

- 1. Orchard in Blossom with View of Arles**
Arles: April, 1889
- 2. Wheat Field with Cypresses**
Saint-Rémy: early September, 1889
- 3. View of Arles with Irises in the Foreground**
Arles: May, 1888
- 4. Two Poplars On A Road Through The Hills**
Saint-Remy: October 1889
- 5. Sower, The**
Arles: June, 1888
- 6. The Café Terrace On The Place Du Forum At Night**
Arles: September 1888
- 7. Portrait Of The Artist's Mother**
Arles: October 1888
- 8. Self-Portrait With Bandaged Ear**
Arles: January 1889
- 9. Noon: Rest From Work (After Millet)**
Saint-Remy: January 1890
- 10. Vincent's Bedroom In Arles**
Arles: October 1888

The Bedroom
Saint-Remy: September 1889
- 11. The Langlois Bridge At Arles**
Arles: May 1888
- 12. Irises**
Saint –Remy: May 1889
- 13. Valley with Ploughman Seen from Above**
Saint-Rémy: December, 1889

Art Appreciation

Starry, starry night.
Paint your palette blue and grey,
Look out on a summer's day,
With eyes that know the darkness in my soul.
Shadows on the hills,
Sketch the trees and the daffodils,
Catch the breeze and the winter chills,
In colours on the snowy linen land.

Chorus: Now I understand what you tried to say to me,
How you suffered for your sanity,
How you tried to set them free.
They would not listen, they did not know how.
Perhaps they'll listen now.

Starry, starry night.
Flaming flowers that brightly blaze,
Swirling clouds in violet haze,
Reflect in Vincent's eyes of China blue.
Colours changing hue, morning field of amber grain,
Weathered faces lined in pain,
Are soothed beneath the artist's loving hand.

Chorus

For they could not love you,
But still your love was true.
And when no hope was left in sight
On that starry, starry night,
You took your life, as lovers often do.
But I could have told you, Vincent,
This world was never meant for one
As beautiful as you.

Starry, starry night.
Portraits hung in empty halls,
Frameless heads on nameless walls,
With eyes that watch the world and can't forget.
Like the strangers that you've met,
The ragged men in the ragged clothes,
The silver thorn of bloody rose,
Lie crushed and broken on the virgin snow.

Chorus: Now I think I know what you tried to say to me,
How you suffered for your sanity,
How you tried to set them free.

**Depression &
Illness**

Paintings

**Legacy of his
Work**

They would not listen, they're not listening still.
Perhaps they never will.

1] **Wheat Field with Crows**

Auvers-sur-Oise: July, 1890

This painting has been described as Vincent van Gogh's "suicide note" put to canvas.

Can you suggest a reason for this theory?

What in the painting could create a negative or sad impression? **NO PEOPLE, CROWS**

However, this was not his final painting and it is one of four paintings with the same subject. There are a number of elements in this painting and these can be interpreted as symbolic.

The three **pathways** may suggest the past, present and future. The two corner paths spring from nowhere and lead nowhere; while the middle path may be a dead end, it could also lead beyond the horizon.

Does this tie in with the theory of a "suicide note"? Motivate your answer. **YES / NO**

A **restless sky** is a recurring feature of many of Van Gogh's paintings. Stormy weather, while ominous and foreboding, also displays the power and beauty of nature. After a storm everything is clean and fresh, does his fascination with storms have to do with the potential for freedom and renewal? **POSSIBLY**

The loneliness of the **wheat field** and absence of people could refer to Vincent's state of mind and feelings of abandonment and failure.

What could be the reasons for him feeling abandoned and alone? **DEPRESSION**

The **crows** are perhaps the most powerful image in this painting.

What would be their significance if they flying towards the painter? **HOPE**

Does this meaning change if we assume that they are flying away? Explain. **DEATH**

2] **Starry Night** Saint-Rémy: June 1889

This is probably the most recognisable of Vincent van Gogh's paintings. It was painted from memory in the asylum due to the severe attacks of depression from which he suffered.

Does this make the emotional effect this painting has any more powerful? **YES - LONGING**

Is there any resemblance between *Wheat Field with Crows* and *Starry Night* when you consider the artist's state of mind and emotional turmoil? **YES - ALONE, INNERCONFLICT**

Compare the paintings with regard to style, subject, use of colour and brushstrokes. **ANY**