

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	<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-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 The March parlor — Christmas, the whole family, the open door	Time of day Christmas afternoon	Mood The most joyful, chaotic, overwhelming moment — the father comes home	Indoor / outdoor Indoors — the parlor
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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.
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MUST INCLUDE ✓ Beth in her crimson wrapper running toward her father ✓ The chaos of the others — Amy on the floor, Jo nearly fainting, Meg confused ✓ Mr. March's tall figure at the center ✓ The Christmas room's warmth and disorder	MUST AVOID ✗ Do not make the scene orderly — 'everybody seemed to lose their wits' ✗ Do not omit the crimson wrapper — it is Beth's specific visual note ✗ Do not make Beth's run hesitant — 'joy put strength into the feeble limbs'
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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
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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
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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

The family sitting-room, by the fire — Christmas evening

Focus

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

- ✓ 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

MUST AVOID

- ✗ 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	<i>Warm and healing — something given to someone you want to get better.</i>
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	<i>Joyful and colorful — someone put every color they had into this.</i>
ARTIST TIP	Rainbow stripes are most beautiful when each color band is about the same width and all the colors are bright and clear!

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!

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!

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*