



The Shoemaker and the Elves



Retold by Sue Arengo
Illustrated by Adam Stower



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BEGINNER 1

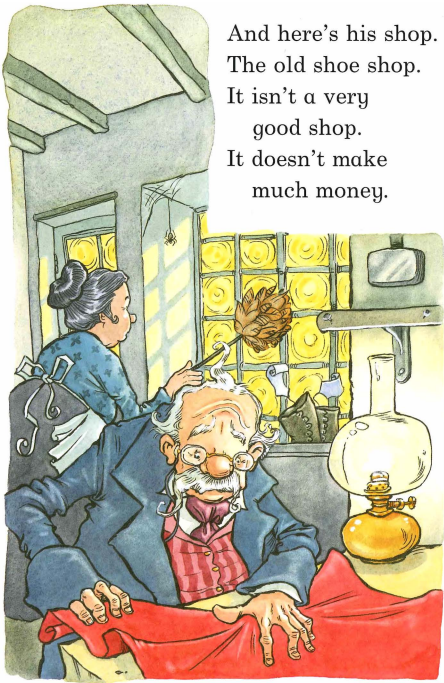


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WHO'S this?
It's the shoemaker.
The old shoemaker.

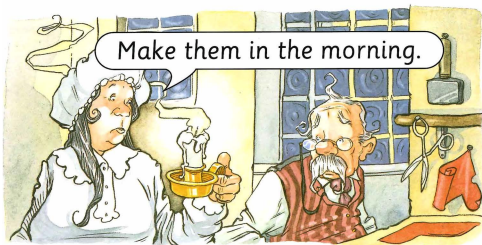


And here's his shop.
The old shoe shop.
It isn't a very
good shop.
It doesn't make
much money.





'One last pair of shoes,' says the old shoemaker. 'That's all I can make.'



'It's late,' says his wife.
'Make them in the morning.'



In the morning, they come down.
There's something on the table!
It's the shoes!
'Look!' cries the shoemaker. 'Magic!'



He puts the shoes in the window.
A lady sees them.

What beautiful shoes!



‘Ah! shoemaker,’ says the lady.
‘What beautiful shoes!
I must buy them.
Here are three gold coins.’

‘Three gold coins!’
says the shoemaker.
‘I can make more shoes
now. Two more pairs.’

I can make more shoes now.

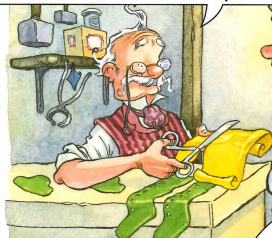


He goes out and he buys some
more leather.
‘I have some money,’ he says.
‘Look! Three gold coins!’



‘Two more pairs
of shoes,’ says
the shoemaker.
‘I can make two
more pairs now.’

I can make two more pairs now.



Make them in the morning.

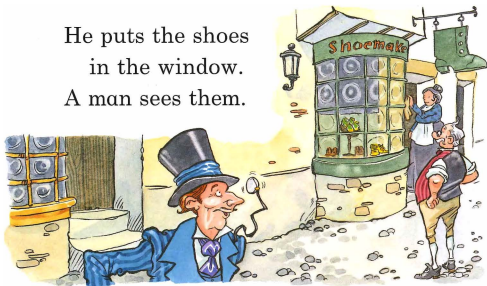


‘It’s late,’ says his wife.
‘Make them in the morning.’



In the morning they come down.
There's something on the table!
Two pairs of shoes.
'Look!' cries the shoemaker.
'More magic!'

He puts the shoes
in the window.
A man sees them.

