This watercolor shows the Snowy Egret, a beautiful bird, being killed for its feathers, which were then sent off to fashion centers in Paris, New York, and London to be placed in women's hats. In the late 19th century and early 20th century, snowy egret plumes were very popular on hats and these birds were hunted to near extinction. In this painting we also see the pollution of the water, from distant oil rigs, which contaminates the water-life that we eat.

It is Colescott's mocking sense of humor in dealing with subjects like greed, fashion, and social ambition that has become his trademark.

Who's the person in the tree? He has a gun and a watercolor set. It is JJ Audubon, a famous artist who painted birds of North America in the mid 1800s. He killed birds to study them.