YOUNG ILLUSTRATOR CLASSICS

Illustration Drawing Briefs

Little Women

by Louisa May Alcott

Chapter XXII · Pleasant Meadows

1 Full-Page LW-CH22-FP-01	**2 Half-Page** LW-CH22-HP-02 · LW-CH22-HP-03
5 Corner Ornaments LW-CH22-CO-04 through LW-CH22-CO-08	**8 Total Briefs** Chapter XXII · Pleasant Meadows

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Please Note: Illustrations with strikethrough text have already been filled. For an overview of illustrations still available, please download the Cheat Sheet at 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	*Art must fill edge to edge · include 0.25" bleed on all sides*
Half page	2250 × 1425 px · 300 DPI	*No bleed needed · sits within text column*
Corner ornament	1200 × 1200 px · 300 DPI	*PNG with transparent background · no white fill*

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-CH22-FP-01 · Full Page · 2700 × 3450 px

Beth Runs to Father's Arms

WHAT IS HAPPENING?

Christmas afternoon. The whole happy day — and then Laurie opens the door, and in his place appears a tall man leaning on another man. Mr. March becomes invisible in the embrace of four pairs of loving arms. Then someone calls 'Remember Beth!' — too late. Beth in her crimson wrapper is already running across the room, joy putting strength into her feeble limbs, straight into her father's arms.

Setting	Time of day	Mood	Indoor / outdoor
The March parlor — Christmas, the whole family, the open door	Christmas afternoon	The most joyful, chaotic, overwhelming moment — the father comes home	Indoors — the parlor

CHARACTERS

Beth: in her crimson wrapper, running — joy putting strength into her feeble limbs.
Mr. March: catching Beth as she runs — or invisible in the embrace of all four girls.
The chaos all around: Jo nearly fainting, Amy hugging boots, Mr. Brooke accidentally kissing Meg, Mrs. March laughing.

MOOD & FEELING

The most joyful, chaotic, overwhelming moment in the book. Beth's crimson wrapper blazing through the happy chaos.

Christmas afternoon — the warmest light in the book.	Beth's crimson wrapper blazing in the middle of the happy chaos.

MUST INCLUDE	MUST AVOID
✓ Beth in her crimson wrapper running toward her father	✗ Do not make the scene orderly — 'everybody seemed to lose their wits'
✓ The chaos of the others — Amy on the floor, Jo nearly fainting, Meg confused	✗ Do not omit the crimson wrapper — it is Beth's specific visual note
✓ Mr. March's tall figure at the center	✗ Do not make Beth's run hesitant — 'joy put strength into the feeble limbs'
✓ The Christmas room's warmth and disorder	

YOUR CREATIVE FREEDOM

The whole joyful chaos, or just Beth in her crimson wrapper running — both are magnificent.

Full page	2700 × 3450 px · 300 DPI · with 0.25" bleed	*Art must reach all four edges*

Half-Page Illustration · 1 of 2

Illustration ID: LW-CH22-HP-02 · Half Page · 2250 × 1425 px

The Snow-Maiden Jungfrau

WHAT IS HAPPENING?

Jo and Laurie worked through the night and built a stately snow-maiden in the garden: crowned with holly, bearing a basket of fruit and flowers in one hand, a roll of new music in the other, a rainbow Afghan around her shoulders, and a Christmas carol issuing from her lips on a pink paper streamer. Beth is carried to the window to see — and laughs.

Setting	Focus
The garden — the snow-maiden standing in the winter landscape	The Jungfrau herself — stately, crowned with holly, bearing her gifts

CHARACTERS

The Jungfrau: a snow-maiden built by Jo and Laurie. Holly crown. Basket of fruit and flowers. Roll of music. Rainbow Afghan. Pink paper streamer with the carol.
Beth (at the window): in her crimson wrapper, carried to see — and laughing.

MOOD & LIGHTING

Magnificent and slightly absurd — Laurie and Jo's night work made visible.

MUST INCLUDE	MUST AVOID
✓ The snow-maiden standing in the garden — stately and festive ✓ Holly crown ✓ Basket of fruit and flowers — one hand ✓ Roll of music — other hand ✓ The rainbow Afghan around her shoulders ✓ The pink paper streamer from her lips with the carol	✗ Do not make her look small — she is stately ✗ Do not omit the rainbow Afghan — it is 'a perfect rainbow' and essential ✗ Do not omit the pink paper streamer — that is the carol coming from her lips

YOUR CREATIVE FREEDOM

The snow-maiden is described with extraordinary specificity — a figure of great love and ingenuity.

Half page	2250 × 1425 px · 300 DPI	*No bleed required · horizontal orientation*

Half-Page Illustration · 2 of 2

Illustration ID: LW-CH22-HP-03 · Half Page · 2250 × 1425 px

Father Reads the Hands

WHAT IS HAPPENING?

