Elton John, The Emperor's New Cloth

Music by Elton John Lyrics by Bernie Taupin

We bet on our lives and we bet on the horses In that upstairs apartment On Orlando and 4th And the rent was due and the rent man was knocking Like a Chinese proverb We were always searching

Nightlife's a no-win but nobody noticed How we killed off the bottles Looking good on the surface The dog days barked and the house cat got old We were Bonnie and Clyde In the emperor's new clothes

And the tears never came
They just stayed in our eyes
We refused to admit that we wore this disguise
Every inch of us growing
Like Pinocchio's nose
As we walked around in the emperor's new clothes

We flew by our wits and by the seat of our pants In the state of illusion In the nation of chance And the repo was hauling the wreck we'd been driving As the dashboard Madonna Smiled back at us kindly

We cheated the system never batting an eyelid Seeing only the good Through the holes in our shoes And our halos were rusty but we wore them proudly We were two little gods In the emperor's new clothes