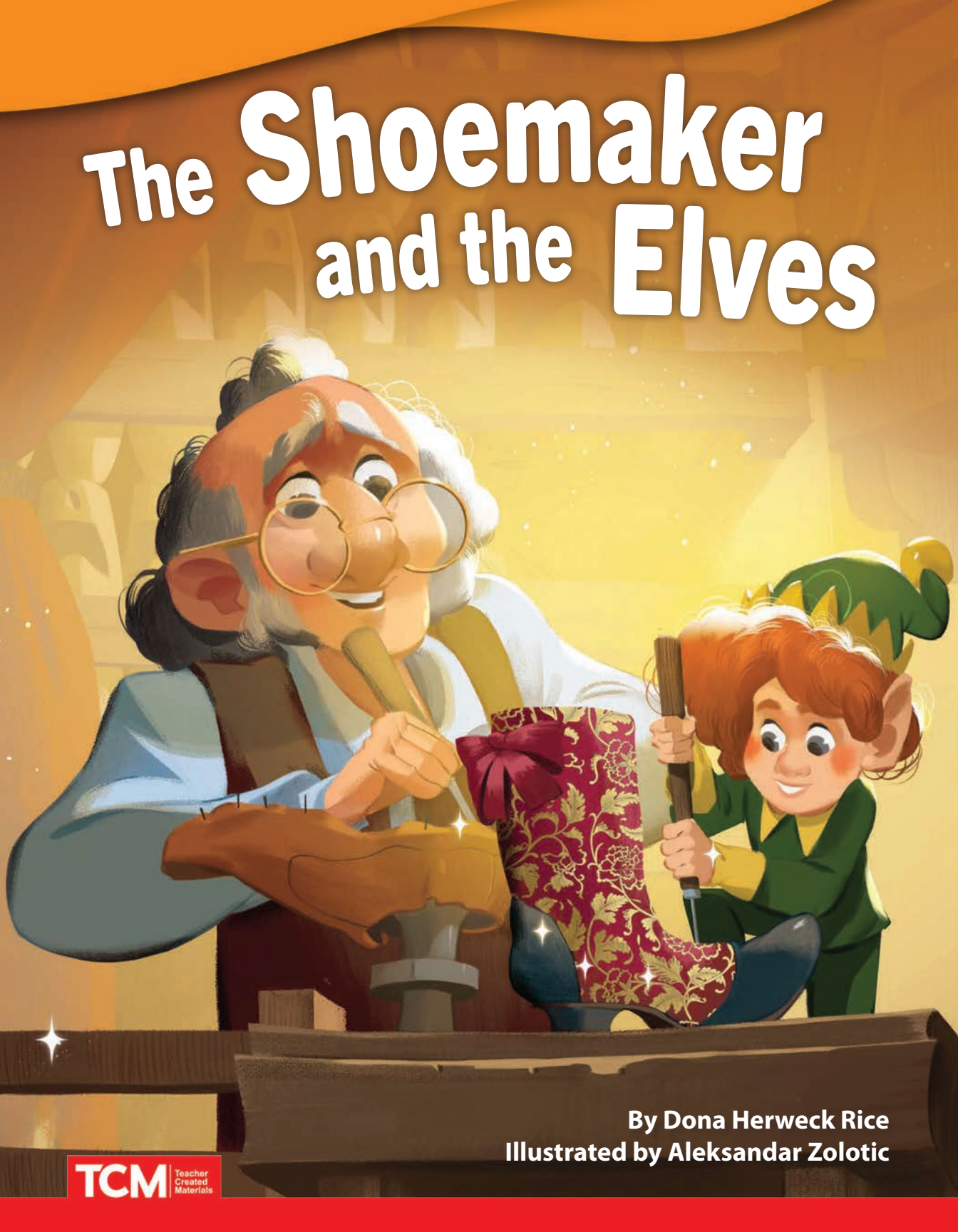
The Shoemaker and the Elves



By Dona Herweck Rice
Illustrated by Aleksandar Zolotic

TCM Teacher Created Materials

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For Review Only

Chapter One



The Shoemaker

Once upon a time, there was a shoemaker named Barney. He worked late into every night. He tried to make what people needed. But no matter how hard he worked, he could not keep up with the demand.

