

My favourite picture

We asked readers to send us their favourite pictures and tell us about them. Here are the ones we liked the most.



Tiger in a Tropical Storm (Surprised!) by Henri Rousseau

A This picture is in my bedroom, on the wall opposite my bed. I bought it from the National Gallery in London, where you can see the original painting.

I **adore** the colours in it – there are beautiful light and dark greens, and some **lovely** rich, rich reds. The leaves and plants have **great** shapes too. You can see that the wind is blowing very hard – I feel like I can almost hear it, and the sound of the raindrops falling on the leaves. It really gives you the feeling of what it's like to be in a storm in the jungle.

And of course, I love the tiger! You almost don't notice him at first – he's hiding among the plants. There's just been a bolt of lightning, so there's probably thunder too, and the tiger is absolutely **terrified!** His face is **wonderful** – he looks nearly as **frightened** as my cat when there's a big storm!



I like having this picture in my bedroom. My life is **hard** at the moment, and I often wake up in the middle of the night and worry about things. I tell myself I'm stupid, and that I shouldn't be so **afraid** of life. But sometimes it's difficult to go back to sleep again and I put the light on, and I see the tiger. And then I think 'Well, if even a big fierce tiger is scared sometimes, it's OK for me to feel like that too!'

Lucy Davidson



Kliffküste by **Mat Hennek**

B This photograph is on the wall above the fireplace in my living room. I bought it in an art gallery in Berlin.

I think it's the most **amazing** photo I've ever seen. It's hard to believe it's a photograph – it looks like a painting.

It's of a wood in northern Germany. I **love** the light in it. It seems like an early morning in spring – the sunlight is coming in from the left, making long shadows. It's very bright in the left of the picture – it looks **beautiful**, and I'd like to go for a walk in that part of the wood. On the right, the light doesn't reach into the back of the wood – it's much



darker and more mysterious. It makes me think of fairy tales, like Hansel and Gretel, where children get lost in the woods. I don't want to go for a walk in that part of the wood – I start to feel **scared** just looking at it!

I really like the shapes of the trees – they're **fascinating**. They're very straight and simple on the right, and then the shapes get much more interesting as you go to the left. The ones at the edge of the picture are crazy!

I look at this photo every day, but I never get tired of it. I sometimes stand in front of it and notice what mood I'm in. Do I feel like I'm in the bright part of the wood, or in the darker part, or somewhere in between?

Greg Hayman



Girls under trees by **August Macke**

C A friend gave me this picture as a present. I have it in my kitchen, and it's also the screen saver on my computer.

It's the colours in it that I **enjoy** the most – the mix of bright blues, reds, greens, and yellows, with the white in between them. It's so gorgeous! And I like the fact that you can't see the faces of the people, and things aren't very clear. It's like



a photo that's a bit **out of focus**, but in a way that makes it more beautiful.

The girls are wearing their best clothes, and enjoying being outside on a **bright** and sunny summer's day. I imagine it's a Sunday afternoon, I don't know why. And it's nice that they're all girls – it seems like they're having a good time without any boys around! It's so full of life and happiness, and it makes me feel good when I look at it.

But I can also feel sad sometimes when I see it, because of what I've learnt about the painter. August Macke was one of the most talented German artists of the early 20th century. He was young, and he was experimenting with new styles of painting. He painted this in 1914, not long before going to fight in the First World War, where he died in September of that year, aged 27. That's **awful**, and this painting shows better than anything what a terrible waste of life war is.

Sandra Richard