#### Chapter 4: Developments after Arles

After parting ways in December 1888, the two men continued to exchange letters. Van Gogh remained in Arles, still painting even when illness brought on suffering. The following May 1889, he committed himself to the asylum in Saint-Rémy-de-Provence. There he would look at the wheat fields seen from his window or the courtyard gardens of the hospital, and when his health permitted him to work outside, he drew such Provencal motifs as cypress trees and olive groves. Stimulated by Gauguin, at times he would experiment with painting from his memory and imagination, and yet while this method and his encounter with Gauguin's religious symbolism can be seen, Van Gogh's works were firmly rooted in reality.

Gauguin, on the other hand, returned to Paris at the end of 1888 and in June 1889 traveled to Pont-Aven. There he painted images of simple village life and still life paintings, while also producing a number of works with religious sentiment and not easily deciphered personal symbolic forms.

In May 1890 Van Gogh moved to Auvers-sur-Oise on the outskirts of Paris. He experimented with creating what he called contemporary portraits, actively seeking out new forms of expression. And yet on July 27th he turned a pistol on himself and died two days later.

no.	artist	title	date	collection
51	Vincent van Gogh	Still Life with a Plate of Onions	1889	Kröller-Müller Museum, Otterlo
52	Vincent van Gogh	Portrait of Joseph Roulin	1889	Kröller-Müller Museum, Otterlo
53	Vincent van Gogh	Roses	1889	The National Museum of Western Art, Tokyo
54	Vincent van Gogh	Olive Grove	1889	Kröller-Müller Museum, Otterlo
55	Vincent van Gogh	Wheatfield with a Reaper	1889	Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam (Vincent van Gogh Foundation)
56	Vincent van Gogh	The Ravine (Les Peiroulets)	1889	Kröller-Müller Museum, Otterlo
57	Vincent van Gogh	The Sower (after Millet)	1890	Kröller-Müller Museum, Otterlo
58	Vincent van Gogh	Portrait of a Young Woman	1890	Kröller-Müller Museum, Otterlo
59	Paul Gauguin	Girl Herding Pigs	1889	Shizuoka Prefectural Museum of Art
60	Paul Gauguin	The Ham	1889	The Phillips Collection, Washington, D.C.
61	Paul Gauguin	Breton Girl Spinning	1889	Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam

# VAN GOGH AND GAUGUIN REALITY AND IMAGINATION

### Chapter 5: Gauguin in Tahiti

In 1891 Gauguin set off for Tahiti, in search of a truly primitive society untarnished by Western civilization. He discerned the beautiful simple motifs of that island, but also realized that modern Western influence had already arrived. Instead of painting just the Polynesian world he created many works that were a fusion of Polynesian, Catholic and other cultures, all reflecting his memory and imagination.

In 1893 Gauguin returned to France and began to paint in Brittany, but then set off for Tahiti a second time in 1895, never to return to France. In Tahiti he continued to paint images of the pastoral lifestyle and scenery, and beautiful, dignified forms of the islanders.

Still seeking his ideal simple world, Gauguin left Tahiti in 1901. Shortly before leaving he painted a still life of sunflowers. Eleven years had passed since Van Gogh's death, but Gauguin's thoughts on that Pacific island still turned to his dead friend in far off France. Gauguin moved to Hiva Oa in the Marquesas Islands, and there died in 1903 at the age of 54.

no.	artist	title	date	collection
62	Paul Gauguin	Dog in Front of the Hut, Tahiti	1892	Pola Museum of Art
63	Paul Gauguin	Women on the Banks of the River	1892	Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam (Vincent van Gogh Foundation)
64	Paul Gauguin	A Farm in Brittany	c.1894	The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York
65	Paul Gauguin	Tahitian Woman	1898	Ordrupgaard, Copenhagen
66	Paul Gauguin	Three Tahitians	1899	National Galleries of Scotland, Edinburgh
67	Paul Gauguin	Idyll in Tahiti	1901	Foundation E.G. Bührle Collection, Zurich
68	Paul Gauguin	Sunflowers on an Armchair	1901	Foundation E.G. Bührle Collection, Zurich

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# Chapter 1: The Making of the Two Fathers of Modern Art

In 1880, at the age of 27, Vincent van Gogh (1853-1890) decided to become a painter. In the first three years of this pursuit he focused on drawing, and then turned to oil painting around the autumn of 1883. While also creating landscapes and still lifes he primarily produced large numbers of everyday scenes in the villages around him, from peat cutting to weaving. Van Gogh was self-taught and began painting on his own, learning particularly from the works of Jean-François Millet amongst the Barbizon school painters who provided his primary models. This focus led to his desire to be a painter of rural life, as were Millet and Jules Breton.