By the fire on Christmas evening, Mr. March takes Meg's hand and reads it: the roughened forefinger, the burn on the back, the hard spots on the palm. 'In these blemishes I read a little history — a burnt-offering has been made of vanity; this hardened palm has earned something better than blisters.' 'I'm proud to shake this good, industrious little hand.'

Setting	Focus
The family sitting-room, by the fire — Christmas evening	Mr. March holding Meg's work-roughened hand — reading it like a book

CHARACTERS

Mr. March: holding her hand in both of his, reading the marks. His face showing deep approval.
Meg: her hand held up — quiet pride on her face. The reward for hours of patient labor.

MOOD & LIGHTING

The two hands — father's and daughter's — in the firelight. The marks of the year visible.

MUST INCLUDE	MUST AVOID
✓ Mr. March holding Meg's hand — reading the marks in it ✓ Meg's face — quiet pride, the reward received ✓ The fire behind them — Christmas evening warmth ✓ The marks visible on the hand	✗ Do not make the hand look damaged — the marks are signs of love, not damage ✗ Do not make Mr. March look critical — he is deeply approving

YOUR CREATIVE FREEDOM

The two hands held together in the firelight — 'I'm proud to shake this good, industrious little hand.'

Half page	2250 × 1425 px · 300 DPI	*No bleed required · horizontal orientation*

Corner Ornament Briefs · LW-CH22-CO-04 through LW-CH22-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-CH22-CO-04 · Corner Ornament · 1200 × 1200 px

Beth's Soft Crimson Wrapper

WHAT TO DRAW

Draw a soft crimson wrapper or dressing gown — loosely wrapped, warm-looking, clearly a cosy invalid's garment. This is Beth's Christmas gift from Marmee, and the same wrapper she wears when she runs to her father!

INCLUDE	✓ A soft crimson dressing gown — loosely wrapped ✓ Warm and comfortable-looking ✓ The vivid crimson color is the key quality
FEEL	*Warm and healing — something given to someone you want to get better.*
ARTIST TIP	Soft fabric like a dressing gown looks beautiful with flowing, gentle folds — not stiff or structured!

Illustration ID: LW-CH22-CO-05 · Corner Ornament · 1200 × 1200 px

A Rainbow-Colored Afghan

WHAT TO DRAW

Draw a large knitted shawl or blanket in rainbow stripes — red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple all together. This is the rainbow Afghan that the Jungfrau snow-maiden wears around her snowy shoulders!

INCLUDE	✓ A large knitted blanket or shawl ✓ Rainbow stripes — all the colors of the spectrum ✓ Clearly handmade and warm
FEEL	*Joyful and colorful — someone put every color they had into this.*
ARTIST TIP	Rainbow stripes are most beautiful when each color band is about the same width and all the colors are bright and clear!

Illustration ID: LW-CH22-CO-06 · Corner Ornament · 1200 × 1200 px

A Fold of Silvery Silk

WHAT TO DRAW

Draw a fold of silvery silk fabric — shimmering and soft, clearly very fine. This is Meg's first silk dress, given by Mr. Laurence — the first real grown-up luxury she has ever owned.

INCLUDE	✓ A fold of silvery silk fabric ✓ The sheen of fine fabric — clearly different from everyday cotton ✓ Soft and shimmering
FEEL	*The first real luxury — something that feels as beautiful as it looks.*
ARTIST TIP	Silk looks different from cotton — add a bright highlight along the fold where the light hits most strongly!

Illustration ID:LW-CH22-CO-07 · Corner Ornament · 1200 × 1200 px

A Four-Color Hair Brooch

WHAT TO DRAW

Draw a Victorian hair brooch — oval or round, with four different shades of hair braided or woven together: grey, golden yellow, warm chestnut brown, and dark brown. The four sisters' hair, given as a gift to Marmee!

INCLUDE	✓ A Victorian hair brooch — oval or round shape ✓ Four different hair colors woven together — grey, golden, chestnut, dark brown ✓ The woven or braided pattern clearly visible
FEEL	*Four people in one small gift — made from part of themselves.*
ARTIST TIP	A hair brooch looks beautiful when the different color strands are clearly distinct — braid or coil them separately!

Illustration ID: LW-CH22-CO-08 · Corner Ornament · 1200 × 1200 px

Beth at Her Piano — Playing Again

WHAT TO DRAW

Draw Beth sitting at her piano — her familiar beloved place — playing softly. She is slightly fragile but fully present, joyfully home. This is the last image of the chapter: Beth playing a hymn for her father.

INCLUDE	✓ Beth at the piano — her familiar place ✓ Playing softly — the firelight behind her ✓ Her posture slightly frail but present and alive

FEEL	*Home and restored — the thing everyone hoped for, finally here.*

ARTIST TIP	A figure at a piano looks most natural when the hands are shown on the keys and the body leans slightly forward with attention!

All corner ornaments	1200 × 1200 px · 300 DPI · transparent PNG	*White background will show as a box — must be PNG with transparency*