

YOUNG ILLUSTRATOR CLASSICS

Illustration Drawing Briefs

Little Women

by Louisa May Alcott

Chapter V · Being Neighborly

1 Full-Page LW-CH5-FP-01	2 Half-Page LW-CH5-HP-02 · LW-CH5-HP-03
5 Corner Ornaments LW-CH5-CO-04 through LW-CH5-CO-08	8 Total Briefs Chapter V · Being Neighborly

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-CH5-FP-01 · Full Page · 2700 × 3450 px

Jo in the Laurence Library

WHAT IS HAPPENING?

Laurie leads Jo to the library. She claps her hands and prances with delight — it is lined with books, and there are pictures, statues, little cabinets of curiosities, and best of all a great open fireplace with quaint tiles all round it. Jo sinks into a velvet chair and says: 'Theodore Laurence, you ought to be the happiest boy in the world.'

Setting	Time of day	Mood	Indoor / outdoor
The Laurence library — lined with books, pictures, statues, a great tiled fireplace	Afternoon — Jo's visit	Jo's rapturous delight; Laurie's gentle loneliness within abundance	Indoors — the grandest room in the story so far

CHARACTERS

Jo March: sunk in a velvet easy-chair, gazing around with intense satisfaction.
Laurie: perched on a table opposite, watching her. Pleased at her joy but containing something quieter.

MOOD & FEELING

Jo's rapturous delight at books and beauty. Laurie's gentle loneliness within abundance.

Firelight and afternoon — the great fireplace burns, the books absorb the light.	Dark wood, deep colors, firelight. Jo's bright face the living center.
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MUST INCLUDE	MUST AVOID
✓ Jo sunk in the velvet chair — hands clasped, gazing around ✓ Book-lined walls — floor to ceiling ✓ The great tiled fireplace burning ✓ Laurie perched on a table opposite, watching her	✗ Do not make the room cold or museum-like — it is warm and lived-in ✗ Do not make Jo look intimidated — she is delighted ✗ Do not make Laurie look simply happy — there is something wistful in him too

YOUR CREATIVE FREEDOM

Jo's exact posture of wonder, the tiles around the fireplace, the statues watching from the shelves — all yours.

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-CH5-HP-02 · Half Page · 2250 × 1425 px

Jo Tosses a Snowball at Laurie's Window

WHAT IS HAPPENING?

Jo is digging paths in the snowy garden when she spots Laurie's curly black head leaning sadly on his hand at the upper window. She throws a handful of soft snow at the window. His face turns at once — the listless look gone, a big smile spreading. Jo nods and laughs and waves her broom.

Setting

The March garden in snow; the Laurence mansion window visible above the hedge

Focus

Jo arm cocked to throw a snowball; Laurie at the upper window above

CHARACTERS

Jo: in rubber boots and old sack, broom in hand — mid-throw, grinning.

Laurie: at the upper window — the listless head-on-hand posture transforming as he sees Jo.

MOOD & LIGHTING

Jo's energy versus Laurie's stillness. The snowball as pure generous cheerfulness.

MUST INCLUDE

- ✓ Jo mid-throw of the snowball — arm back, grinning
- ✓ The upper window — Laurie's face visible
- ✓ The low hedge separating the two gardens
- ✓ The snowy March garden

MUST AVOID

- ✗ Do not show the snowball after it has hit — this is the moment of throwing
- ✗ Do not make the hedge into a wall — it is a low hedge

YOUR CREATIVE FREEDOM

The quality of the snow, the exact relationship of the hedge and the window above — all yours.

Half page

2250 × 1425 px · 300 DPI

No bleed required · horizontal orientation

Half-Page Illustration · 2 of 2

Illustration ID: LW-CH5-HP-03 · Half Page · 2250 × 1425 px

Mr. Laurence Tilts Jo's Chin

WHAT IS HAPPENING?

Jo is admiring Mr. Laurence's portrait in the library when the door opens behind her. Not knowing it is the real Mr. Laurence, she says aloud that he has kind eyes though a grim mouth. 'Thank you, ma'am,' says a gruff voice. She blushes crimson — but stays. He puts his finger under her chin to look at her face. 'Not much afraid of me, hey?'

