



A Club for Kids Who Love Books

CHASING VERMEER

About *Chasing Vermeer*

VERMEER FAST FACTS

On a Personal Note

- Johannes Vermeer (born 1632, died 1675) lived all his life in the city of Delft in the Netherlands.
- Johannes was known as Jan for short.
- Vermeer had 11 children.
- When Vermeer died, he left his family in great debt.

As an Artist

- Vermeer is often praised for his careful compositions, transparent colors, and brilliant use of light.
- His art was not well-known outside of Delft during his lifetime.
- Most of Vermeer's paintings have the same setting: his parents' home, which he inherited.
- In the 1660s, Vermeer painted pearls in two layers: first, he painted them in gray, and then he added a thick brushstroke on top to make them look like they were shining in the light.
- It's believed that Vermeer experimented with a camera obscura, a simple photo recording device, to help him study composition and light.
- By passing off his forgeries as real Vermeer works, Han Van Meegeren, an infamous Vermeer forger, made it even more difficult to solve the mysteries of Vermeer's paintings.



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