

THE WASH
Jonathan Dorf

Cast of Characters

DANIEL, early 20's, probably homeless

JUDITH, mid 20's

(The laundry room of a New York apartment building. Friday night. Nine o'clock. JUDITH, mid-twenties, puts her laundry in a washing machine. Her pocketbook is atop Agatha Christie's Dead Man's Folly inside her empty laundry basket. She adds detergent, closes the lid and starts the machine. She sits in a chair and reads, one eye on the door. Enter DANIEL, slightly younger. He wears many layers of clothing and carries a raincoat. He selects the washer next to Judith's and strips. Judith puts her hand on her purse. As Daniel gets down to his boxers, Judith takes a handgun from her purse, makes sure it's loaded, then puts it next to her.)

DANIEL

I'm not going to swipe your dryer.

(He puts on the raincoat.)

JUDITH

I have a gun.

DANIEL

I see it.

(Daniel throws his boxers in the washing machine.)

It's very nice. Very large.

JUDITH

You're not afraid of it?

DANIEL

Very. Probably put a really big hole in me.

JUDITH

It would.

DANIEL

(undoes a button of his raincoat)

Is it warm in here?

JUDITH

I think you should leave.

DANIEL

I will.

(He feints toward her. She grabs the gun and points it at him.)

Wow—nice reflexes.

(She is about to lower the gun, when he makes a head fake.
She again blocks him with the gun.)

Really nice reflexes. Does your husband . . .

(Daniel indicates “ring” with his hands, but it looks
suspiciously like he’s making the universal sign for fucking.)

JUDITH

Pervert.

(Judith roots in her pocketbook for a ring. She puts it on.)

DANIEL

Your husband know you got such nice reflexes?

JUDITH

How do you know I’m married?

DANIEL

I could eat for a year on that rock.

JUDITH

Maybe I like rings.

DANIEL

Can I have it? Since you’re not attached to it—

JUDITH

I didn’t say I wasn’t attached to it. I’m very attached to it.

DANIEL

How are you attached to it?

JUDITH

Are you a Joycian deviated pervert with one thing on your mind?

DANIEL

How are you attached to it? Don’t use words like that.

JUDITH

I have the gun. I’ll say Joycian if I want to.

(Beat. Points to the corner farthest from her but also farthest from the door)

Move over there.

DANIEL

My laundry isn't over there.

JUDITH

You haven't started your machine.

DANIEL

My problem is I don't have any change.

JUDITH

How did you expect to do your laundry?

DANIEL

Could I borrow a couple of quarters?

(brief pause)

Maybe you could give me that rock.

JUDITH

That's my engagement ring.

DANIEL

Does he know you're picturing me naked right now?

JUDITH

I am not!

DANIEL

You're givin' that gun handle the big rubbudy-dub. You see me so naked right now—

JUDITH

I'm grabbing it.

DANIEL

Your load's done.

JUDITH

What?

DANIEL
Your load's ready for the dryer.

JUDITH
Get away from my machine.

DANIEL
Does your husband know you dream about stripping guys in raincoats?

JUDITH
My *fiancé*—

DANIEL
He's gay, isn't he?

JUDITH
He's not gay! He's engaged to me.

DANIEL
Where is he then?

JUDITH
I don't need him to babysit me.

DANIEL
Friday night, and he leaves you to do laundry?

Like what you see? Hit the back button and follow the instructions to order a perusal copy of the full script!