

☉ Once upon a time there lived an emperor. He was a rich emperor. He was a handsome emperor. But most of all, he was a well-dressed emperor.

The emperor loved to parade through town, showing off his **fine** and fancy clothes. He would wave to the townspeople and say, . . .



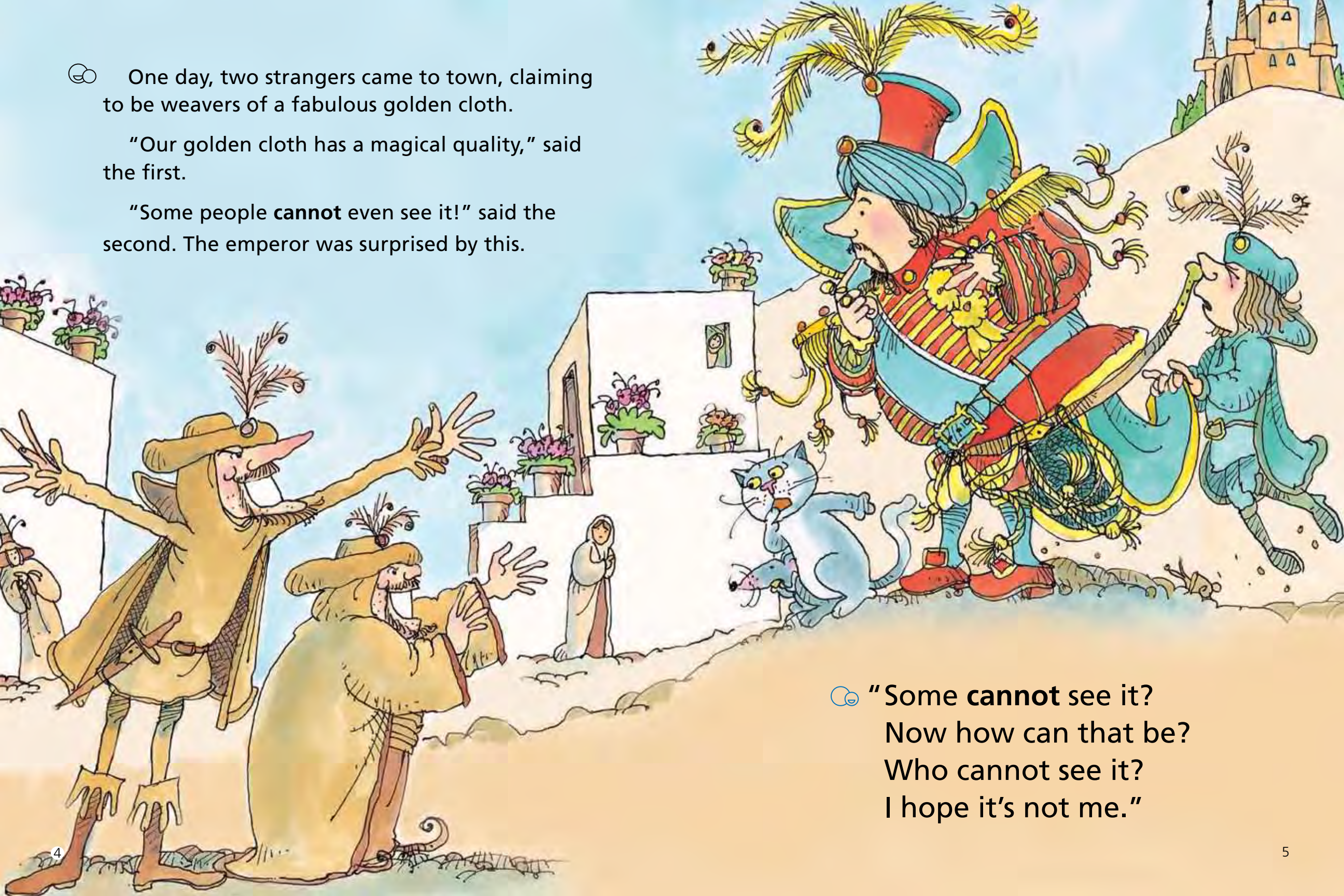
☉ "I like **fine** new pants. I like them. I do. I like fine new hats and new socks and new shoes!"



☉ One day, two strangers came to town, claiming to be weavers of a fabulous golden cloth.

“Our golden cloth has a magical quality,” said the first.

“Some people **cannot** even see it!” said the second. The emperor was surprised by this.



☉ “Some **cannot** see it?  
Now how can that be?  
Who cannot see it?  
I hope it’s not me.”



☉ The weavers assured the emperor he would see the magical golden cloth because he was clearly a wise emperor and the cloth was invisible only to a **fool**.

This gave the emperor an idea. He could use this magical cloth to learn who in his town was a **fool**! So he said to the weavers, . . .



☉ “You will make it for me. I must see what you do. I will pay you with gold. You will show me a **fool**.”





☉ The emperor gave the weavers chests full of gold. Then he sent them off to make their magical cloth telling them, “**Don’t** work on anything else.”

As he waited impatiently for the cloth to be done, the emperor thought to himself, . . .

☉ “I want to go see it.  
I have to! I do!  
But if I **don’t** see it,  
then am I a fool?”

