Write a short summary of the article, (5-6 sentences) in which you are sure to address: both the evidence Garrard presents that this painting is by a female artist, and the argument Garrard constructs for the way that the treatment of the subject is empowering for Gentileschi.

(Tellingly, many more depictuions of Susanna and the Elders exist than of either the Judgement of Daniel or the Stroning of the Elders.) Both the patristic and the artistic conceptions of Susanna, whether as an Eve triumphant over her own impulses or as a volumptous sexy object who may not bother resist, are linked by the same erroneous assumption: that Susanna’s dilemma was whether or not to give in to her sexual instincts. (Garrard, 153.)

The simple fact that Artesmisia Gentileschi was female is sufficient to explain her uniquely sympathetic treatment of the Susanna theme.

He (Agostino Tassi) was subsequently acquitted, while Artemisia, whose testimony was put to the test of torture by thumbscrew, quired a reputation as a licentious woman that has persisted to this day. (Garrard, 163.)

…but

In no other version of the subject known to me are the Elders shown whispering to one another.

Susanna and the Elders is a narrative from the Book of Daniel, the story illustrates the Elders lustful desires while defending Susanna’s innocents. In the Book of Daniel, the two Elders attempt to blackmail Susanna into having sex with them or else they will accuse her of adultery. A young Daniel reveals the truth when cross examining the Elders. This story and many artists depictions center “Both the patristic and the artistic conceptions of Susanna, whether as an Eve triumphant over her own impulses or as a voluptuous sexy object who may not bother resist, are linked by the same erroneous assumption: that Susanna’s dilemma was whether or not to give in to her sexual instincts. (Garrard, 153.)” Gentileschi’s Susanna and the Elders created controversy over who the original artist might have been, seeing how Gentileschi’s age at the time was supposedly much too young for such a sophisticated artwork. Garrard argued that Gentileschi’s depiction must be her own due to “The simple fact that Artesmisia Gentileschi was female is sufficient to explain her uniquely sympathetic treatment of the Susanna theme. “(Garrard, 158.) Garrard argues Gentileschi’s power within this image comes from her personal connection “…this particular picture corresponds as well in its emphasis upon the girl’s personal anguish, and in certain telling details. (Garrard, 163.)