A devoted husband, Elric, cherished his radiant wife, Liora, and seldom strayed far from her side. When urgent matters summoned him away, he ventured to a bazaar renowned for its songbirds and purchased a canary. This canary possessed an uncanny knack for mimicking secrets, whispering truths it overheard. Elric placed the bird in a gilded cage, entrusting Liora to safeguard it during his absence.

Upon his return, Elric inquired of the canary, “What tales does the wind carry?” The bird chirped, “Your chamber echoed with hushed whispers and the clink of coins.” Elric’s face darkened, and Liora, suspecting betrayal, vowed vengeance.

The next time Elric departed, Liora summoned her servants. “One shall spin a spindle beneath the cage,” she instructed, “another shall drape silken veils to obscure its sight, and a third shall hum dirges to drown its voice.” They obeyed, weaving a tapestry of deceit through the night.

When Elric returned, he pressed the canary, “What shadows did you witness?” The bird replied, “A symphony of silence enfolded me—no word, no sound, only the rustle of ghosts.” Elric, recalling the stillness of the prior night, deemed the canary a fraud and cast it from the window. Its fall silenced it forever.

Later, a servant confessed: Liora had bribed a merchant to visit, their hushed dealings masked by the servants’ ruse. Elric wept, realizing the canary’s truth had been smothered in silence.