

**CLASSICS**  
*Illustrated*  
**JUNIOR**

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# The Elves and the Shoemaker

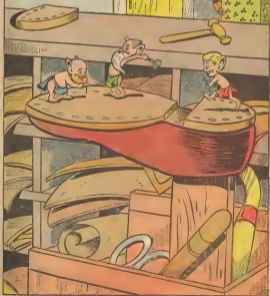


# WHAT IS IT?

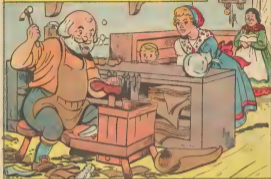
Solve this puzzle by placing the point of your pencil or crayon on dot number 1 and drawing a line to dot number 2. Then you draw another line to dot number 3 and so on, until you have connected all the dots. After you have done this, you may use your crayons to color this surprise picture.



# The Elves and the Shoemaker



**I**N THE SMALL VILLAGE OF YENDO, WHICH IS IN THE KINGDOM OF ILF, THERE ONCE LIVED A HAPPY, HARD-WORKING SHOEMAKER.



**H**IS CUSTOMERS WERE ALWAYS DELIGHTED WITH THE SHOES HE MADE.

SEE HOW NICELY THEY ARE STITCHED.

WE ARE LUCKY TO HAVE SUCH A FINE SHOEMAKER IN OUR LITTLE VILLAGE.



**F**OR A GOOD MANY YEARS, THE SHOEMAKER WAS SO BUSY HE HARDLY HAD TIME TO SLEEP.

SIMON, ARE YOU STILL WORKING? IT'S NEARLY MIDNIGHT!

YES, SAMANTHA, I KNOW BUT I'VE PROMISED THIS PAIR FOR TOMORROW.



BUT THERE CAME A TIME WHEN THERE WAS LESS AND LESS WORK FOR THE SHOEMAKER TO DO.

I'VE HAD ONLY ONE ORDER THIS WEEK, SAMANTHA

I CANNOT UNDERSTAND IT, YOUR SHOES ARE AS STRONG AND WELL-MADE AS THEY EVER WERE.



THEN THERE CAME A TIME WHEN THERE WAS NO WORK AT ALL. THE SHOEMAKER WAITED AND WAITED FOR A CUSTOMER, BUT NONE CAME.



ONE DAY, HE GREW TIRED OF WAITING.

GOOD MORNING! WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO ORDER A NEW PAIR OF SHOES?

OH, NO THOSE THAT YOU MADE ME FOUR YEARS AGO ARE STILL LIKE NEW



YOU MAKE WONDERFUL SHOES THEY JUST NEVER SEEM TO WEAR OUT!

NEVER WEAR OUT? I WONDER...?



THAT EVENING, THERE WAS A DANCE IN THE VILLAGE SQUARE



BUT THE SHOEMAKER DID NOT DANCE. HE WAS TOO BUSY WATCHING THE FEET OF THE VILLAGERS WHO WHIRLED PAST HIM.



AND I MADE THOSE SEVEN YEARS AGO, FOR THE MILLER'S WEDDING

...AND THOSE ARE MINE, YDD

...AND SO ARE THOSE



**THE SHOEMAKER HURRED TO HIS WIFE.**

SAMANTHA, EVERY SINGLE PERSON IN THE VILLAGE OF YENDO IS WEARING A PAIR OF SHOES I MADE!

THAT IS NOT SURPRISING, SINCE YOU ARE THE ONLY SHOEMAKER IN THE VILLAGE.



BUT EVERY PAIR OF SHOES I EVER MADE STILL LOOKS AS GOOD AS GOOD AS NEW!

WELL, YOU ARE A VERY GOOD SHOEMAKER, SIMON. EVERYONE KNOWS THAT.



NO, YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND! THAT IS WHY NO ONE ORDERS SHOES FROM ME ANYMORE. NO ONE NEEDS THEM!

NO ONE? OH, SIMON!



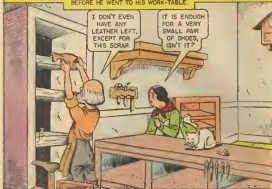
**SADLY THEY MADE THEIR WAY HOME.**

THERE WILL BE NO MORE WORK FOR ME.

AND WE HAVE ONLY A LITTLE DRY BREAD LEFT IN THE CUPBOARD. OH, SIMON, WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO US?



