



The Loss of Virginity

Date

1890-1891

Primary Maker

Paul Gauguin

Medium

Oil on canvas

Description

This is an oil on canvas painting. Lying deathlike on the ground, a naked maiden holds a plucked flower (an iris?), a traditional symbol of lost innocence. With her left arm she embraces an evil-eyed fox, who precipitates her downfall with a paw upon her heart. In the background, composed of broad fields color with dark outlines, peasants, possibly part of a wedding party walk along a narrow path.

Dimensions

35 1/4 × 51 1/4 in. (89.5 × 130.2 cm) Overall, Frame: 46 × 61 1/2 × 3 in. (116.8 × 156.2 × 7.6 cm)