Even so, Barney loved making shoes. It was his family business. There was a time when Barney was young that the whole village wore his family's shoes. Their trademark pair was brown leather with a swirl etched into the side. Business was great. Barney was sure it would go on this way forever.

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Chapter Two



Trouble

But it didn't go on this way. Now, Barney rarely saw his shoes when he looked out the shop window. If he did, they were mainly worn by someone who bought them long ago. Weeks went by with no customers at all.

"I don't know what we'll do, Glenda," Barney moaned to his wife. "I have only enough leather to make one more pair of shoes. After that, I am done. And we have no money to buy what we need. I cannot make more shoes. We cannot pay the rent."

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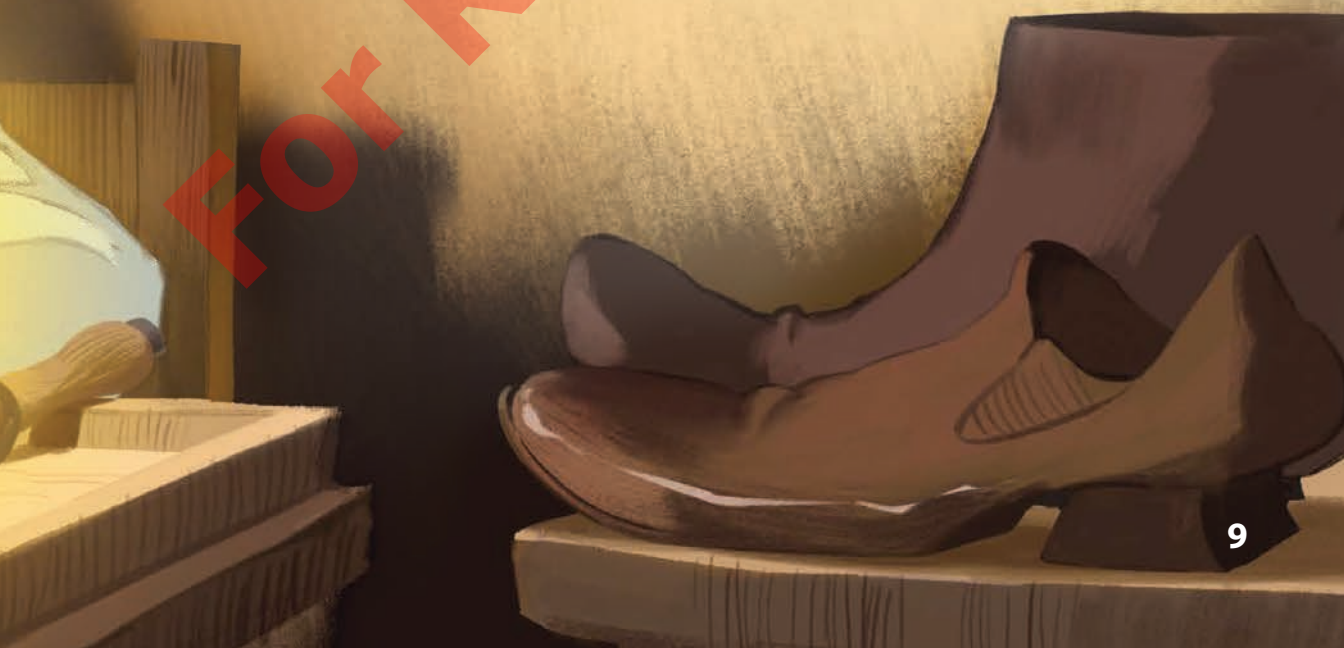


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"Don't worry," Glenda soothed him. "Things look bad, I know. But we will find a way. We always do."

She put her hand on Barney's shoulder and handed him a piece of the flaky butter cake she had just made.

"You are right, my dear," Barney said, patting his wife's hand and chewing contentedly while crumbs fell onto his lap. "Let's go to bed. We'll figure it out in the morning." He blew out the light, and they went to sleep.



For Review Only

The Shoemaker and the Elves

Barney's family has been making shoes for as long as he can remember. But no one buys his shoes anymore. He'll need some help—and maybe a little magic—to become a master shoemaker once again.

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