

YOUNG ILLUSTRATOR CLASSICS

Illustration Drawing Briefs

Little Women

by Louisa May Alcott

Chapter VII · Amy's Valley of Humiliation

1 Full-Page LW-CH7-FP-01	2 Half-Page LW-CH7-HP-02 · LW-CH7-HP-03
5 Corner Ornaments LW-CH7-CO-04 through LW-CH7-CO-08	8 Total Briefs Chapter VII · Amy's Valley of Humiliation

youngillustratorclassics.com

Technical Specifications — Required for All Submissions

Canvas sizes at 300 DPI (physical art: scan at 600 DPI)

Full page	2700 × 3450 px · 300 DPI	<i>Art must fill edge to edge · include 0.25" bleed on all sides</i>
Half page	2250 × 1425 px · 300 DPI	<i>No bleed needed · sits within text column</i>
Corner ornament	1200 × 1200 px · 300 DPI	<i>PNG with transparent background · no white fill</i>

Accepted file formats

TIFF, PNG, or high-quality JPG (quality 10+)
PSD (Photoshop) also accepted for digital work
Corner ornaments: PNG only (transparent background)

All media welcome

Pencil, ink, watercolor, acrylic, pastel
Digital (Procreate, Photoshop, Illustrator)
Mixed media and collage

Full-Page Illustration

Illustration ID: LW-CH7-FP-01 · Full Page · 2700 × 3450 px

Amy Before Mr. Davis — Holding Out Her Hand

WHAT IS HAPPENING?

The schoolroom. Mr. Davis has called Amy to the front. She throws her head back, sets her teeth, and holds out her hand — too proud to beg or cry. She will not flinch. The rows of fifty watching girls fill the hall behind her.

Setting The schoolroom — the platform, rows of girls watching, Mr. Davis at his desk	Time of day Morning school	Mood Public humiliation — dignity maintained at terrible cost	Indoor / outdoor Indoors — the schoolroom
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CHARACTERS

Amy March, 12: pale face, yellow hair, head thrown back, teeth set. Her hand held out. Too proud to cry or beseech.

Mr. Davis: 'a nervous gentleman with a tyrannical temper.' The ferrule in his hand.

MOOD & FEELING

Public humiliation, dignity maintained. Fifty pairs of eyes. Amy's solitude complete. She bears it without flinching.

Schoolroom morning light — flat, institutional, unforgiving.	Amy's pale face and yellow hair against the dark school setting.
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MUST INCLUDE ✓ Amy's raised hand and thrown-back head — the defiant posture ✓ Her face: proud, set, not showing the tears underneath ✓ Mr. Davis with the ferrule ✓ The rows of watching girls in the background	MUST AVOID ✗ Do not make Amy look broken — she bears it without flinching ✗ Do not make Amy look tearful — she is too proud to cry or beseech
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YOUR CREATIVE FREEDOM

Whether we see Amy's face or the watching girls' faces — both are valid.

Full page	2700 × 3450 px · 300 DPI · with 0.25" bleed	<i>Art must reach all four edges</i>
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Half-Page Illustration · 1 of 2

Illustration ID: LW-CH7-HP-02 · Half Page · 2250 × 1425 px

Amy Throws the Limes Out the Window

WHAT IS HAPPENING?

Mr. Davis has ordered Amy to throw her limes out the window two by two. Six dreadful times she goes back and forth. Each time a doomed pair of plump, juicy limes falls from her reluctant hands. A sigh runs through the whole class with each loss.

Setting	Focus
The schoolroom window — Amy at the window, limes in hand, the street below	Amy holding a pair of limes at the window — reluctant, scarlet-faced

CHARACTERS

Amy: scarlet with shame and anger — holding the limes at the open window. Her face shows the double humiliation.

The watching girls: behind her, their collective sigh visible.

MOOD & LIGHTING

Comedy and pathos combined. The limes are specifically described as 'plump and juicy' — Alcott wants us to mourn them.

MUST INCLUDE	MUST AVOID
✓ Amy at the window holding a pair of plump green limes ✓ Her scarlet face — shame and anger ✓ The watching girls behind her — their collective sigh	✗ Do not make Amy look tearful — she is scarlet with anger ✗ Do not make the limes look small — they are specifically plump and juicy

YOUR CREATIVE FREEDOM

The pair of limes at the window, Amy's reluctant hands — the comedy and pathos is in the limes themselves.

Half page	2250 × 1425 px · 300 DPI	No bleed required · horizontal orientation
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Half-Page Illustration · 2 of 2

Illustration ID: LW-CH7-HP-03 · Half Page · 2250 × 1425 px

Laurie Teases Beth with a Compliment

WHAT IS HAPPENING?

