

Positively van Gogh

By: Bob Dylan

Recorded in a Denver Hotel Room, 12-13 March 1966

Capo 4th and/or 2nd fret

Drop C tuning

(C-A-d-g-b-e')

When I'd ^C asked why the painting was ^F deadly
no - body...

When I'd ^C ask why the painting was ^F deadly

^C Nobody could pick up my sign

'Cept for the ^F cook, she was always ^C friendly

But she'd ^F only ask, "What's on your ^C mind?"

Bridge:

She'd ^F say that especially when it was ^C raining

^C I'd say ^{G7} "Oh, I don't ^F know" ^C

But then she'd ^F press and I'd say, "You see that ^C painting?"

Do you think it's been done by ^C Van Gogh?"

^C The cook she said call her ^{G7} Maria ^F ^C

She'd always ^F point for the same boy to come ^C forth

Saying, "He ^F trades cattle, it's his own ^C idea

And he ^F also makes trips to the ^C North

Bridge:

Have you ^{Am} ever seen his ^{Em} naked calf bleed?"

^C I'd say, "Oh no, why does it ^{Am} show?"

Then she'd ^C whisper in my ear that he's a ^{Csus4} half-breed ^C

And I'd ^F say, "Fine, but can he ^{G7} paint like ^C Van Gogh?"

I can't ^C remember his ^F name he never ^{G7} gave it

But I ^F always figured he could ^{G7} go home ^C

Til when he'd ^F gave me his card and said, "Save ^C it"

I could ^{Am} see by his ^F eyes he was ^C alone

Bridge:

But it was ^{Am} sad how his ^{Em} four leaf clover

^C Drawn on his ^{Am} calling card showed

That it was ^C given back to him a-many ^{Csus4} times ^C over

^{Am}

^C

And it most definitely was not done by Van Gogh.

It was either she or the maid just to please me
 Though I sensed she could not understand
 And she made a thing out of it by saying, "Go easy
 He's a straight, but he's a very crooked straight man."

Bridge:

And I'd say, "Does the girl in the calendar doubt it?
 And by the way is it Marilyn Monroe?"
 But she'd just get salty and say, "Why you wanna know about it?"
 And I'd say, "I was just wondering if she ever sat for Van Gogh."

It was either her or the straight man who introduced me...

It was either her or the straight man who introduced me
 To Jeanette, Camilla's friend
 Who later on falsely accused me
 Of stealing her locket and pen

Bridge:

When I said "I don't have the locket"
 She said "You steal pictures of everybody's mother I know"
 And I said "There's no locket
 No picture of any mother I would pocket
 Unless it's been done by Van Gogh."

Camilla's house stood on the outskirts
 How strange to see the chandeliers destroyed...