

# A Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte

*by* Jerry Ratch

A woman is fishing in the Seine at the far left  
of the painting, while time is suspended and light  
remains. One man plays a trumpet. A half dozen  
people sit or walk under parasols. Couples stroll  
and children run or sit or stand beside their  
parents. A woman on the lawn is knitting  
while she sits with her gentleman. A black dog  
sniffs. The tall couple in the right foreground  
stroll in perfect and symmetric profile in full Sunday  
attire with cane and parasol. She walks her monkey  
There is a flower in her hat, and in her gentleman's lapel  
While in the background, a couple is walking away  
and a woman caresses her man  
as he bends toward her. And on the river that is full  
of reflection, white sails, long boats  
And in the left foreground, a sportsman or worker  
in cap and sleeveless orange shirt, smokes his pipe  
looking out at the river, as the sunlight  
on the Island of La Grande Jatte  
begins to creep up his leg made of dots

