Vincent van Gogh was a Dutch post-impressionist painter who is widely regarded as one of the greatest artists of all time. He was born on March 30, 1853, in Zundert, Netherlands, and died on July 29, 1890, in Auvers-sur-Oise, France.

Van Gogh's paintings are known for their vibrant colors, expressive brushstrokes, and emotional intensity. He painted a wide range of subjects, including landscapes, portraits, and still lifes. Some of his most famous paintings include "The Starry Night," "Sunflowers," and "Irises."

Van Gogh struggled with mental illness throughout his life. He suffered from depression, anxiety, and hallucinations. He was hospitalized several times, and he eventually committed suicide at the age of 37.

Van Gogh was a prolific artist, producing over 900 paintings and 1100 drawings in just ten years. He was also a prolific writer, leaving behind over 800 letters to his brother Theo, who was his biggest supporter and confidante.

Van Gogh's early paintings were dark and somber, but his style began to evolve in the 1880s. He adopted a lighter palette and began to experiment with different brushstrokes. He also began to focus on painting the natural world around him, particularly landscapes and sunflowers.

In 1886, Van Gogh moved to Paris to be closer to his brother Theo and the other artists who were shaping the Impressionist movement. He was deeply impressed by the work of Impressionist painters such as Claude Monet and Edgar Degas, and he began to incorporate some of their techniques into his own work.

In 1888, Van Gogh moved to Arles in the south of France. He was drawn to the region's bright sunlight and vibrant colors. During his time in Arles, he painted some of his most famous works, including "The Starry Night," "Sunflowers," and "Irises."

Van Gogh's mental health deteriorated in Arles, and he was hospitalized several times. In December 1888, he had a famous psychotic episode in which he cut off part of his ear.

In 1889, Van Gogh voluntarily admitted himself to the Saint-Paul-de-Mausole asylum in Saint-Rémy-de-Provence. He continued to paint while he was at the asylum, and he produced some of his most beautiful and moving works during this time.

In May 1890, Van Gogh was discharged from the asylum and moved to Auvers-sur-Oise, a village north of Paris. He continued to paint prolifically in Auvers, but he also became increasingly depressed and isolated. On July 27, 1890, he shot himself in the chest. He died two days later.