THE NEXT DAY, THE SHOEMAKER DID NOT KNOW WHAT TO DO IT WAS AFTERNOON BEFORE HE WENT TO HIS WORK-TABLE.



I DON'T EVEN HAVE ANY LEATHER LEFT, EXCEPT FOR THIS SCRAP

IT IS ENOUGH FOR A VERY SMALL PAIR OF SHOES, ISN'T IT?

PERHAPS, IF I CUT IT CAREFULLY BUT EVERY CHILD IN THE VILLAGE HAS A PAIR OF SHOES

WHY NOT MAKE THEM, ANYWAY? IT WILL AT LEAST GIVE YOU SOMETHING TO DO.

VERY WELL, I WILL DO IT TO PLEASE YOU BUT IT IS HARDLY WORTH THE BOTHER NO ONE WILL BUY THEM





WHEN THE SHOEMAKER BEGAN TO WORK, HE FELT A LITTLE MORE CHEERFUL.



BUT BY THE TIME HE HAD FINISHED CUTTING AND SHAPING THE LEATHER



WELL, I WILL LEAVE THE PIECES HERE ON THE TABLE, READY TO STITCH TOGETHER IN THE MORNING.



**T**HE NEXT MORNING THE SHOEMAKER  
WOKE VERY EARLY.

NO LYING IN BED  
TODAY! I HAVE  
WORK TO DO!



**H**E WENT QUICKLY INTO THE SHOP,  
BUT ON THE TABLE WHERE HE HAD LEFT HIS  
WORK WAS—NOTHING!

WHAT? WHERE IS THE  
LEATHER I CUT OUT?  
SAMANTHA! SAMANTHA,  
COME QUICKLY!



SIMON, WHAT IS  
THE MATTER?

SOMEONE HAS—  
OH! SAMANTHA!  
LOOK THERE!





**G**ENTLY, THE SHOEMAKER PICKED UP THE SHOES

COULD SOMEONE HAVE DONE THIS FOR ME? NO, IT IS MY OWN WORK THIS IS THE WAY I MAKE STITCHES, AND THE WAY I KNOT THE THREADS.

BUT HOW BEAUTIFUL THEY ARE! YOU HAVE NEVER BEFORE MADE SHOES AS BEAUTIFUL AS THESE



I KNOW AND IT IS VERY STRANGE THAT I DON'T REMEMBER SEWING THEM. PERHAPS I DID IT IN MY SLEEP

WELL, IT DOESN'T MATTER. PUT THEM IN THE WINDOW I AM SURE SOMEONE WILL WANT TO BUY THEM



THAT VERY MORNING, THE DUCHESS OF ELF WAS OUT FOR A DRIVE WITH HER SON, AS THEIR CARRIAGE PASSED THROUGH THE VILLAGE OF YENDO



OH, LOOK AT THOSE! DRIVER, PLEASE STOP!

SHE WENT INTO THE SHOP.

THOSE SHOES IN YOUR WINDOW ARE VERY BEAUTIFUL. MAY I SEE THEM, PLEASE?



CER-CERTAINLY, MILADY!

OH, THEY ARE REALLY LOVELY! AND THEY ARE EXACTLY THE RIGHT SIZE FOR MY SON. I WILL TAKE THEM.



THE DUCHESS PAID FOR THE SHOES AND LEFT.

SIX PIECES OF SILVER! NOW I CAN BUY ENOUGH LEATHER TO MAKE AT LEAST TWO MORE PAIRS OF SHOES

AND WE CAN HAVE FRESH BREAD AND A BIT OF MEAT FOR OUR DINNER!



THE SHOEMAKER RUSHED TO THE MARKET TO BUY NEW LEATHER. WHEN HE RETURNED, HE SET TO WORK AT ONCE.



HE WORKED HAPPILY, CUTTING OUT AND SHAPING THE LEATHER ALL AFTERNOON.

SNIP AND SLICE,  
HEEL AND TOE.  
THAT'S THE WAY  
MY SCISSORS GO.



WHEN IT GREW TOO DARK TO SEE CLEARLY . . .

THERE! THE CUTTING  
IS ALL DONE. I CAN  
SEW THE PIECES  
TOGETHER TOMORROW



THE NEXT DAY, THE SHOEMAKER WAS UP WITH THE SUN, READY TO WORK. BUT . . .

WHAT?  
AGAIN?





**BEFORE THE SHOEMAKER EVEN HAD TIME TO PUT THE NEW SHOES IN HIS SHOP WINDOW...**



THEN THE DUKE TRIED ON THE OTHER PAIR.