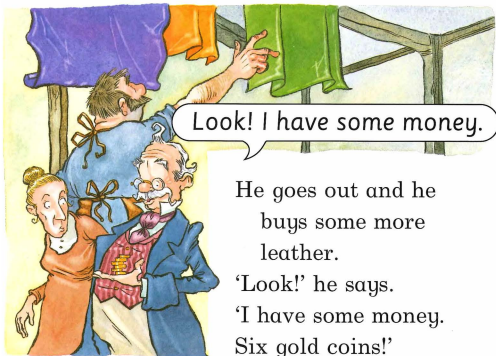


‘Ah! shoemaker,’ says the man.
‘What beautiful shoes!
I must buy them.
Here are six gold coins.’





'Six gold coins!' says the shoemaker.
'I can make more shoes now.
Three more pairs.'



He goes out and he
buys some more
leather.
'Look!' he says.
'I have some money.
Six gold coins!'

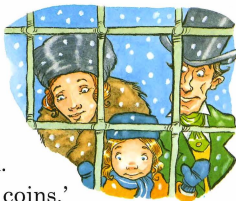
'I can make three pairs of shoes,' says the shoemaker.

'It's late,' says his wife.
'Make them in the morning.'



In the morning they come down.
There's something on the table!
Three pairs of shoes.
'Look!' cries the shoemaker.
'Magic again.'

A family sees
the shoes.
‘What beautiful
shoes!’ they say.
‘We must buy them.
Here are nine gold coins.’



‘Nine gold coins!’ says the
shoemaker.
‘But . . . who is making all
these shoes?’

That night the shoemaker hides.
He and his wife hide.
And they wait.



At midnight they see two little elves!

The little elves run in.
They jump onto the table.
'Here's the leather!' they say.
'Let's work! Let's make some
beautiful shoes!'



All night they work.
They work and work and work.
The shoemaker and his wife watch.



In the morning the elves run away.
But there's something on the table.
Four beautiful pairs of shoes!

But what can we do for them?



'Now we know,' says the shoemaker.
'We know who helps us.'
'Yes,' says his wife. 'Two little elves.
But what can we do for them?'



‘I know,’ says the shoemaker.

‘Let’s make some clothes for them.’

‘Oh, yes!’ says his wife. ‘Yes!’

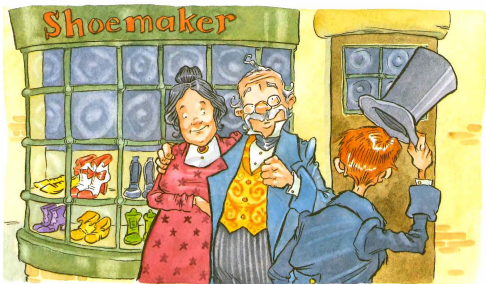
Night comes.
They leave the clothes
on the table.
Then they hide.
At midnight the little
elves run in.



'What's this?' they say.
'Something for us? For us?
Oh, yes! It's something for us!'
They put on the new clothes and
they dance. Dance, dance, dance!

'Now it's time
for us to go.
Because they know!
Because they know!'
say the elves.
'Goodbye, shoemaker!'

Goodbye, shoemaker!



The elves never come back.
But now the shoemaker makes
good shoes. He works hard.
Now his shop is a good shop.
And he is happy.

Exercises

1 How many?



1 one shoe



2 ___ shoes



3 _____ gold coins



4 ___ little elves



5 _____ shoes



6 _____ gold coins

2 What do they say?

- 1 'One last pair of shoes.'
- 2 'It's late. Make them in the morning.'
- 3 'Look! Magic!'
- 4 'What beautiful shoes!'
- 5 'I have some money. Look!'

a



b



c



d



e



3 Fill in the gaps.



1 'Ah! shoemaker,
what shoes!
I must buy them. Here
are gold
.....'



2 '..... gold coins!'
says the shoemaker.
'I can more
..... now.'



3 'I have some
.....,' he says.
'Look! gold
.....!'



4 'Here's the
.....!' they say.
'Let's!
Let's some
..... shoes!'

Glossary

clothes



family



dance



gold coins



elves



hide



leather



pair of shoes



magic



run away



midnight



shoemaker



The Shoemaker and the Elves

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young learners of English**

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