

The Works of Frida Kahlo

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Contents

Introduction	4
Early Life	8
Becoming an Artist	13
Career as an Artist	20
Reading Quiz	26
New Words	27
Notes	29
Art Timeline	30



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Introduction

Frida Kahlo didn't begin painting until 1925, when she was 18. She started painting while recovering from a bus accident. Kahlo was very badly injured in this tragic accident.



↑ A photograph of Kahlo in 1932

A bus after an accident





↖ Kahlo had many operations throughout her life because of the bus accident.

Kahlo had to stay in the hospital for several weeks. She also had to wear a full-body cast for three months. She had many operations throughout her lifetime. As a result of the accident, she lived with pain for the rest of her life.



↖ A cast helps broken bones heal.



Kahlo's bed in her old bedroom



Self-portrait by Kahlo (1941)

Kahlo had to stay in bed while recovering from the bus accident. She started painting to help time pass. Kahlo's parents encouraged her to paint while she recovered. They gave her brushes and paints to work with. They made her a special easel to paint in bed. They even put a mirror above her bed so she could see her reflection. This is how she was able to paint self-portraits.

Over the next three decades, Kahlo produced about 200 paintings. Her paintings are well known for their themes of identity, the human body, and death.

Self-Portrait with Thorn Necklace and Hummingbird by Kahlo (c.1940)—Identity refers to the character of someone and how they identify or view themselves.

