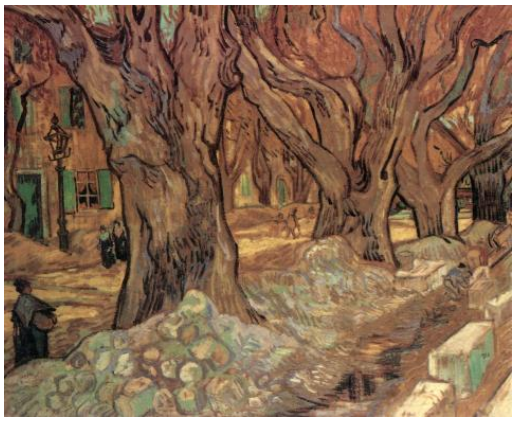
THE ATTACKS CONTINUE



0. THE ATTACKS CONTINUE - Story Preface

1. EARLY LIFE

2. AN ARTIST IS BORN

3. STUDYING ART, FEELING PAIN

4. THE FIRST MASTERPIECE

5. THE PARIS YEARS

6. INFLUENCE of JAPANESE ART

7. EARLY LIFE in ARLES

8. THE BANDAGED EAR

9. VINCENT at SAINT-REMY

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11. PAINTING in AUVERS-sur-OISE

12. WORRIES and TURMOIL

13. VINCENT COMMITS SUICIDE

14. THE SADNESS WILL LAST FOREVER

While still a patient at Saint-Paul Hospital in Saint-Rémy, Vincent continued to paint what he observed (among other things). This oil-on-canvas, which measures 74 x 92 cm, depicts “The Road Menders.” Vincent created it during November of 1889. Today it is owned by the Museum of Art in Cleveland, Ohio. Click on the image for a better view.

After Dr. Peyron allowed him to resume painting, Vincent still had attacks. By mid-August, his self-portrait reveals a man who seems sadder than usual. By the next month, he appears without his characteristic beard and moustache, apparently thinking about more independent days as he paints his bedroom in Arles.

By the last part of 1889, Vincent seemed somewhat better. He was allowed to paint outside again, taking full advantage of the privilege as he recorded scenes at, and near, the hospital. Theo, meanwhile, had married Johanna (Jo) Bonger and, while the young couple looked forward to a happy life, Theo himself was unwell.

A bit of good news may have helped Vincent's emotional state. Theo had arranged for six of his brother's paintings to be shown at a Brussels exhibition called *Les XX*. As 1889 progressed, van Gogh continued to paint while a patient at Saint-Paul.

However, on the 23rd of December - the first anniversary of his ear-slashing incident - Vincent had another major attack. He told his brother what happened:

> *Odd that I had been working perfectly calmly on some canvases that you will soon see, and that suddenly, without any reason, the aberration seized me again.* (Vincent to Theo, 1st or 2nd of January, 1890.)

Within a week, van Gogh recovered and resumed painting. Because of the weather, and his medical condition, he mostly stayed indoors where he copied the works of other artists.

During the early months of 1890, Vincent suffered more attacks. During the spring, even as he painted peaceful, beautiful scenes, his emotional state was not stable. It was becoming clear that he needed to go north - closer to Paris and his brother - instead of remaining in the south where he had no family and few friends.

After doing some research, Theo found a physician who could care for Vincent. Dr. Paul Gachet, a therapist who lived in Auvers-sur-Oise, seemed to be a good choice. His home was an hour's train ride from Paris - and Theo - so Vincent agreed with the proposal.

On the 16th of May, 1890, Vincent took the overnight train to Paris. It would be his last lengthy journey.

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:
http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/THE-ATTACKS-CONTINUE-Vincent-Van-Gogh

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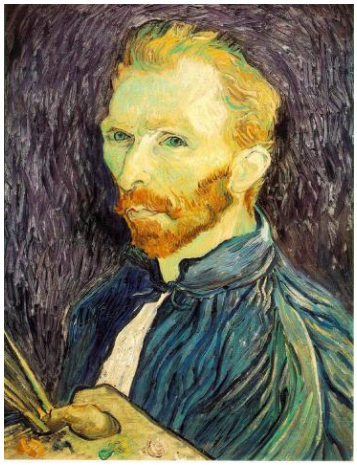
Media Stream



August, 1889 - Vincent's Self-Portrait

Image online, courtesy Web Gallery of Art.
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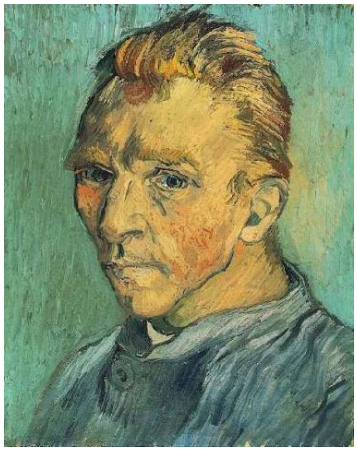