Setting	Focus
The Laurence library — Jo before the portrait; Mr. Laurence behind her	Mr. Laurence's finger under Jo's chin — looking at her face; Jo blushing but steady

CHARACTERS

Mr. Laurence: putting his finger under Jo's chin, examining her face gravely. Likes her immediately.
Jo: blushing but meeting his gaze. Embarrassed and steady at the same time.

MOOD & LIGHTING

The beginning of a friendship that matters deeply to both of them. Her embarrassment and her steadiness at war — and steadiness winning.

MUST INCLUDE	MUST AVOID
✓ Mr. Laurence's finger under Jo's chin — looking at her ✓ Jo's blushing but steady expression ✓ The portrait visible on the wall above or behind ✓ The library setting — books, firelight	✗ Do not make Jo look frightened — she stays and meets his gaze ✗ Do not make Mr. Laurence unkind — 'a sly twinkle' lessens her fear

YOUR CREATIVE FREEDOM

Jo's height and his age and grandeur, the library around them, the portrait above — all yours.

Half page	2250 × 1425 px · 300 DPI	No bleed required · horizontal orientation
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Corner Ornament Briefs · LW-CH5-CO-04 through LW-CH5-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-CH5-CO-04 · Corner Ornament · 1200 × 1200 px

A Covered Dish of Blanc-Mange with Flowers

WHAT TO DRAW

Draw a round white dish with a lid being lifted to show blanc-mange (a creamy white pudding) decorated with a ring of green leaves and bright red flowers. This is the treat Jo brings to Laurie when he is sick!

INCLUDE

- ✓ A round white dish being uncovered
- ✓ The blanc-mange inside — pale and creamy
- ✓ A garland of green leaves and scarlet flowers on top

FEEL

A pretty, thoughtful get-well gift.

ARTIST TIP

A ring of leaves and flowers around a pudding looks beautiful — try drawing simple leaf shapes in a circle around the center!

Illustration ID: LW-CH5-CO-05 · Corner Ornament · 1200 × 1200 px

Three Kittens in a Wicker Basket

WHAT TO DRAW

Draw three lively kittens of different colors peering out of a wicker basket. Beth sends these to cheer up Laurie when he is sick!

INCLUDE

- ✓ Three kittens — each a different color
- ✓ In a wicker basket — clearly alive and active
- ✓ At least one peering over the edge

FEEL

Cheerful and wriggly — guaranteed to make anyone smile.

ARTIST TIP

Kittens are tiny and round with big ears and big eyes — try making their heads as big as their bodies!

A Lit Window Seen from Outside

WHAT TO DRAW

Draw the warm lit window of a small house, seen from outside at night. Through the glass you can just see a family gathered around a table with a lamp. This is what Laurie watches from across the hedge.

INCLUDE

- ✓ A lit window — warm yellow light inside
- ✓ Figures around a table visible through the glass
- ✓ The dark outside contrasting with the warm inside

FEEL

Warm and welcoming — like looking in at everything cozy from the cold.

ARTIST TIP

A lit window at night looks magical when you make the light inside warm yellow-orange and the outside cool blue-dark!

A Grand Piano with an Open Lid

WHAT TO DRAW

Draw a grand piano with its lid propped open so you can see the strings inside. This is the beautiful piano in the Laurence drawing room — much finer than Beth's old piano at home.

INCLUDE

- ✓ A grand piano — the lid propped open
 - ✓ The strings visible inside
- ✓ A rose or flower on top or nearby

FEEL

Magnificent and inviting — a piano that wants to be played.

ARTIST TIP

A grand piano is shaped like a large teardrop or wing from above — draw that shape and add the keyboard on one side!

A Fireplace with Patterned Tiles

WHAT TO DRAW

Draw a fireplace with pretty patterned tiles all around the opening — each tile with a different little design or pattern. This is Jo's favourite thing in the whole Laurence library!

INCLUDE

- ✓ A fireplace — fire burning inside
- ✓ Patterned tiles around the surround — each tile different
- ✓ The quaint old-fashioned quality of the tiles

FEEL

Warm and beautiful — like a fireplace from a fairy tale.

ARTIST TIP

Each tile can have a simple different pattern — a flower, a leaf, a small geometric shape. They don't all have to match!

All corner ornaments

1200 × 1200 px · 300 DPI · transparent
PNG

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