CLASSICS LIBRARY · STORY MAP

Lives of the Most Eminent Painters, Sculptors and Architects (Volume 1)

Giorgio Vasari · *1550; 2nd ed. 1568 · Gaston du C. de Vere*

It is now time to come to the Life of Giovanni Cimabue, and even as he gave the first beginning to the new method of drawing and painting, so it is just and expedient that he should give it to the Lives. Gaston du C. de Vere's English, 1912–14. This hosted file is Volume 1 only (Cimabue to Agnolo Gaddi), of a ten-volume set, PG #25326. For grades 9–12. Quote the lives, not only the preface. Do not pretend the file is the complete Lives.

THE CENTRAL QUESTION

How should a school read this file as what it is —Gaston du C. de Vere's Volume 1 only, from Cimabue to Agnolo Gaddi, of a ten-volume Lives—beginning where Vasari says it is time to come to Giovanni Cimabue?

"it is now time to come to the Life of Giovanni Cimabue, and even as he"
Opening of the Life of Giovanni Cimabue

The title page of this hosted English is a ten-volume de Vere, 1912–14; the file is Volume 1, Cimabue to Agnolo Gaddi, Project Gutenberg #25326, about a single volume's length. Quote the lives, not only the long preface that precedes them. Vasari comes to Giovanni Cimabue, who gave the first beginning to the new method of drawing and painting, and so, he says, should give it to the Lives. He will do his utmost to observe the order of their manners rather than that of time, and in describing the forms and features of the craftsmen he will be brief. Teach that beginning, for grades 9–12. Do not pretend this file is the complete Lives. Name de Vere, and Volume 1.

KEY CHARACTERS

Giorgio Vasari
Who undertakes the Lives, and places Cimabue first because he gave the first beginning to a new method

Giovanni Cimabue
The first life in this volume, named as the beginning of the new method of drawing and painting

The craftsmen of Volume 1, through Agnolo Gaddi
Who follow in this file, and are not taught entire by one map

Gaston du C. de Vere
The translator of this ten-volume English; this file is Volume 1 only

HOW TO BEGIN THIS VOLUME 1

> *"it is now time to come to the Life of Giovanni Cimabue, and even as he"*
> Life of Cimabue

> *"and even as he gave the first beginning to the new method of drawing and painting, so it is just and expedient that he should give it to the Lives, in which I"*
> Life of Cimabue

Grades 9–12
Read the full text free at classicslaunch.org.

01

It Is Time to Come to Cimabue

OPENING OF THE LIFE OF GIOVANNI CIMABUE

It is now time to come to the Life of Giovanni Cimabue. After preface and front matter, the first life is named.

- Quote this opening of the life, not only the preface to the Lives.
- 9–12.
- De Vere's English.
- Volume 1 only.

> *"it is now time to come to the Life of Giovanni Cimabue, and even as he"*
> Opening of the Life of Giovanni Cimabue

02

The First Beginning of a New Method

OPENING OF THE LIFE OF GIOVANNI CIMABUE

Even as he gave the first beginning to the new method of drawing and painting, so it is just and expedient that he should give it to the Lives. Cimabue is placed first for a reason Vasari names.

- Keep "new method of drawing and painting."
- 9–12.
- A beginning of manners, as he will say, not only of a date.
- Quote this English.

> *"and even as he gave the first beginning to the new method of drawing and painting, so it is just and expedient that he should give it to the Lives, in which I"*
> Opening of the Life of Giovanni Cimabue

03

The Order of Manners, Rather than Time

OPENING OF THE LIFE OF GIOVANNI CIMABUE

In which I will do my utmost to observe, the most that I can, the order of their manners rather than that of time. The book's order is his, and announced.

- Keep "order of their manners rather than that of time."
- 9–12.
- Do not rearrange the volume silently.
- Volume 1 still has a stated method.

> *"in which I will do my utmost to observe, the most that I can, the order of their manners rather than that of time. And"*
> Opening of the Life of Giovanni Cimabue

04

I Will Be Brief

OPENING OF THE LIFE OF GIOVANNI CIMABUE

And in describing the forms and features of the craftsmen I will be brief. The lives will describe makers, and he promises brevity in the visible form.

- Keep "forms and features of the craftsmen."
- 9–12.
- Craftsmen, not a later abstract of "art" only.
- Quote Vasari, in de Vere.

> *"And in describing the forms and features of the craftsmen I will be brief"*
> Opening of the Life of Giovanni Cimabue

05

Volume 1 Only, of a Ten-Volume de Vere

THE EDITION

Project Gutenberg #25326 is Gaston du C. de Vere's English, Macmillan and the Medici Society, 1912–14. The hosted file is Volume 1 only, Cimabue to Agnolo Gaddi, of a ten-volume set. Name the limit. For grades 9–12. Quote the lives, not only the preface. One map cannot teach even this volume entire, and must not claim the later volumes.

- Name de Vere, Volume 1, and the span Cimabue to Agnolo Gaddi.
- Do not call this the complete Lives.
- 9–12.
- A new method, and particular craftsmen.

> *"it is now time to come to the Life of Giovanni Cimabue, and even as he"*
> Opening of the Life of Giovanni Cimabue

A new method, begun with Cimabue | The order of manners, not only of time | Craftsmen, named and described | Volume 1 only, honestly limited | Beauty in drawing and painting

What to watch for as you read

GRADES 9–12

1. This hosted file is de Vere's Volume 1 only, Cimabue to Agnolo Gaddi, of a ten-volume set (1912–14), PG #25326. Do not call it the complete Lives.
2. After a long preface, Vasari says it is time to come to Giovanni Cimabue, who gave the first beginning to the new method of drawing and painting.
3. He will observe the order of their manners rather than that of time, and will be brief in describing forms and features.
4. For grades 9–12. Quote the lives, not only the preface. Name de Vere, and the limit of the file.

Quotations are verbatim from the Gaston du C. de Vere, Project Gutenberg #25326, the public-domain text hosted at classicslaunch.org/works/vasari-lives-of-the-artists/. Citations give book and chapter (or canto and line) so every line can be checked.