AND THESE BLACK ONES ARE FINE ENOUGH TO WEAR TONIGHT TO THE KING'S BIRTHDAY BALL!



THEY ARE SO COMFORTABLE I SHALL BE ABLE TO DANCE ALL NIGHT WITHOUT STOPPING!



I SHALL TAKE BOTH PAIRS.



WHEN THE DUKE LEFT THE SHOP . . .

SAMANTHA! IT HAPPENED AGAIN!





THAT AFTERNOON, THE SHOEMAKER RETURNED FROM THE MARKET WITH A LARGE ROLL OF LEATHER.

I HAVE ENOUGH TO MAKE FOUR MORE PAIRS, THIS TIME!



THE SHOEMAKER WORKED HARD ALL THE REST OF THE DAY, CUTTING OUT THE FOUR PAIRS OF SHOES.

PUT IT HERE, SHAPE IT SO PIECE TOGETHER HEEL AND TOE.



BY NIGHTFALL

DONE AT LAST!

I SHOULD HOPE SO! I HAVE ALREADY REHEATED YOUR SUPPER TWICE.



THE SHOEMAKER AND HIS WIFE WENT TO BED EARLY THAT NIGHT, BUT AT THE KING'S PALACE



WHEN THE DUKE OF ILF DANCED, EVERYONE'S EYES WERE ON HIS SHOES

HAVE YOU SEEN  
THE DUKE'S  
NEW SHOES?

OF COURSE  
THEY ARE  
MOST  
ELEGANT

THEY SAY A  
SHOEMAKER  
IN YENDO  
MADE THEM.

REALLY? IN MY TOWN,  
THERE ARE NO SHOES  
LIKE THOSE I MUST  
GO TO YENDO AND  
BUY A PAIR



**E**ARLY THE NEXT MORNING, WHEN THE SHOEMAKER ENTERED HIS SHOP

THERE, NOW! AGAIN, I MUST HAVE WORKED WHILE I SLEPT! IT IS REALLY VERY QUER



**B**UT THE SHOEMAKER HAD LITTLE TIME TO WONDER FURTHER, BECAUSE

GOOD MORNING! I AM A FRIEND OF THE DUKE OF ILF, WHO BOUGHT HIS SHOES HERE. DO YOU HAVE SOME THAT WILL FIT ME?



GOOD DAY! I SAW THE DUKE'S NEW SHOES LAST NIGHT, AND NOW I WANT TO BUY TWO PAIRS FOR MYSELF.

HOW DO YOU DO! MY COUSIN, THE DUKE OF ILF, BOUGHT SOME SHOES HERE, AND I SHOULD LIKE TO ORDER A PAIR, TOO.



**A**ND SO THE FOUR NEW PAIRS OF SHOES WERE SOLD BEFORE THE MORNING HAD WELL BEGUN.



**A**FTER THAT, NEWS OF THE SHOEMAKER'S FINE SHOES SPREAD QUICKLY.

PEOPLE ARE COMING FROM ALL OVER THE KINGDOM OF ILF TO ORDER MY SHOES

AND IT IS SUCH A LARGE KINGDOM! YOU WILL NEVER RUN OUT OF CUSTOMERS NOW!



**A**ND SO THE SHOEMAKER BECAME HAPPY AND HARD-WORKING ONCE MORE. BUT ONE THING WAS STRANGE. HE NEVER SEWED HIS SHOES BY DAY. EACH NIGHT, HE LEFT THE UNFINISHED PAIRS ON HIS TABLE, AND EACH MORNING, THEY WERE DONE.

I STILL CANNOT UNDERSTAND IT HOW CAN I WORK ALL NIGHT AND NOT KNOW IT?



**T**HE SHOEMAKER GREW MORE AND MORE PUZZLED. AT LAST HE HAD AN IDEA ONE NIGHT.

WHY ON EARTH HAVE YOU TIED YOUR TOE TO THE BEDPOST?



I JUST DON'T BELIEVE THAT I GET UP AT NIGHT AND DO ALL THAT WORK IN MY SLEEP. IF MY TOE IS STILL TIED TO THE BEDPOST IN THE MORNING, I WILL KNOW I AM NOT THE ONE WHO IS MAKING THOSE SHOES.



THE NEXT MORNING

YOU SEE? I HAVE NOT LEFT THE BED ALL NIGHT!

THEN WHO IS FINISHING THE SHOES?



