Scene 1 (at the shoemaker’s home)

**Narrator:** Once there lived a poor shoemaker. The shoemaker was so poor that he could only buy leather for one pair of shoes at a time to make shoes for his shop.

**Shoemaker:** (sadly) No, I don’t have enough time. And I was so hoping to have a pair to sell when we opened in the morning. Oh, well. I will finish the shoes tomorrow morning as quickly as I can.

**Shoemaker’s wife:** You may be able to finish them in time to sell tomorrow. Have hope, and let’s go to bed, dear.

Scene 2 (at the shoemaker’s shop)

**Narrator:** The next morning when they came downstairs, another wonderful surprise waited for them.

**Shoemaker:** Wow! It’s a miracle! The shoes — they’re finished!

**Shoemaker’s wife:** (surprised) I can’t believe this!

**Narrator:** That day, a customer came into the shoemaker’s shop.

**Customer 1:** Those shoes are beautiful. I’ll take them.

**Shoemaker:** Thank you, madam. Please come back again.
Narrator: The shoemaker sold the shoes straight away. Months passed in this way. Each day, the shoemaker bought more leather. And next morning, he and his wife found new, completed shoes. Soon, the shoemaker was rich.

Shoemaker’s wife: We must find out who is helping us! We must find a way to thank them for turning our lives around!

Shoemaker: You’re right! Let’s stay up one night and find out who it is.

Narrator: So, one night the shoemaker and his wife hid and waited. At midnight, two tiny elves jumped in through the window. They had ragged jackets and bare feet.

Elf 1: Here’s some new leather!

Elf 2: Let’s make shoes! Hurry!

Narrator: As quick as a flash, the elves made the leather into beautiful shoes.

Elf 1: I’m finished.

Elf 2: Me too. Let’s leave now.

Narrator: Then they disappeared. The shoemaker and his wife were very surprised.

Shoemaker: They are so small. How do they work so quickly and make such beautiful shoes?

Shoemaker’s wife: We must do something for the elves. I will make them some warm clothes to say thank you.

Shoemaker: And I will make them new shoes with some of the leather scraps!

Narrator: The shoemaker and his wife left the new clothes and shoes on the table and waited until midnight.