



# The Principal's New Clothes

*By Stephanie Calmenson*

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## The Principal's New Clothes By Stephanie Calmenson Bibliography

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## Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

"Mr. Bundy is the principal of P.S. 88. He is also the sharpest dresser in town." So begins this marvelous update of Andersen's *The Emperor's New Clothes*. The deliciously evil Moe and Ivy approach Mr. Bundy about a new suit made of cloth invisible to those who are stupid or unfit for their jobs. Lie upon lie builds up because no one (including Mr. Bundy) dares to admit to not seeing the fabric. On the day Mr. Bundy plans to show off his new duds, he arrives at school in his very chic underwear. A kindergartner finally calls out the truth, much to everybody's relief. Mr. Bundy is inundated with clothes to wear and, even in his hodge-podge of garments, he still looks sharp. Calmenson's rendition of this beloved tale of self-aggrandizement is particularly fun because of its contemporary setting. The ending is a kinder one since the principal joins in the fun of his predicament. In her appealing watercolors, Brunkus gives the bad guys wicked eyebrows and nearly everyone wears outrageous clothing. A lighthearted poke at authority and vanity. Ages 3-8. Copyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From School Library Journal

PreSchool-Grade 2-- An updated version of Andersen's classic story, with a snappily dressed elementary-school principal cast in the role of the emperor. Mr. Bundy wears a different suit each day of the month. Moe and Ivy, two trickster tailors, arrive and offer to make an amazing suit invisible to anyone who is either incompetent or stupid. Duped by them, Mr. Bundy wears his invisible new clothes to the school assembly. At this point the story deviates from Andersen's wonderfully ambiguous final scene of the emperor acknowledging reality but choosing to maintain pride and illusion. Calmenson's principal enters the auditorium clad in his underwear, and one kindergartner blurts out the truth. All the kids and teachers pass clothes up to the stage, and, finally, a sportily attired Mr. Bundy gives the kindergarten child a gold star for her honesty. The story concludes with the entire school agreeing that their principal is smart, competent, and "still the sharpest dresser." The cartoonlike watercolor illustrations reinforce the literal quality of the story, caricature the tricksters as Disneyesque villains, and stereotype the school genius as the quintessential "nerd." In this too-literal retelling and illustrating of a timeless tale, children are deprived of the necessity and pleasure of actively participating, imagining, and drawing inferences. Andersen said it better 150 years ago, and his version still speaks today.

-*Pamela Miller Ness, The Fenn School, Concord, MA*

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## About the Author

Stephanie Calmenson is the author of over a hundred books for children. Her books have been called "marvelous" (Publishers Weekly), "lyrical" (School Library Journal), "sweet, funny, and right on the mark" (Booklist). Among her most popular titles are *Dinner at the Panda Palace*, a PBS StoryTime Book, *The Principal's New Clothes*, *The Teeny Tiny Teacher*, and *Rosie, A Visiting Dog's Story*, which Smithsonian Magazine called "one of the outstanding nonfiction titles of the year." She has also collaborated with Joanna Cole, author of the *Magic School Bus* series, on many best-selling anthologies including *Ready, Set, Read!* and *Ready, Set, Read and Laugh!* Before turning to writing, Stephanie was an elementary school teacher, and a children's book editor. She lives in New York City and considers herself very lucky to have found work that brings together her love of children, language, and laughter.

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Michael Madden:**

The e-book untitled The Principal's New Clothes is the e-book that recommended to you to read. You can see the quality of the guide content that will be shown to a person. The language that author use to explained their way of doing something is easily to understand. The writer was did a lot of analysis when write the book, hence the information that they share to your account is absolutely accurate. You also could possibly get the e-book of The Principal's New Clothes from the publisher to make you a lot more enjoy free time.

#### **Wanda Stamper:**

The Principal's New Clothes can be one of your beginning books that are good idea. All of us recommend that straight away because this reserve has good vocabulary that could increase your knowledge in vocabulary, easy to understand, bit entertaining but delivering the information. The author giving his/her effort to place every word into satisfaction arrangement in writing The Principal's New Clothes but doesn't forget the main level, giving the reader the hottest in addition to based confirm resource information that maybe you can be considered one of it. This great information can drawn you into fresh stage of crucial thinking.

#### **Betty Casas:**

Reading a book for being new life style in this calendar year; every people loves to read a book. When you study a book you can get a lots of benefit. When you read guides, you can improve your knowledge, simply because book has a lot of information on it. The information that you will get depend on what kinds of book that you have read. If you would like get information about your review, you can read education books, but if you want to entertain yourself you are able to a fiction books, this kind of us novel, comics, and also soon. The The Principal's New Clothes offer you a new experience in looking at a book.

#### **Eddie McCoy:**

What is your hobby? Have you heard which question when you got college students? We believe that that question was given by teacher to their students. Many kinds of hobby, Every person has different hobby. And also you know that little person such as reading or as studying become their hobby. You need to understand that reading is very important and book as to be the issue. Book is important thing to add you knowledge, except your current teacher or lecturer. You will find good news or update in relation to something by book. Numerous books that can you decide to try be your object. One of them is niagra The Principal's New Clothes.

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