THERE IS ONLY ONE WAY TO FIND OUT.

YOU ARE RIGHT, WE WILL HIDE IN THE SHOP TONIGHT AND WATCH.



AND SO, WHEN IT GREW DARK THAT EVENING

I DO NOT THINK THERE IS ROOM FOR BOTH OF US TO HIDE

OH, YES THERE IS! I WANT TO SEE, TOO!



THEY WAITED FOR A LONG TIME AT LAST, JUST AS THE CLOCK WAS STRIKING MIDNIGHT

DID YOU HEAR SOMETHING?

YES! WHAT CAN IT BE?



ON THE LAST STROKE OF THE CLOCK,  
THREE LITTLE ELVES POPPED IN  
THROUGH THE WINDOW.

AH, OUR WORK  
IS READY  
FOR US

IT IS MY  
TURN TO  
WAX THE  
THREAD  
TONIGHT.

AND  
MINE TO  
HAMMER  
THE  
HEELS.



THEY SET RIGHT TO WORK

MOVE IT A LITTLE  
TO THE LEFT ---  
NO, TO THE RIGHT--  
NO---

BUT YOU  
KEEP WIGGLING  
THE NEEDLE!

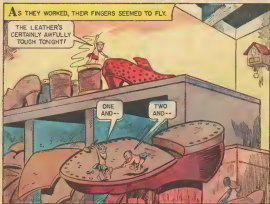


AS THEY WORKED, THEIR FINGERS SEEMED TO FLY.

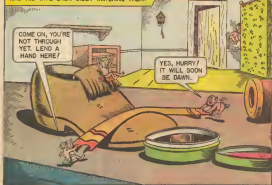
THE LEATHER'S  
CERTAINLY AWFULLY  
TOUGH TONIGHT!

ONE  
AND---

TWO  
AND---



**H**OURS PASSED. THE ELVES WORKED SO FAST THAT THE SHOEMAKER AND HIS WIFE GREW DIZZY WATCHING THEM.



COME ON, YOU'RE NOT THROUGH YET. LEND A HAND HERE!

YES, HURRY! IT WILL SOON BE DAWN.



FULL A LITTLE HARDER, YOU!

BUT THERE ARE TWO ON YOUR END! IT'S NOT FAIR!



HURRY! HURRY! WE HAVE ONLY A MINUTE MORE!

NOT EVEN THAT! LISTEN—THE COCK IS CROWING.

IT'S ABOUT TIME! I'M ALL WORN OUT!



AND, IN AN INSTANT, THE THREE ELVES SCRAMBLED OUT THE WINDOW AND VANISHED





IT IS REALLY WONDERFUL. WE SHOULD DO SOMETHING FOR THEM.

OH, YES! WE MUST SHOW THEM HOW GRATEFUL WE ARE! BUT WHAT CAN WE DO?



THE DEAR LITTLE THINGS WERE NEARLY NAKED...

INDEED, EVEN THEIR FEET WERE BARE! WHY, I COULD MAKE THEM LITTLE SHOES!



EXACTLY! AND I WILL MAKE SOME WARM SUITS FOR THEM, AND SOCKS, AND KNITTED CAPS.

SPLENDID! LET US START AT ONCE.



AND SO THE SHOEMAKER'S SHOP WAS NOT OPENED THAT DAY.



**B**UT INSIDE THE SHOP, THE SHOEMAKER AND HIS WIFE WERE VERY, VERY BUSY

THIS BIT OF LEATHER IS AS SOFT AS SILK. IT WILL BE PERFECT FOR THEIR TINY FEET



AND MY OLD VELVET SKIRT MAKES SUCH WARM, PRETTY JACKETS.



**T**HEY WORKED ALL DAY BY SUPPERTIME

I AM NEARLY DONE. I HOPE THE SHOES WILL FIT

THE SUITS ARE FINISHED, AND THE GAPS, TOO, BUT I AM JUST BEGINNING THE SOCKS - I HAD BETTER HURRY.



**F**INALLY, JUST BEFORE MIDNIGHT

HURRY, IT IS NEARLY TIME FOR THEM TO COME

JUST ANOTHER MOMENT I WANT TO ARRANGE EVERYTHING NICELY





**THE ELVES HAD NEVER WORN CLOTHING BEFORE**

THIS CAN'T BE RIGHT.

WHERE DO MY THUMBS GO?

HAVEN'T YOU EVER LOOKED AT PEOPLE, YOU DUNDERHEADS? WATCH ME—I'LL SHOW YOU.