It was around the age of 36, in 1885, that Paul Gauguin (1848-1903) dedicated himself to a painter's life. Prior to that time he had worked as a stockbroker in Paris, painting as an amateur and participating in the Impressionists exhibitions. The earliest confirmable work by Gauguin dates to 1873. Like Van Gogh he learned from the Barbizon school, but then took up the Impressionist forms after meeting such Impressionist painters as Camille Pissarro and Claude Monet. In addition to figure paintings, he also longed for a simple society unfettered by the concerns of the modern world, and painted many landscape works in this vein.

no.	artist	title	date	collection
1	Vincent van Gogh	Peat Boat with Two Figures	1883	Collection Drents Museum, Assen
2	Vincent van Gogh	Loom with Weaver	1884	Kröller-Müller Museum, Otterlo
3	Vincent van Gogh	The Old Church Tower at Nuenen ('The Peasants 'Churchyard')	1885	Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam (Vincent van Gogh Foundation)
4	Jean-François Millet	The Goose Girl	1866-67	Private Collection
5	Jules Breton	Young Peasant Girl with a Hoe	1882	Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam
6	Jean-Baptiste-Camille Corot	Souvenir of Nemi. Rocks and Shrubs	c.1844-45	The Mesdag Collection, The Hague
7	Théodore Rousseau	The Crooked Tree at the Carrefour de l'Epine	1852	The Mesdag Collection, The Hague
8	Paul Gauguin	The Little One Is Dreaming, Etude	1881	Ordrupgaard, Copenhagen
9	Paul Gauguin	Self-Portrait	1885	Kimbell Art Museum, Fort Worth, Texas
10	Paul Gauguin	Watering Trough	1886	Shimane Art Museum
12	Camille Pissarro	Route de Versailles, Rocquencourt	1871	Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam
15	Claude Monet	Meadow at Eragny	1880	Yoshino Gypsum Co.,Ltd. (deposited at Yamagata Museum of Art)

### Chapter 2: Modernization, New Influences and Artistic Friends

Van Gogh traveled from his native Holland through Belgium, arriving in Paris around the end of February 1886. There he encountered the works of the Impressionists and other avant-garde artists of the day, and realized the need to shift away from his dark palette. And so in addition to his understanding of color theory learned in Holland, he began to paint a succession of flower still lifes in a brighter palette, thus beginning to develop his own unique expressive style through the use of color contrasts. Besides his approximately 30 self-portraits, he also depicted the natural motifs he found in the area around Paris and along the Seine.

Gauguin first visited Pont-Aven in Brittany in July 1886, where he created works depicting the beauty and simplicity of village life. A large number of artists later flocked to this area, and there he met painters such as Emile Bernard and Paul Sérusier, and talked with them of art. Gauguin sought primitive life and traveled with friends to places such as Panama and Martinique in the Caribbean. The bright tropical light and strong colors brought epoch-making changes to his expression.

In November 1887 Gauguin returned to Paris. At the time Van Gogh was holding a small exhibition he had organized. It was probably at that gallery, either in November or December of that year, that Van Gogh and Gauguin met.

no.	artist	title	date	collection
16	Vincent van Gogh	Self-Portrait with Pipe	1886	Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam (Vincent van Gogh Foundation)
17	Vincent van Gogh	Shoes	1886	Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam (Vincent van Gogh Foundation)
18	Vincent van Gogh	Self-Portrait	1887	Kröller-Müller Museum, Otterlo
19	Vincent van Gogh	Plaster Statuette of a Female Torso	1887	MENARD ART MUSEUM
20	Vincent van Gogh	Seine with a Rowing Boat	1887	Private Collection
21	Vincent van Gogh	Montmartre: Behind the Moulin de la Galette	1887	Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam (Vincent van Gogh Foundation)

