



This is an annoyingly-detailed but basically simple painting.

Just pay attention to the text on this one because Marissa and Christine were overly tired and missed a few photos but included the steps in the text.



PALETTE

Big white
Big blue
Little black
Tiniest red
Tiniest yellow

BRUSHES

Round
1/2" flat
1" flat
fan brush





Paint a pure blue background. Make sure at this point the guests have NO white holidays and you won't have to deal with them later.



Using a clean brush so you don't contaminate the colors, blend in some left-to-right black at the bottom (moving the black up as they go) and white at top (moving it down as they go).

Remember what a big problem over-blending is and remind people this is supposed to look like a wind or mist or otherwise have movement and not to overblend it.



Using the round, paint the trunk of a tree and some branches black. Tell people to think of veins in their bodies or rivers and how they all branch out (if they're not sure how to paint the lines).

Keep it mostly to the right of the page because the lantern is going to go to the left and this is supposed to frame in the lantern.



Use the round as a stamp to stamp in a few leaves mostly on the top and right side (but some left too for balance). (Sorry for the glare on this photo.)

Do a couple of stray branches on the left as well (skip forward a page to see. Just do them in black but we spaced out while making tutorials.)

Show them how to stamp the side of the brush so the ferrule (metal part) touches the paper and they're not just stabbing the canvas with the brush and splaying the leaves and fucking up our brushes.)



Layer in some blues on the bottom and white on the top on both the tree and the stray side branches (the side branches which you should have added with the black in the last step but we forgot whoops)



Add some darker area on the bottom to give it the feeling of ground. Black and super dark blue--stamp the round like you showed them already.

You do NOT want this painting background to dry so don't sweat it if it's not for the next steps.



Once the background has dried, do this oval for a lantern which is thinnest on the top. Should be bigger than a quarter, like a silver dollar.

Some background blue can and should mix with this. In fact, it's not pure white at all--so if the background is dry they can use a tiny molecule of blue in this step, but hopefully the background is still wet enough to produce this oval's color.



Add a straight line using their round (very carefully)



While the black is still on their brush, do a little triangle on the bottom, then outline the bulk of it and give it an even bigger pyramid on top (next step).



Now with a VERY clean brush they want to paint a pure white oval in the center, then black line down the center to make the metal cage.



ABOVE: At this point, it's fine if stuff dries. Using a tiny sliver of white, you want the side of the black bark and black metal to each have a highlight that face each other.



LEFT: make the same highlight in the remaining blue/white area right under the top black metal (see how little and thin it is above the bulb?)

Using a dry fan brush, make a few lil lights coming out of the lamp. (Only have them coming out of the lightbulb if the group seems like they know what they're doing since that's basically microsurgery.)



Using your round, make a few yellow glares--like snow or lens glares on a camera.



Add yellow inside the bulb (SPARINGLY) and with the same dry fan brush onto the little beams.

And you're done!