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The piece of art that I took a look at is Louis Gueymard (1822–1880) as Robert. Diable is located in the Metropolitan Museum of Art in gallery 809, the creator of this art piece was a French Painter named Gustave Courbet, the art piece itself is about the size of a large chalkboard you might see in the lecture hall or classroom in a school that uses one if you were to flip it sideways. The art piece from my knowledge seems to be painted art piece on a canvas it is currently unknown to me what kind of paint was used to make it but the painting depicts a guy dressed in chainmail-like armor with a red tunic or clothing on, where in one hand he holds a sword and on the other, he holds a cup. In the background to the left side of the painting we see 2 men in the background behind a table both also wearing chain mail but also helmets, this might mean they are either soldiers or servants of this location, and something to add is that one is also holding an empty cup and if we take a look down we see dice on the table so it seems they are playing a game, on the right we have a guy wearing a very luxury type of clothing with what looks like gems or jewels adorned on it and the fancy looking sword making him a possible noble. This whole depiction makes me chuckle a little for some reason, maybe it's because the guy in red seems too relaxed and uninterested in the game that is currently playing and is just looking back at something else while he rolls a dice in a very relaxed motion. Another interesting thing to note is that this painting might have been for people who were into art like operas and art in general based on the time it was made and maybe it is a way to better record certain people and things in the art back in the day, also since this painting feels very real and grounded for

some reason maybe it was made with the intended purpose of being a realistic painting of something rather than it being abstract or based off myths.

Most of the time in the different kinds of arts we would usually find characters or things that are considered unnatural or unrealistic with characters even being portrayed very dramatically in various forms of art. But after looking at the piece of art called Louis Gueymard as Robert Diable located in the metropolitan museum of art the overall focus seems to be around Louis Gueymard playing his role as Robert Diable in a certain part of the operas. Rather than having a very dramatic display or depiction of the scene and its character the overall painting feels less dramatized in a way and looks very real in a way, so with this in mind what is this painting trying to show us. Well it seems that the painting is trying to act as a sort of medium to ground the dramatic theatrics we would tend to see in operas since depiction of the character here feels like we are looking at an actual real person and not a fictional one in an opera. In this paper I will provide details on how I came to this interpretation of this painting by going through various elements of the painting such as the pose, and the colors/lighting used in the painting.

To start off one of the most noticeable things that can be noted just by taking looking at the painting is the pose that Louis Gueymard has in the painting. We see Louis Gueymard here in a full costume playing the role of Robert Diable sitting or leaning upright on a table with his leg also braced up on the table slightly, along with this there is also a dice cup in his right hand while his left hand is holding on to his sword while he tilts his head slightly to the right looking away from the table where a game seems to be taking place with two other people who could be guards or servants hunch over behind the . Now his overall body language is very relaxed and controlled with even his facial expression displaying a very neutral look to it as if whatever is happening in the moment is nothing serious for him to look at. Now these details are important

because usually in operas we would tend to see dramatic movements or even expressions from characters but by posing the character in a very calm and collective matter it adds a sense of realistic feeling to the overall picture when viewing it instead of leaning towards a dramatic depiction of the scene since this could possibly be something a person might actually do in out in the world.

Another important element that adds to the grounded feeling of the painting is coloring and lighting used. Right off the bat if you were to first take a look at the painting your eye might be drawn to the bright color of red painted on Louis Gueymard costume. If you take a closer look you would see some brightly colored gold detailing on the end of his costume as well. Around him we see a use of darker colors which all blend into the background of the painting causing whatever around him to look more shadowy and dark making the viewer pay more attention to him on their first glance. Now this use of color and lighting allows for Louis Gueymard not to be depicted in a stage filled with light making it feel more natural to look at adding a sense that we are only looking at what is being shown to us in this scene and outside factors doesn't play a role in the painting keeping the concentration on this scene and it only.

Overall the painting of Louis Gueymard as Robert Diable does more than just showing a depiction of a scene from an opera and its characters, it is meant to show us a perspective of these kinds of arts in a matter that feels more natural and focused on what is being seen in this depiction rather than them being about opera happening which is shown through the very subtle use of lighting to better immerse the viewer and keep the main focus of the painting. While the posing of Robert Diable played by Louis Gueymard allows for a very natural look and a feeling that a person could be making a similar pose in the real world which doesn't break the focus of the painting.