

Artist: Pieter Bruegel

Title: Dutch Proverbs

Date: 1559 AD/CE

Location: Netherlands

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Netherlandish\\_Proverbs](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Netherlandish_Proverbs)

<http://www.visual-arts-cork.com/famous-paintings/netherlandish-proverbs.htm>

<https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/renaissance-reformation/northern/antwerp-bruges/v/pieter-bruegel-the-elder-the-dutch-proverbs-1559>

This painting was originally called *The Blue Hood/Cloak* or *The Folly of the World*, indicating that the artist's intention was not simply to illustrate traditional sayings but rather to illustrate the universal stupidity of man. The proverbs in question are of two types: those which turn reason on its head, thus demonstrating the absurdity of much of our behavior; and more serious proverbs illustrating the dangers of folly, which leads to sin. Bruegel offers us a topsy-turvy world, with the Devil seen in the center of the painting hearing confession. Both the artist and his son, Pieter Bruegel the Younger, made several copies of *Netherlandish Proverbs*, but not all versions show exactly the same proverbs.

