that people should like you. Be yourself and the right people will love the real you. You don’t have to be rich and wealthy to find the people who'll accept you. No matter how much money you have, how big your house is, there will always be someone who loves you no matter what. As one philosopher of ancient China Lao Tzu once said: «The snow goose need not bathe to make itself white. Neither need you do anything but be yourself.»

409 words

 Nisanova Margarita