Evening in the parlor. Laurie says he knows a girl with remarkable musical talent who never knew she had it. Beth says she wishes she'd known that nice girl. Laurie says: 'You do know her — and she helps you better than anyone could.' He looks at Beth with mischievous meaning in his black eyes. Beth turns very red and hides her face in the sofa cushion.

Setting	Focus
The March parlor — Laurie and Jo at chess, Beth standing nearby	Laurie's meaningful look at Beth; Beth turning crimson and hiding in the sofa cushion

CHARACTERS

Laurie: the chess piece in hand, but eyes turned on Beth — mischievous meaning in his merry black eyes.
Beth: turning very red and hiding her face in the sofa cushion.
Jo: at the chess table watching with quiet satisfaction.

MOOD & LIGHTING

Warm, funny, and tender. The shy quiet girl has just been seen completely — and vanishes into the sofa cushion.

MUST INCLUDE	MUST AVOID
✓ Laurie's sideways look at Beth — the mischief in his eyes ✓ Beth's crimson face disappearing into the sofa cushion ✓ Jo at the chess table watching	✗ Do not make Laurie look unkind — this is the warmest kind of teasing ✗ Do not show Beth's face clearly — she is hiding it

YOUR CREATIVE FREEDOM

The moment Beth's face disappears into the cushion is the image — the sudden vanishing of a quiet girl overwhelmed by being seen.

Half page	2250 × 1425 px · 300 DPI	No bleed required · horizontal orientation
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Corner Ornament Briefs · LW-CH7-CO-04 through LW-CH7-CO-08

Corner ornaments are square decorative illustrations that sit in the corners of chapter pages. Each is 1200 × 1200 px (4 inches), saved as a PNG with a transparent background. Keep it simple and clear — these are for artists of all ages, including young children. Draw one object or idea from the story. Make it bold and easy to see.

Illustration ID: LW-CH7-CO-04 · Corner Ornament · 1200 × 1200 px

A Brown Paper Parcel of Pickled Limes

WHAT TO DRAW

Draw a damp brown paper parcel, slightly lumpy, with one or two plump green limes visible. This is Amy's precious supply of twenty-four pickled limes that starts all the trouble!

INCLUDE

- ✓ A moist brown paper parcel
- ✓ One or two green limes visible — plump
- ✓ The parcel clearly damp from the brine

FEEL

A great treasure about to be sadly lost.

ARTIST TIP

Crinkled or damp paper looks great when you draw it with little creases and wrinkles instead of straight edges!

Illustration ID: LW-CH7-CO-05 · Corner Ornament · 1200 × 1200 px

A Beautifully Drawn Map on a School Slate

WHAT TO DRAW

Draw a school slate with a careful, detailed map drawn on it in chalk — showing coastlines and maybe a compass rose. This is Amy's best work, which earns her praise even on her worst school day!

INCLUDE

- ✓ A school slate — grey, wooden frame
- ✓ A detailed map drawn in chalk
- ✓ Clearly artistic and careful work

FEEL

Talented and proud — Amy's art shines even in trouble.

ARTIST TIP

Map coastlines look great as wiggly, irregular lines — not too perfect, just like real geography!

A Small Girl's Stinging Red Palm

WHAT TO DRAW

Draw a small girl's palm held gently open — slightly red from a sting. Meg bathed Amy's hurt hand with glycerine and tears after the punishment. A small hand carefully tended.

INCLUDE

- ✓ A small girl's palm — held open
- ✓ Slightly red — recently hurt
- ✓ The impression of being gently tended

FEEL

Tender care after pain — a sister's love.

ARTIST TIP

Hands look most natural when the fingers are slightly curved and not all perfectly straight!

A Red Carnelian Ring

WHAT TO DRAW

Draw a simple ring with a deep red carnelian stone — warm, glowing red. This is the ring Amy envied on Susie Perkins's finger — and then stopped wanting when she saw what happened to Susie!

INCLUDE

- ✓ A ring with a round deep-red stone
- ✓ Simple Victorian setting
- ✓ The warm glow of the carnelian color

FEEL

Beautiful and a little dangerous — something to want carefully.

ARTIST TIP

A gem looks great with a small bright highlight spot on one side to show it catching the light!

A Potato Masher Going to Work

WHAT TO DRAW

Draw a potato masher in a bowl of potatoes — clearly being used with great force and energy! Hannah is pounding potatoes with all her might, pretending the schoolteacher is under her pestle.

INCLUDE

- ✓ A potato masher in a bowl
- ✓ Clearly being used hard — show the energy!
- ✓ Mashed potatoes visible in the bowl

FEEL

Righteous fury in the kitchen — the most satisfying way to express an opinion.

ARTIST TIP

To show something moving fast, draw short motion lines around it — like speed lines on a cartoon!

All corner ornaments

1200 × 1200 px · 300 DPI · transparent
PNG

*White background will show as a
box — must be PNG with
transparency*