22	Vincent van Gogh	Self-Portrait with Pipe and Straw Hat	1887	Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam (Vincent van Gogh Foundation)
23	Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec	At Saint-Lazare	1886	Triton Collection Foundation
24	Charles Angrand	The Seine, Morning (Saint-Ouen)	1886	Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam
25	Adolphe-Joseph-Thomas Monticelli	Woman at the Well	1870-71	Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam (Vincent van Gogh Foundation)
26	Pierre Puvis de Chavannes	Saint Genevieve as a Child at Prayer	1875-76	Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam
27	Paul Gauguin	Mother and Child under a Tree at Pont-Aven	1886	Pola Museum of Art
28	Paul Gauguin	Breton Boys Bathing (The Bathing by the Mill in Bois d'Amour, Pont-Aven)	1886	HIROSHIMA MUSEUM OF ART
29	Emile Bernard	Market in Pont-Aven	1888	The Museum of Fine Arts, Gifu •
30	Emile Bernard	Still Life with Teapot, Cup and Fruit	1890	Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam
31	Paul Sérusier	The Apple Harvest	c.1891	Triton Collection Foundation
32	Mogens Ballin	Pitcher and Pear on Chair	c.1890-92	Triton Collection Foundation
33	Jan Verkade	Pitcher and Three Apples	1891	Triton Collection Foundation
34	Paul Gauguin	Martinique Landscape	1887	National Galleries of Scotland, Edinburgh

## Chapter 3: Pont-Aven, Arles and Working Together in Arles

After leaving Paris, on February 20, 1888, Van Gogh reached Arles in southern France. Fascinated by the Provençal scenery Prior to moving to Arles Gauguin was active painting in Brittany. Around that time his works began to take on a

that recalled many of the elements of his longed-for world of Japan, Van Gogh painted many works at that time. He was especially interested in the lives of farmers and their work so closely linked to the changing seasons, repeatedly creating images of harvesting and other farm scenes. Many of the Roulin family as well as the Zouaves barracked in the town acted as his models and became his friends, as he gradually turned to the creation of figure paintings. Van Gogh, who valued the "consoling" character of art, also painted works that depicted the natural beauty of parks where people could calm their souls. strongly symbolist nature as he placed greater emphasis on imagination and memory in his works. On October 23rd, Gauguin arrived at Van Gogh's Yellow House in Arles adorned with his own paintings, and decided to stay there with Van Gogh. For Van Gogh this was the first step towards his dream of forming a community of artists. The two men worked on their paintings together in Arles, painting at the ruins and graveyards of the old Roman town of Alyscamps in the autumn, and the scenery around Arles. When colder weather arrived, they returned indoors, turning to painting figures.

And yet, flare-ups occurred because of their decidedly different characters and artistic natures, so that their shared lifestyle was shattered at the end of December.

no.	artist	title	date	collection
35	Vincent van Gogh	Sprig of Flowering Almond in a Glass	1888	Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam (Vincent van Gogh Foundation)
36	Vincent van Gogh	Basket of Lemons and Bottle	1888	Kröller-Müller Museum, Otterlo
37	Vincent van Gogh	The Harvest	1888	Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam (Vincent van Gogh Foundation)
38	Vincent van Gogh	The Zouave	1888	Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam (Vincent van Gogh Foundation)
39	Vincent van Gogh	Ploughed Field ('The Furrows')	1888	Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam (Vincent van Gogh Foundation)
40	Vincent van Gogh	Path in the Park	1888	Kröller-Müller Museum, Otterlo
41	Vincent van Gogh	The Lover (Portrait of Lieutenant Milliet)	1888	Kröller-Müller Museum, Otterlo
42	Vincent van Gogh	Gauguin's Chair	1888	Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam (Vincent van Gogh Foundation)
43	Vincent van Gogh	Portrait of Camille Roulin	1888	Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam (Vincent van Gogh Foundation)
44	Vincent van Gogh	Portrait of a Man	1888	Kröller-Müller Museum, Otterlo
45	Paul Gauguin	Goose Games	1888	Private Collection
46	Paul Gauguin	Rocks on the Coast	1888	Aichi Prefectural Museum of Art •
47	Paul Gauguin	The Sabot Maker	1888	Aichi Prefectural Museum of Art O
49	Paul Gauguin	Washerwomen in Arles	1888	Ordrupgaard, Copenhagen
50	Paul Gauguin	Washerwomen in Arles	1888	Museo de Bellas Artes de Bilbao