**IN TIME, THEY GOT EVERYTHING ON IN THE RIGHT PLACES.**

NOW JUST PUT THAT ON YOUR HEAD AND YOU'RE DONE.



**THE THREE ELVES WERE VERY PLEASED WITH THEMSELVES.**

HOW FINE WE LOOK!

OH, AREN'T WE HANDSOME?

WELL, NATURALLY!



LOOK! THE  
SHOES FIT  
PERFECTLY.

SO DO THE  
SUITS OF  
COURSE,  
PERHAPS  
THE SLEEVES  
ARE JUST A  
TINY BIT  
TOO LONG.

THE THREE ELVES BEGAN TO TUMBLE AND PLAY



THEY LEAPED AND THEY DANCED AND THEY LAUGHED UNTIL

STOP!  
BE  
QUIET!

YES, THE  
COCK IS  
CROWING

OUR NIGHT IS  
OVER, THEN.



THEY ALL DASHED FOR THE WINDOW.

SUCH FINELY  
DRESSED  
GENTLEMEN  
AS WE--

CAN NO  
LONGER  
WORKSMEN  
BE--

SO THIS  
IS THE  
LAST OF  
THE  
COBLERS  
THREE.



THE THREE ELVES NEVER AGAIN RETURNED TO THE SHOEMAKER'S SHOP BUT THE SHOEMAKER LEARNED TO MAKE SHOES AS BEAUTIFUL AS THE ELVES DID, AND PEOPLE FROM ALL OVER THE KINGDOM OF LF CAME TO YEMOO TO BUY THEM.



AND SO THE SHOEMAKER WAS BUSY AND HAPPY TO THE END OF HIS DAYS...



... EVEN THOUGH NONE OF THE SHOES HE MADE EVER DID WEAR OUT.

YES, SIR, I BOUGHT THESE SHOES FOR MY WEDDING, AND THEY'RE GOOD FOR 20 YEARS MORE

HE'S A FINE SHOEMAKER, ALL RIGHT. I ALWAYS DID SAY SO



THE  
END

# AESOP'S FABLES

## THE GREEDY LION

ONE DAY, A HUNGRY LION CAME UPON A HARE, ASLEEP ON A BED OF FERNS.

AH! I NEED LOOK NO FURTHER FOR MY DINNER.



AS HE WAS ABOUT TO POUNCE ON THE HARE, A STAG RAN BY.

OH, A STAG IS MUCH BETTER THAN A HARE. WHAT A FEAST I SHALL HAVE!



THE LION SPRANG AFTER THE STAG.



HE CHASED IT FOR A LONG TIME.

HOW--SWIFTLY--IT--RUNS!



**B**UT AT LAST

OH, DEAR, I CANNOT EVEN  
SEE IT ANY LONGER  
I HAVE LOST IT.



WELL, THEN, I SHALL  
GO BACK FOR THE HARE  
IT IS BETTER  
THAN NOTHING



**B**UT WHEN HE RETURNED TO THE  
BED OF FERNS

THE HARE HAS GONE!  
NOW I SHALL HAVE NO  
DINNER AT ALL!



I SHOULD HAVE BEEN  
CONTENT WITH WHAT  
I HAD, INSTEAD OF  
TRYING TO GET  
SOMETHING BETTER



THE END



# THERE WAS AN OLD LADY OF FRANCE

By EDWARD LEAR

THERE WAS AN OLD LADY OF FRANCE,  
WHO TAUGHT LITTLE DUCKLINGS TO DANCE;  
WHEN SHE SAID, "TICK-A-TACK!" THEY ONLY SAID, "QUACK!"  
WHICH GRIEVED THAT OLD LADY OF FRANCE.



# THE ANIMAL WORLD

## THE HERON

**H**ERONS LIVE ON THE SHORES OF SALT WATER LAGOONS, FRESH WATER LAKES, AND RIVERS



**A** HUNDRED OR MORE BIRDS OFTEN LIVE IN THE SAME NESTING PLACE THEIR NESTS ARE CRUDE PLATFORMS OF STICKS USUALLY PLACED IN TREES.



**B**ABY HERONS HAVE THIN BODIES AND NECKS, STRAIGHT NARROW BEAKS AND LARGE BLUNT WINGS



**H**ERONS RANGE IN SIZE FROM THE SMALL GREEN HERON TO THE GREAT BLUE AND THE GREAT WHITE HERONS.



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