

# CONVERSATIONS IN SCULPTURE: STORY

SUGGESTED AGE RANGE: 3RD–12TH

Reflect on how artists represent human stories by exploring *Number 26 and Number 25* by Hanneke Beaumont. Use the figures in this sculpture to inspire a story of your own.

## MATERIALS

Pencil and paper for recording notes and reflections

[Conversations in Sculpture: Story Virtual Tour](#)

If doing the Narrative Art extension activity:

Clay or poseable dolls or action figures

Phone or camera

## VOCABULARY

**Narrative Art:** art that tells a story.

## DIRECTIONS

**Explore** *Number 26 and Number 25* using the [Conversations in Sculpture: Story Virtual Tour](#) and record your observations below. Click and drag on the 360 photo to see the sculptures from different angles. Click on the circle icons to see detail images.

Look closely at the two figures in this sculpture. Describe...

...the way they are sitting:

...their faces:

...their clothing:



Hanneke Beaumont. *Number 26 and Number 25*, 1995–1996. Bronze. Photo by William Herbert.

What is going on in this sculpture? What do you think these figures are doing?

Who do you imagine these figures are? How do you think they know one another?

What do you think they were doing before this? What will they do next?

Artist Hanneke Beaumont wants to create figures that are universal, meaning that they could represent anyone. By sculpting figures that don't look like anyone in particular and placing them in everyday poses, the artist hopes viewers will imagine their own narratives.



**Create your own story about what is happening in this sculpture.** Look carefully at the figures and imagine who they are, where they came from and what they are doing. Write your story or tell it to a family member. Your story should have a beginning, middle and end.

You can use the sentence starters below to help you get started.

### **Beginning**

Once upon a time \_\_\_\_\_

Long ago \_\_\_\_\_

It was \_\_\_\_\_

On (Tuesday, my birthday, Halloween, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

One day \_\_\_\_\_

### **Middle**

After that, \_\_\_\_\_

Later on, \_\_\_\_\_

It also \_\_\_\_\_

Then (they, we, I) \_\_\_\_\_

(I, they, we) thought that \_\_\_\_\_

### **End**

In the end, \_\_\_\_\_

Finally, \_\_\_\_\_

Eventually, \_\_\_\_\_

It was \_\_\_\_\_

Next time \_\_\_\_\_

## EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

### Create Something: Narrative Art (Visual Arts, 3rd–12th)

Use clay to sculpt figures or find poseable dolls or action figures in your house that you can arrange to create a story. Think about the way that your figures are posed. How are they interacting with one another? What are they doing? Take a picture of your story and share it with someone in your home. What do they think is going on in your picture?

### Write About It: Dialogue (Language Arts, 3rd–12th)

The figures in *Number 26* and *Number 25* are seated across from each other as if speaking together. What are they saying? Imagine a conversation between these two figures. Fill in the speech bubbles, then add more of your own.



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