

## The Empress's New Hair

### Characters

Narrator: Lydia

Empress: Bhavya

Travelling Salesman: Nate

Mr. Twiddle: Owen

Mr. Twee: Grant

Hairdresser: Finley

Townspeople: Layla

Little Boy: Tyler

**NARRATOR:** Once there was a very powerful empress. She ruled over a huge land. But there was something she was secretly embarrassed about. She didn't have one single hair on her head.

The Empress felt that she needed to wear wigs. She had more than a hundred of them in a special closet. They were the finest wigs and could easily be mistaken for real hair.

One day a travelling salesman showed up at the Empress' castle with a very unusual project.

**EMPRESS:** What are you selling today? Make it quick, because I have a huge empire to run.

**SALESMAN:** Oh, great Empress, I have travelled here today with an amazing new product. I want to offer you the very first batch. It's called "Hair Today Magic Potion." It's just \$19.99. And wait, that's not all! If you buy Hair Today Magic Potion, I will also throw in a free comb.

**EMPRESS** (*touching her wig*): Why would I need it? As you can see, I have a full head of hair.

**SALESMAN:** Yes, your hair is very nice indeed. But perhaps you have a friend who could use this potion. I used to be bald myself. And as you can see, I grew plenty of new hair thanks to Hair Today Magic Potion.

**EMPRESS:** I'll take a hundred bottles. It's for my bald friend, of course.

**NARRATOR:** The Empress began using Hair Today Magic Potion. Each night before she went to bed, she'd take off her wig and put three drops on her very shiny head.

Each morning, she'd talk to her two advisors, Mr. Twiddle and Mr. Twee. They were the only people the Empress trusted. She'd ask them if the Hair Today Magic Potion was working.

Mr. Twiddle and Mr. Twee wanted to make the Empress happy. They wanted to keep their jobs. So they told the Empress what they believed she wanted to hear.

**EMPRESS:** What do you think, my trusted advisors, Twiddle and Twee? Do you think the potion is working?

**TWIDDLE:** Oh, I do. I definitely notice a difference.

**TWEE:** Yes, you are starting to grow just a few hairs.

**EMPRESS:** Only a few?

**TWEE:** Well, when I say a few, I mean maybe like twenty.

**TWIDDLE:** Or maybe fifty. They're very nice looking hairs, I might add.

**EMPRESS:** Yes. I see them, too.

**NARRATOR:** The Empress continued to use the potion. And her two trusted advisors continued to tell her that the potion was working. As the days went by, they began to tell more and more extravagant lies to the Empress. Soon they began to believe the lies themselves.

**EMPRESS:** Tell me, trusted advisors, how do I look today? Is the potion working yet?

**TWIDDLE:** Is it working? Are you kidding? You have grown a thick head of beautiful hair.

**TWEE:** Yes, your hair is thick and straight and brown...

**TWIDDLE:** Well, I would say it's more wavy than straight. And it's more golden than brown.

**TWEE:** But you have a lot of it. It's thick, no question.

**TWIDDLE:** Yes, you can throw away your wigs. You don't need them anymore.

**TWEE:** In fact, if I do say so myself, Empress, you need a haircut.

**EMPRESS:** A haircut! How wonderful. My hair is long and thick and black and curly.

**TWEE:** Actually, it's golden and wavy.

**EMPRESS:** So it is. It's long and thick and golden and wavy.

**TWIDDLE:** And shiny.

**EMPRESS:** And shiny. It's long and thick and golden and wavy and shiny, and I need a haircut. Fetch me the imperial hairdresser at once.

**NARRATOR:** Twiddle and Twee ran off to find the imperial hairdresser. When they found the hairdresser, they described the Empress' new hair in great detail.

By now, they were so caught up in their lie that they completely believed it themselves. And soon, they had the imperial hairdresser convinced that the Empress had long thick golden wavy hair that needed to be cut.

**IMPERIAL HAIRDRESSER:** Oh Empress, what a fine head of hair you have.

**EMPRESS (blushing):** Thank you, thank you. Right now, there's a bit too much of it. It's just a little too long and thick and golden and wavy.

**IMPERIAL HAIRDRESSER:** It will be a pleasure to trim it. I will make you look fabulous!

**NARRATOR:** The imperial hairdresser set to work with scissors and a comb. The haircut required many hours of snipping and clipping and fussing and worrying and bow-drying. But at last, the imperial hairdresser was finished.

**IMPERIAL HAIRDRESSER:** Well, what do you think?

**EMPRESS:** Maybe just a little more off the back.

**NARRATOR:** The imperial hairdresser carefully clipped the scissors near the back of the Empress's head.

**IMPERIAL HAIRDRESSER:** Now what do you think?

**EMPRESS:** Perfect!

**TWIDDLE:** What great style!

**TWEE:** Everyone in the kingdom will want to get the same haircut.

**IMPERIAL HAIRDRESSER:** You look fabulous, Empress, absolutely fabulous!

**TWIDDLE:** We should have a parade to show off your new hairstyle.

**TWEE:** Yes, it will be inspiring for the people to see an empress with hair that's so long and thick and golden and wavy and shiny.

**NARRATOR:** And so Twiddle and Twee arranged an elaborate parade. There were jugglers and soldiers and horses. At the tail end of the parade, the Empress marched proudly. She wasn't wearing her crown. She wanted everyone to gaze at her wonderful new hairstyle.

As she passed through her empire, Twiddle, Twee, and the imperial hairdresser call out to the townspeople.

**TWIDDLE:** Everyone, behold the Empress's new hair!

**TWEE:** Look at how golden it is! Look at how thick it is!

**IMPERIAL HAIRDRESSER:** The Empress looks fabulous! Have you ever seen such fabulousness?

**TOWNSPEOPLE:** The Empress's hair is long and thick and golden and wavy.

**LITTLE BOY:** She doesn't have any hair.

**TOWNSPEOPLE:** And shiny! The Empress's hair is very shiny.

**LITTLE BOY (slightly louder):** She doesn't have any hair!

**TOWNSPEOPLE (begin to chant):** The Empress's hair is fabulous! The Empress's hair is fabulous!

The Empress's hair is fabulous!

**LITTLE BOY (loudly):** Can't you people see? The Empress doesn't have a hair on her head!

**TOWNSPEOPLE (gasping):** The Empress doesn't have any hair!

**TWIDDLE, TWEE, IMPERIAL HAIRDRESSER:** The Empress doesn't have any hair!

**EMPRESS:** I don't have any hair!

**NARRATOR:** At first, the Empress was embarrassed. But she was also glad that someone was honest enough to tell her. She called for the little boy to come out of the crowd.

**EMPRESS:** Little boy, you were the only one who was brave enough to tell me the truth.

**LITTLE BOY:** Well, you are still very pretty, Empress. You look cool without any hair.

**EMPRESS:** Thank you. That's very kind.

**NARRATOR:** The Empress asked the little boy to walk beside her in the parade. The little boy became a trusted advisor and true friend to the Empress. The Empress stopped using magic hair-growth potions. She gave away her wigs to a family of traveling circus clowns.

From that point forward, the Empress worked to run her kingdom kindly and wisely. No one cared that she didn't have any hair. In fact, most people thought she looked quite pretty. Twiddle and Twee even shaved their heads to look just like the Empress.

**THE END**