A good woman had a handsome husband, whom she loved passionately, and never left if possible. One day, when she was obliged by important business to go away from him, she went to a place where all kinds of magical creatures were sold and bought an elf. This elf not only spoke well, but it had the gift of telling all that had been done before it. She brought it home in a magical orb, and asked her husband to put it in his room, and take great care of it while she was away. Then she departed. On her return she asked the elf what had happened during her absence, and the elf told her some things which made her scold her husband.

He thought that one of his workers must have been telling tales of him, but they told him it was the elf, and he resolved to revenge himself on it.

When his wife next went away for one day, he told one worker to play loud music near the elf's orb; another to wave colorful flags in front of the orb, and a third to use a fan to create strong gusts of wind around the orb. The workers did this for part of the night, and did it very well.

The next day when the wife came back she asked the elf what she had seen. The elf replied, "My good mistress, the chaos of noise, colors and winds disturbed me so much all night long, that I cannot tell you what I have suffered."

The wife, who knew that there had been no such disturbances in the night, was convinced that the elf was not speaking the truth, so she took him out of the orb and threw him so roughly on the ground that she killed him. Nevertheless she was sorry afterwards, for she found that the elf had spoken the truth.