



The Fall of Man

Date

not dated

Primary Maker

Cornelis Cornelisz. Van Haarlem

Medium

oil on panel

Description

According to P. J. J. van Thiel of the Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam, this painting appears to be based on "The Fall of Man," engraved by Jan Saenredam (1565-1607), after Cornelis van Haarlem. While faithful in many other particulars, the painter of the Lowe's version left out the frog and the figures of Adam and Eve in the background. I. E. Panofsky, in "Gods, Saints and Heroes," comments that the original Cornelisz van Haarlem painting of 1592, "The

Fall of Man," may be based on Albrecht Durer's 1504 engraving "Fall of Man." The animals in the painting have a symbolic function. The dog is the good teacher who watches over the human spirit and punishes people's sins. The choleric cat on Adam's side (on Eve's side in the 1592 Cornelisz van Haarlem version) is the symbol of her cunning cruelty.

Dimensions

Sight: 13 x 9 5/8 in. (33 x 24.4 cm) Framed: 21 1/2 x 17 7/8 x 2 1/2 in. (54.6 x 45.4 x 6.4 cm)