Autumn and Spring
Guiseppe Archimboldo, 1573 and 1563

Gentle jazz music plays

This is Redstart Radio, the station that brings you all the hottest art news and stories by Chard's finest art detectives.

In this episode, agents investigated two oil paintings by the Italian artist Guiseppe Archimboldo. They are called Spring and Autumn, and were painted in 1563 and 1573. Intriguingly, both faces are made up entirely of edible goods, which is why it's placed here, outside this cafe. Now it's time for you to hear some stories, written and performed by the agents who investigated these artworks.

Bright upbeat baroque string quartet music plays.
Fades to be replaced with the sound of gentle rain.

Oh, hi Spring! You made it just in time.
Hi, how are you doing? I brought the mustard creams!
Oh yay! And I'm doing just fine.

I want to talk about my farm. I need some improvements.
Oh, ok, sure.

A roll of thunder.

Ah! Where's my hand?
Ah! Where's my hand?
Oh no, it's can't be!

Bigger clap of thunder

No! No!
Oh no, oh no, we're going to die!
No, Autumn, you can't leave.

My legs! My arms! No! I can't die!

Sad slow baroque string quartet music.

Autumn! Autumn! No!
Bye Spring, forever. It was fun knowing you.

Sounds of choking.

Goodbye everyone. I had a good life.

Sad baroque music swells, then is replaced with birdsong.

Where have you been? I've been waiting for ages.
I had to speak to Summer and she was going on for ages.
It's ok because I'm not in a rush today.
Shall we walk to the park now?
Yes of course we should

Why is it so hot today?
Can I borrow some suncream please?
Yes of course you can?

Can I eat that delicious apple that is hanging from your head please?
It looks very juicy and red. Please!

Low ominous heartbeat sound, then sounds of crunching fruit.

Oh, it's lovely and juicy!

Sounds of choking, gasping then a body falling to the ground.

Sounds of evil laughter, followed by the trumpet blast and the opening phrase from Michael Jackson's Thriller, coupled with the sound of a camera taking photos.

How will I get prettier than Spring? It's nearly impossible.
What pose will I sit in? Pose one?

Sound of camera click.

No. Pose two?

Sound of a camera click.

Maybe. Oh hi Autumn. You look gorgeous today.
You don't mean that!
Yes I do.

Whatever. What trick shall I play on Spring? Aha! What if I pour a bucket of water on her? Yes!

Sounds of water being thrown, and a girl screaming in shock.

Why are you so rude to me?
Because you're prettier than me.
No I'm not. Everyone is pretty in their own way.
Oh, I never thought of that.

Upbeat bright baroque string quartet music.

I hope you can forgive me?
Of course, just be kind.

Upbeat bright baroque string quartet music swells.

It's so nice to meet you. We don't usually get to see each other.
Me too, we usually see Summer or Winter.
Let's go and play before Summer comes and we have to go.

Sounds of fruit falling onto dry leaves.

Oh no! My fruit fell off! Can I have one of your flowers to make me feel better?
What flower do you want?
I want a red rose to make me powerful.
Ok, here you go.
Do you want a fruit?
Yes I do.
Which one?
The pumpkin please to make me stronger.

Upbeat bright baroque string quartet music swells, then fades and a final thunderclap.

Gentle jazz music plays.

You're listening to Redstart Radio. Remember, there's 10 episodes to find, all around Chard. Where will you go next?

If you enjoyed these stories inspired by paintings, why not create a new story yourself? Investigate a painting, fire up your imagination and let the story flow!