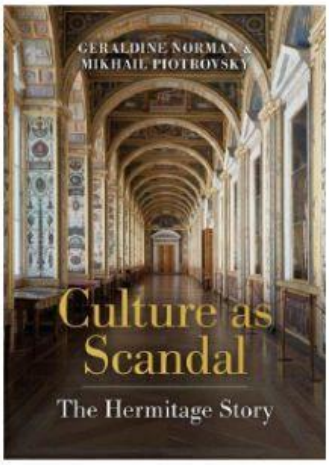
Forgers&Forgeries 3

You are about to listen to a bunch of snippets from the BBC World Service podcast Witness. Among the speakers, there is Eric Hebborn himself, and Geraldine Norman, who is an expert on fake art.





1.Read the lines. Listen to the snippets, then mark each line EH for Eric Hebborn, GN for Geraldine Norman, MZ for Mimika (?) Zsalt, N – for BBC News, P for the Presenter.

___ A nice little drawing, because you see the boy holding up the dog, in an affectionate kind of way, from one view.

___ Art is neglected. Nobody's studying it really with a kind of honesty that is necessary.

___ Some of them were better than artist himself.

___ An English artist Eric Hebborn claims he's faked to more than a thousand of old master drawings and that many of them have found their way into major art collections all over the world.

___ The expert who investigated the colour of the drawings couldn't actually find any definitive mistakes by scientific means.

___ I admire him! I think he's kinda wonderful!

___ It's very hard to convince people nowadays when you turn up with a Rembrandt or Michelangelo or Leonardo.

___ I don't know any other faker who spread so widely and got his drawings into the greatest galleries.



___ It looks as if it was drawn from life.

__ Many people think that I'm an old crook.

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___ He argued that he'd kept on the right side of the law.

___ He loved to tell a story. He loved to fool experts.

___ No one would have ever given a knighthood for being Rembrandt.

___ It's absolutely crucial if you are going to do a fake drawing, to do it on paper of the right period.

The Presenter _____	BBC News _____
Eric Hebborn 1. _____	2. _____
Mimika Zsalt 1. _____	2. _____
Geraldine Norman 1. _____	2._____

Back to Hidden Brain podcast.

2. Listen to the snippet and fill the gaps with one or two words _____

However, there's a caveat here because the revenge is a _____ until you're caught.

And a lot of these forgers have either _____ made a mistake, perhaps _____ , in order to get caught or quite _____ outed themselves, as in the case of Eric Hebborn, who published a memoir and a how-to manual for future forgers.

The reason is that they have to enjoy this revenge entirely in private until somebody discovers them.

But the moment they are discovered, then all of a sudden, they are shown as a great artist, and they have _____ the experts who they were out to shame when they set out.

This is the completion and self-actualization is only when they're _____ .

A lot of these forgers actually inserted what one forger by the name of Tom Keating called _____ .

And these are intentionally inserted anachronisms that could be used if the forger chooses to _____ that the work is a forgery, even if no one would _____ believe him.

3. Listen to the snippet once _____. Why are forgers quite happy to be caught?

Try to drag and drop the chunks into the correct places. Listen again and check.

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a cocktail party go to jail get very low sentences no fear of

as a prankster non-threatening head straight over

Dickensian characters a Ponzi schemer

One of the issues here and the reason that forgers are quite happy to be caught in the end is that forgers tend to _____. Some of them don't even _____ at all. From a public perspective, there is _____ art forgers. If you go to _____ and I whispered to you that this intriguing looking gentleman in the corner is _____ , right, you would say, I don't want anything to do with him. However, if I say he's an art forger, you'd be intrigued. You'd probably _____ and start chatting. They're _____ , they're not scary, and there's something to admire in them. And they're these wonderful _____ who - you have a sense of them more _____ than a real criminal.

4. Listen to the clip once, what were two time bombs Lothar Malskat inserted intentionally into frescoes? _____.



Listen again and decide whether the statements are true (T) or false (F).

