

# The Canoeist's Luncheon. Renoir

*by* Jerry Ratch

The artist leans back in his chair, smoking a cigarette  
after lunch, looking away from the table toward the right  
He is dressed in white, and he's practically stretched out  
his entire length, to relax after rowing the boat all  
morning. Sunlight filters through the trellis of leaves  
above, and the trellis of the pavilion, speckled with red  
flowers around them. Perhaps nasturtiums  
He holds his cigarette in the air, with his elbow on the  
table, his other arm spread out over the back of the chair  
We see the back of a woman seated at the table, dressed in  
dark blue, and the bearded face of another friend, with a  
mild, pleased expression, whose yellow shirt and coat are  
saturated with the diffuse yellow light, filtering through  
Behind this the river, a few boats  
Another crew rowing. A woman out there too  
As in a Japanese print, partly seen through the  
criss-crossed lattice-work of the pavilion

The Canoeists' Luncheon by Pierre-Auguste Renoir

