

Modern Art  
by  
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INT: ART MUSEUM - DAY

Here is a spacious and (mostly) featureless area. The walls, floor and ceiling are all pure white. Hanging on the walls are various modern art paintings of shapes, lines and squiggles. The dozen or so VISITORS are all silent and gazing, apart from the disheveled TED (25) and his equally scruffy friend STAN (25), carrying a suitcase.

TED

Is this fun for you? It's boring for me. I think it's boring for everyone else, too. Who is completely silent when they're genuinely excited?

TED furrows his brow at the VISITORS like they're crazy. STAN looks down, trying not to draw any more attention to himself.

STAN

I wouldn't say the people here are EXCITED...

TED

Good, because if lines and squiggles are thrilling to you, you'll probably have a heart attack if you saw something like a house.

STAN

(whispering loudly)

Quiet! No talk of houses here, you WILL kill someone!

TED rolls his eyes.

TED

Anyway, I was thinking... What would classical artists make of modern paintings...

STAN puts his chin up with pride.

STAN

Well... why not find out?

TED sighs.

TED

Are you referring to your time machine, again?

STAN

Of course!

TED

What is it with you and your time machine? Whenever I talk about the history of music - time machine. Whenever I talk about old fashions - time machine.

STAN puts his hands on his hips. The VISITORS look at HIM like he's crazy.

STAN

What should I talk about, then?

TED

It's a nice day, isn't it? Say how nice a day it is.

STAN

It's a nice day.

The VISITORS give nods of approval and go back to gazing.

TED

See, that's better. You sound normal now.

STAN

I have freaked a few people out telling them about my thingamajig, haven't I?

TED

Right!

STAN

Are you saying you don't want to use it?

TED

Well... No. I do actually want to see what old artists would think...

STAN

Go for it.

STAN places his suitcase on the floor, opens it and removes a laptop-like device. He hands it to TED.

TED

Cool.

STAN

Just open up Word and type where you want to go and when.

TED sits down, crosses his legs and puts the device on his lap.

TED  
(talking as typing)  
J.M.W. Turner's house, 1860.

STAN  
Might be best to visit him when he's still alive.

TED  
1900.

STAN  
Try again.

TED  
1800?

STAN nods.

TED  
Won't we be freaking out the visitors when I suddenly disappear?

STAN  
Na. These are modern art fans. Nothing freaks them out.

TED  
Oh yeah.

TED presses a button then disappears.

INT: TURNER'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

Here is a room of antique wooden furniture, patterned carpets and an ornate chandelier. Sunlight shines through the window. A very green garden view is observed by TURNER (25), in deep reflection. He is dressed in a fancy black and white suit. All of a sudden, TED appears by his side with a laptop under one arm.

TED  
(casually)  
Hi, J. I'm from the future.

TURNER turns to TED and stares blankly.

TURNER  
Huh?

TED  
I'm from 2020. Crazy, right?

TURNER scratches his head, very hard.

TURNER  
... How??

TED puts his hand on TURNER'S shoulder.

TED  
Never mind about that, how would you feel if I told you I could create a masterpiece right before your eyes in only a few seconds?

TURNER  
Errr.... Go on then...

TED  
Do you have a plate or something? I don't want to ruin your carpet.

TURNER  
What do you mean?

TED  
It's just modern art can get a bit messy.

TURNER  
Errr...

TED  
Never mind, you're gonna love this, trust me.

TED starts to pull his trousers down.

TURNER  
No!

TED pulls them back up.

TED  
You sure? I'm just trying to make you rich...

TURNER makes a fist.

TURNER  
By doing a crap on my carpet??

TED backs away.

TED  
Ok, ok, ok. You're into deeper stuff. I respect that. Do you have a bed I can mess up. Or is untidy already?

TURNER  
What do you want to do to it?

TED squints as if it's obvious.

TED  
Just show it to people.

TURNER  
You're just a talentless madman!

TED  
Now, that's unfair. I work really well  
with paints.

TURNER  
Go on then.

TED  
Do you have any?

TURNER  
What do you want to paint?

TED  
I'm just going to throw it everywhere.

TURNER backs away further with growing fear. He starts to  
shake.

TURNER  
You've escaped from a nut house  
haven't you? I've heard rumours about  
what the inmates do, there.

TED laughs, nervously.

TED  
No! You've completely misunderstood!  
Yes, I don't look after myself  
properly and yes, I poo on things, but  
for a COMPLETELY different reason!  
People respect me! They think I'm  
pushing the boundaries! Look!

TED starts to pull down his trousers, again.

TURNER  
GET THE HELL OUT!

TED pulls them back up and starts to cry. He sits then types  
on his laptop as TURNER is too dumbstruck to do anything. He  
disappears.

INT: MUSEUM - MOMENTS LATER

TED appears and stands in front of STAN with his device, still in tears. Everyone looks at the two.

STAN

Did you impress him?

TED

I don't want to talk about it! I'm going to a time where turds will be appreciated!

TED sits and types again.