

And they scrambled down the slope of one of the vineyards, bent double,  
110 crawling on their hands and knees, taking advantage of the cover **afforded** by  
the vines, keeping their eyes wide open and their ears on the alert.

**afford** (ə-fôrd') v.  
to provide or offer

All that now separated them from the riverbank was a strip of open ground.  
They ran across it, and as soon as they reached the river, they crouched  
amongst the dry rushes.

Morissot pressed his ear to the ground to see if he could detect the sound of  
marching feet. He could hear nothing. They were alone, completely alone.

They told each other there was nothing to worry about, and started to fish.

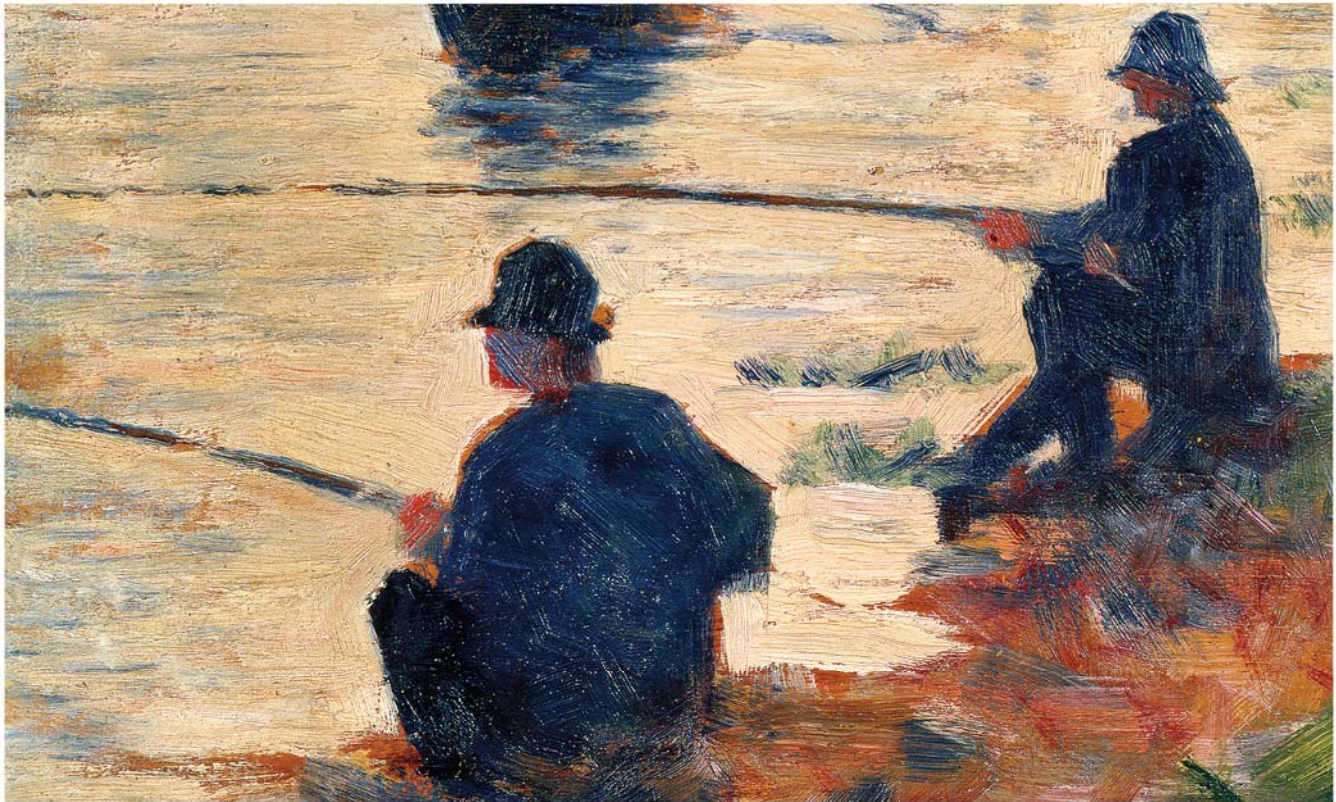
Opposite them the deserted island of Marante concealed them from the  
other bank. The little building which once housed the restaurant was closed  
120 and shuttered, and looked as though it had been abandoned for years.

It was Monsieur Sauvage who caught the first fish—a gudgeon. Morissot  
caught the second, and then, almost without a pause, they jerked up their rods  
time after time to find a little silvery creature wriggling away on the hook. This  
really was a miraculous draft of fishes. **E**

**E SYMBOL**

A gudgeon is both a small  
fish used as bait and  
a person who is easily  
tricked. On the basis of  
this information, whom or  
what might the gudgeon  
symbolize?

They carefully placed each fish into a fine-meshed net which was suspended  
in the water at their feet. And as they did so they were overcome by a  
delightful sense of joy, the kind of joy you only experience when you resume  
something you really love after being deprived of it for a long time.



Line fishermen, study for *La Grand Jatte* (1883), Georges Seurat. Oil on canvas, 16 cm × 25 cm. Musée d'Art Moderne, Troyes, France.  
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