

## **An Excerpt From The Washtub**

Narrator

Jacquinet goes over to where his wife is lifting the laundry out of the washtub, a piece at a time, and attempting to wring it out. She hands him the end of a large piece of cloth and tries to twist it dry, but Jacquinet keeps dropping it.

Jacquinette

Hold on, damn it! Make an effort, sweat a little to hang out our laundry properly: it's part of our business.

Jacquinet

I don't know what you want to do. *(to the audience)* What is she ordering me to do?

Jacquinette

What a good slap you're going to get! I'm talking about lifting the laundry, you little goblin!

Narrator

Jacquinet drops the laundry altogether and goes to pick up his piece of paper, looking it over curiously.

Jacquinet

This is not in my job description.

Jacquinette

Yes, it is there, truly.

Jacquinet

No, Saint John, it is not there!

*Jacquinet and Jacquinette can't agree on who should do the chores. Will a contract of work for Jacquinet settle the matter? Or does this contract have a gaping hole in it that he can exploit?*