Self-Portrait - Vincent without His Beard

Image online, courtesy Vincent van Gogh Gallery.
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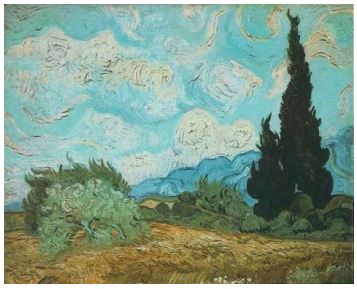

Wheat Field with Cypresses

Image online, courtesy Vincent van Gogh Gallery.
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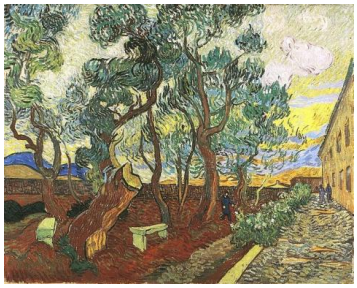

Garden of Saint Paul's Hospital, The

Image online, courtesy Web Gallery of Art.
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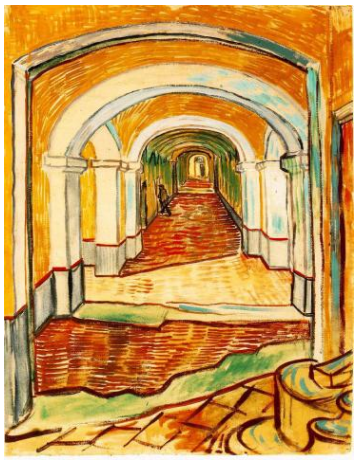

Corridor in the Asylum

Image online, courtesy Web Gallery of Art.
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Trees in the Garden of Saint-Paul Hospital

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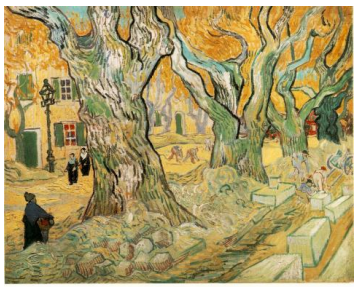

Road Menders, The - Vincent's Painting

Image online, courtesy Web Gallery of Art.
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Johanna (Jo) Bonger van Gogh

Image online, courtesy University of Seville (a Spanish-language website) and its illustrated biography of Vincent van Gogh.
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Blossoming Almond Tree

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Drawing - Cypresses with Two Women in Foreground

Image online, courtesy Vincent van Gogh Gallery.
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Paul Gachet - Home of Vincent's Doctor

Image online, courtesy University of Seville (a Spanish-language website) and its illustrated biography of Vincent van Gogh.
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Paul Gachet, Photo - Vincent's Doctor

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Pink Roses in Vase - Vincent van Gogh

Image online, courtesy Vincent van Gogh Gallery.

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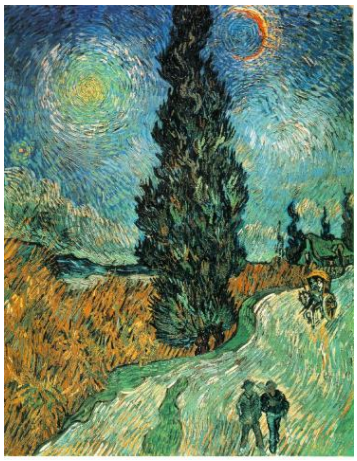

Road with Cypress and Star

Image online, courtesy Web Gallery of Art.

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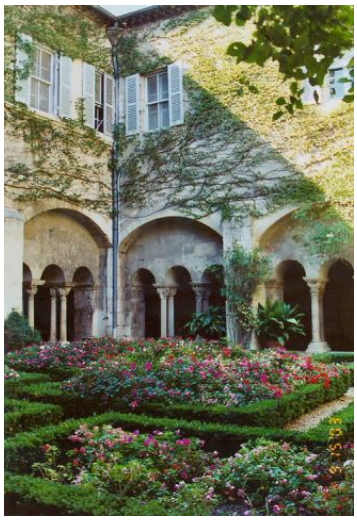

Saint Paul Hospital, Saint-Remy - Vincent's Home

Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

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Vase with Irises

Image online, courtesy Web Gallery of Art.

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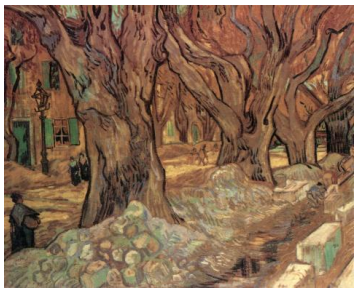

THE ATTACKS CONTINUE

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