

There was a small wood next to the road.
Toad soon found some dry leaves, and made
a bed and went to sleep.

In the morning, the sunlight woke him.
He could see light on water, and he hurried
towards it. There was a canal, and Toad
could see a horse on the path beside it. The
horse was pulling a narrow canal boat.



“Good morning,” said the boatwoman.
“Are you enjoying your walk?”
“Not really,” said Toad. “I’m tired, and the
path is dusty, and my feet hurt.”

"Where are you going?" asked the boatwoman. Toad told her. "Well, that's lucky! I'm going that way too," said the boatwoman. "Jump on the boat. What work do you do?"

"I wash clothes," said Toad. "I'm famous for it."

"That's even better!" said the boatwoman. "I have all these sheets to wash, but I never have time. Wait, I'll get you some soap and water."

"It can't be so difficult," thought Toad, but half an hour later he was hot and tired, the soap was gone and the sheets were as dirty as before.



"What a mess! You've never washed clothes in your life!" laughed the boatwoman.

"Of course not!" said Toad. "A Toad does not wash clothes. A Toad drives fast cars, and escapes from prisons, and –"

"A horrible Toad! On my boat!" screamed the boatwoman. She picked Toad up and threw him in the water.



He swam to the bank and sat there. "What am I going to do now?" he wondered.