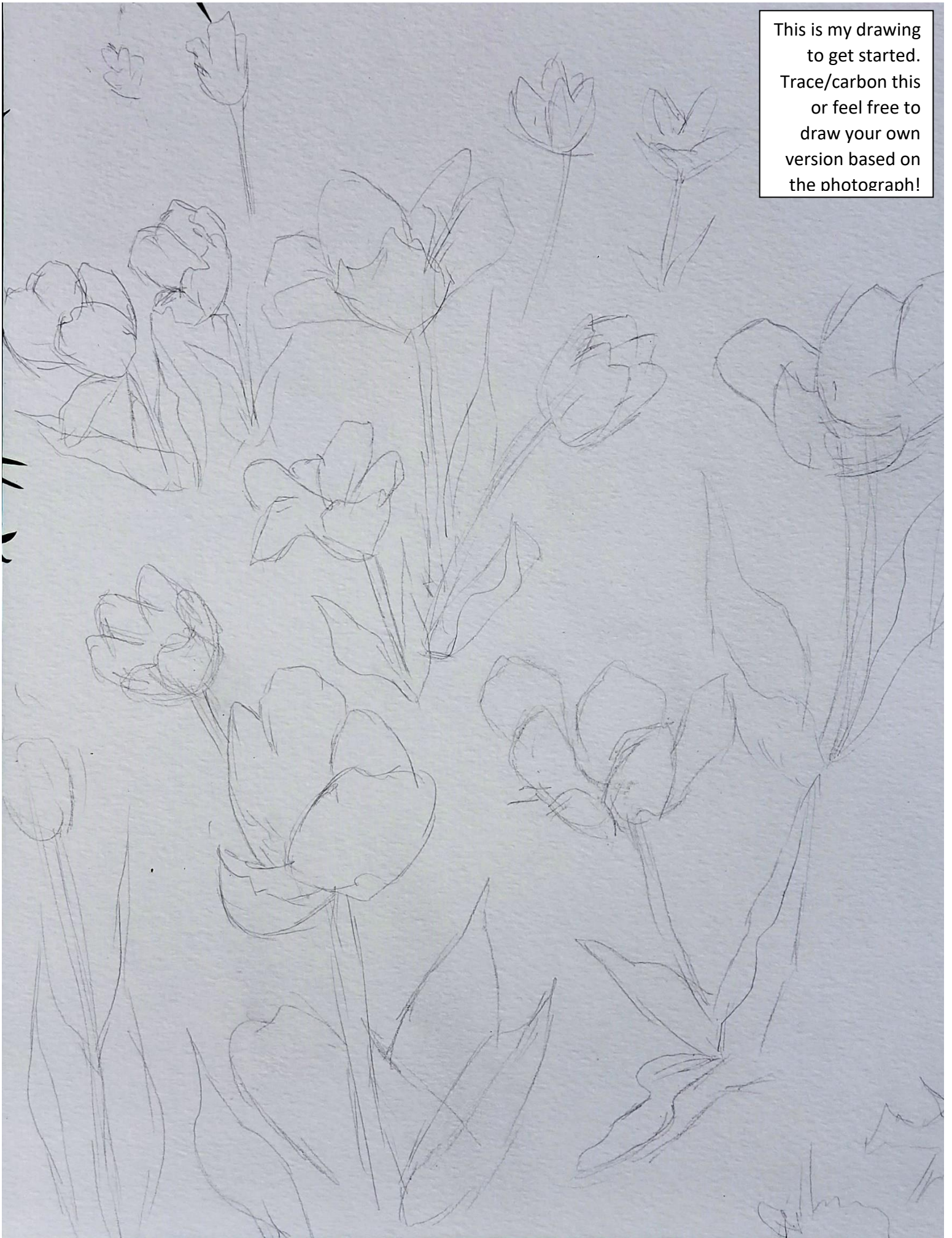


This is my drawing
to get started.
Trace/carbon this
or feel free to
draw your own
version based on
the photograph!



The flowers with the red circles are what I referenced for my painting.
They are not all the same proportionate size nor the same color. (the
next page is a clean copy of this photograph for reference.)





DIRECTIONS

1. DRAWING:

My drawing was more of a sketch. This was intentional for the style of painting I wanted to attempt. The original flower garden was an intense, surprising, overwhelming burst of the most beautiful colors. For the painting, I wanted to try and capture the “feeling” of the garden. I guess it could be considered an impressionistic style, since I was shooting to give an impression of the garden and not a realistic rendition.

Take a moment and decide if you’d like to, also, do this soft, impressionistic-type style, or if you want to do sharper edges and closer to a realistic version.

Either trace my original sketch or do your own version! Pick flowers that you want to feature. Either draw them in with more detail or with less guidance for yourself.



2. BACKGROUND:

Used: Hooker Green, Prussian Blue, Maya Blue, Olive, Opera Red, Yellow Ochre, Burnt Sienna and touches of other colors too.

NOTE: You need PLASTIC WRAP! Go get it before you start painting! Tear out and cut up about 10 small pieces.

➤ Wet-on-wet, in sections

- Start at the top
- Wet a small area of the background
- *Keep the water and color a tiny bit away from the flowers*
- Apply color in wet area
- Lay flat piece of plastic wrap on wet area
- “Pinch” the plastic wrap to wrinkle the paint
- Leave the plastic on for 2-24 hours
- Keep filling in the entire background in this manner



➤ ADDITIONAL info for background

➤ WARNING: When you apply the plastic wrap, the paint will spread. Which will mess up some of the sharp lines you have drawn. I kept the color away from the flowers to start.

➤ I applied the plastic wrap to only about 50% of the background

➤ The browns and blues are only under the base of the flowers; by the leaves and stems. Those colors are used to indicate dirt, bark and shadows.

➤ I did the background in two layers, with additional touch ups later also. It gave me the ability to get darker tones and layered texturing. Compare the first layer, featured here, to the final background.



3. TOP FLOWERS

Start with the really soft flowers at the top. It will be hard, but leave them very blobby and non-descript. You are implying flower petals.

➤ Wet-on-Wet

- Wet one flower at a time
- Apply colors
- Make sure the water is right at your pencil line, so the color fills in the flower completely
- You can do one petal at a time, if you want slightly more definition
- Dab color on, letting it flow together. Do NOT brush the color.
- Do not overwork the flowers
- Don't apply too much pigment; it takes away from the delicate, transparent nature of a petal.
- Put color on and leave alone; let the color do its magic while drying



4. TOP LEAVES

Paint the top stems and leaves, next, before doing the bottom flowers. I found I needed them in place to keep track of what “blobs” were flowers. I also needed to mark the stems and leaves before I lost track of them.



5. BOTTOM FLOWERS & LEAVES

The bottom flowers are the ones that are closer, therefore they are larger, more defined and clearer. I painted sharper edges along with defined shadows and highlights on the three flowers I wanted closer: pink, yellow and white.

- Wet-on-dry
- Paint one petal at a time
- Try to not paint petals that touch
- Add stems and leaves AFTER flowers are dry



6. FINAL DETAILS

- Define and darken the shadows
- Add color to the background, as needed, so it touches the flower petals
- Add more soft, rough leaf shapes, as desired. I roughly painted some additional leaves that I did not initially draw in
- Add pistils to some of the more defined flowers