1. Lothar Malskat was a restorer of medieval frescoes just after the First World War. ___

2. He was commissioned to restore frescoes in a church that had been damaged by Allied bombs. ___



3. The frescoes were so badly destroyed there was nothing he could do, but the photographs in the archives showed enough to reproduce it. _

4. When the new frescoes were revealed, it was a big national sensation. ___

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5. The German government printed 4 billion postage stamps with a detail from the frescoes on it. ___

6. Lothar Malskat wanted to get credit for what he had done. And nobody believed him. ___

7. The artists friend sued him so that he could have the public forum of a courtroom in which to argue his case that he was the artist of these frescoes. ___

8. It's a very weird case in legal history. And still, nobody believed him until he pointed out two time bombs that he had inserted intentionally in case no one believed him. ___

Speaking of weird cases in legal history, Noah Charney can definitely tell us more.

5. First, unjumble the questions. Then watch the TED talk by Noah Charney till 02:50 and answer them.

1. /depend on/the life/ what did/ in this 1947 case/of this forger/?

_____ ?

2. /make fools/ why did / set out to/ Han van Meegeren/ of his detractors?

_____ ?

3. /he choose/what/ for his deception /artist did/?

_____ ?

4. /artist famed /what was / for/that 17th century/?

_____ ?

5. / perfect /how/ the forger / his art/ long did/?

_____?

6. /his work /how/ age/ did the forger/?

_____ ?

7. /his research/ what did/ know from/ van Meegeren /?

_____?

8. was /who/ at that time /the leading authority/ on Vermeer /?

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_____ ?

9. / to be /declare/ the fake/ what did Bredius/?

_____?

10. / in today's money / much was/ "The Supper at Emmaus"/ how/?

_____?

6. Watch the rest of the video and put the passages in order.

____ Moved to protect his reputation, Bredius defended the painting's authenticity. With few options left, van Meegeren set to work on a "new" Vermeer.



____ Van Meegeren obliged, selling him an alleged early Vermeer painting titled "Christ with the Adulteress."

____ When the Nazis occupied Holland during the Second World War, Hermann Göring, one of Hitler's top generals, sought to add a Vermeer to his collection of artwork looted from all over Europe.

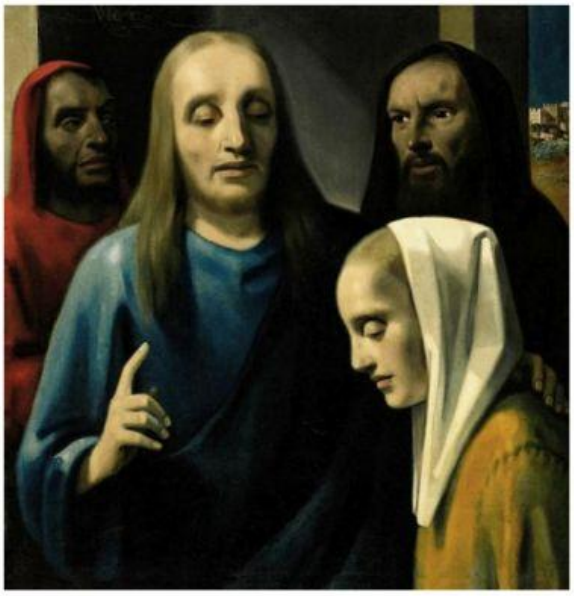
____ When he presented the fake to the court, they finally believed him. He was acquitted for collaborating with the Nazis— and sentenced to a year imprisonment for fraud.

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____ To prove the painting wasn't a national treasure, he explained step-by-step how he had forged it. But he faced an unexpected obstacle— the very expert who had enabled his scam.

____ The success prompted van Meegeren to forge and sell more works through various art dealers. As unbelievable as it may sound, the art world continued to believe in their authenticity.

____ The same canvases went from revered classics to despised forgeries to works of art respected for the skill and notoriety of the forger.



____ As the tide of the war turned, so did van Meegeren's luck. Following the Allied victory, he was arrested for delivering a priceless piece of Dutch heritage to the Nazis— an act of treasonous collaboration punishable by death.



____ Thanks to this newfound notoriety, his works became valuable in their own right— so much so that they were later forged in turn by his own son.

____ Though there's evidence that van Meegeren did, in fact, collaborate with the Nazis, he managed to convince the public that he had tricked Göring on purpose, transforming his image into that of a folk hero who had swindled the Nazis.

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