Detail from The Temptation of St Anthony
Hieronymous Bosch, 1501

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 a detail from a much larger painting by the Dutch artist Hieronymous Bosch. You'll hear what the agents uncovered very soon. But first, a little about the painting.

It is called The Temptation of St Anthony, and Hieronymous Bosch painted it around 1501. The detail the agents investigated shows a man and a woman riding an enormous greeny-grey fish. There's not likely to be any fish in the stream you're standing by, of course, but the water might help you imagine this giant fish all the same.

Now it's time for you to hear some stories, written and performed by the agents who investigated this artwork.

Sound of a river flowing.

Giddy up fish, giddy up fish.
Aah! Get me off this fish!

Sounds of lots of lobster claws snapping

Look over there! There's an army of crabs and lobsters! What shall we do?
Put the fish on flying mode!
Calm down, Eleanor! Stop being so dramatic!

The sound of claws and river water fades and is replaced by the sound of large slow wing beats and birdsong.

I don't want to die! I'm too young!
Eleanor, feed Indie.
Are you serious? No, I'm not feeding that thing!
Be quiet Eleanor, just feed her.
You don't talk to me like that, big Bruce!

A low exasperated groan from the giant fish.

She is getting cranky!
I'm sure you can keep her in control.
Sometimes, I can't always keep her in control.
You bring me to my destination so I don't have to do anything.
I'm passenger princess.

Sounds of wing beats and birdsong.

Are we almost there?
Five more minutes.

Sounds of wing beats and birdsong, then loud splash as the fish returns to the water.

Yay I see land! Thanks Big Bruce!
You're welcome, Eleanor.

Swirling violins and glockenspiel plays over the sound of flowing water.

Have you always been that big?
I have always been massive.
How old are you?
Five hundred years.
How are you alive?
I don't know why but I can still be a flying fish.

This is my stop.
Bye, have a good trip!
I love riding giant fishes.
That’s nice to hear.
Sorry I did not get your name. Mine is Ella.
Mine is Puffy.

Swirling violins and glockenspiel plays over the sound of flowing water.

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!