

Tragic Prelude

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Curry's interpretation of John Brown and the antislavery movement in Kansas Territory before the Civil War, is considered one of his best murals. Rich in symbolism, the painting from the Kansas state capitol depicts John Brown as an important, albeit fanatic man who would kill for his beliefs. In 1859 Brown was hanged for treason after leading a raid on the federal arsenal at Harpers Ferry, Virginia.



Citation (Chicago Style):

Curry, John Steuart. "Tragic Prelude." c. 1938–1940. Oil on canvas. Topeka, Kan. Kansas Capitol Building. <https://www.kshs.org/p/kansas-state-capitol-online-tour-tragic-prelude/1...>

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