Mixtape: Let it Snow with CBTV

Chapter 1 - Mixtape: Let it Snow

Frosty face tags with Courtney

- This simple gift tag could not be easier, but it's adorable and super sweet. All you need for it are some round gift tags in white or cream, an orange marker, a black marker. I'm using brush pen markers 'cause I really like those. And if you like, a couple of fine-tip pens. That's totally up to you. We're gonna make some little snowman faces, which is just what I thought of when I looked at this gift tag. I start by just doing a little carrot nose 'cause I feel like that dictates the personality. Can refine the shape a little. Switch to the black brush tip, and just make some wide-set little coal eyes. Things with wide-set eyes look really cute, so the wider apart the better. And then I'm just gonna make little downward dashes for the coal mouth. And I'm giving 'em a little sideways smile. You can go back in and add some detail. If you use the brush pen and this orange carrot nose is still wet, you do get some bleeding, which is why you can also use just a fine gel pen or other tipped pen. But I don't mind the little bit of bleeding. So I usually just use a brush pen. But you could use a gel pen, like I mentioned. Just add a little bit of twine to this. Do an easy overhand knot. Then you can make a few little buddies to go with. These little snowmen are so cute and sweet, and it's fun to play with their expressions just by changing the shape of the eyes or maybe the direction of the carrot nose. They're totally something that you could do a whole dozen while watching a television show. Even several dozen.

Sweet painted snowman with Maria

- The fun thing about snow is that there's a lot of subtle colors in the white of the snow. There's different shades of grays and things like that. So we're gonna focus on the subtlety of white and adding little pops of color like reds and oranges for our snowman. With my snowman sketch, I have done these different circle shapes. Again, trying to stay with the simple shapes and I moved his head to the right, 'cause I think that makes for a really interesting dynamic composition. And I'm going to really stay focused on keeping these very subtle white on white, maybe different shades of gray. We're gonna play with that in the watercolor. And then I'm gonna try to make the scarf color really pop, a bright red I'm thinking. And then I added these Christmas lights in to lead the eye through over from the one side into the other side. I think it adds for a more interesting composition with that. So, let's just get started with our white on white. I'm gonna move this over. Okay, gonna start with the bigger brush. We're gonna throw a little bit of gray in there first. There's a little green that's left over in there, but. I really need these pools of color to stay wet. So I'm gonna create a couple pools of color. One is almost like pure water, and the other one's gonna have a little bit of gray in there. Put that in there. Oh, there's a little bit of something. Take that out. You can barely see the bottom of the snowman. And I will put the second shape of circle on top of there. Maybe this one has a little more gray in it. A little bit different of a ovaly circle shape. You don't wanna make them too perfectly the same. All right, so that has a lot of water in there. Now, I need to leave room for the scarf. So, I will put the little head up here and there's room for the scarf. And what I'm waiting for is how much water do I need in there so that the red from the scarf will pull a little bit into that. And it's really kind of a very tricky maneuver, let's say. And so we're gonna have to wait this one out and see. I'm gonna continue with other parts of it though. I'm gonna look at my sketch and see. All right, I can move to the gray or the branch part. I'm gonna take my smaller brush and

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make some color for the branch. A little too brown, but let's gray that out. Again, I think I'm gonna make this a more neutral composition. Because it has so much white, I'm gonna try to stay with tones of gray. Warm grays, cool grays, a combination of that. Look at where I'm gonna put my branches. I'm gonna bring some little focal areas. Even in those little things like branches, you can, it's an opportunity to have focal areas. And then this branch, it's a little darker, that's okay. Wanna make sure they look a little bit different. I'm gonna leave that for now. I can always touch it up later. And now I'm gonna look around and see what else can I do while I wait for that to dry. I could do a little subtle thing with the pencil to show that they are different. That's not bad. Let me look at some other areas that we can do. Let's go to the hat and do a gray-ish warm gray hat. Still a little wet on the hat before I put my little lines in there. I think I'm going to try the dab out just on the top part a little bit so I can get the scarf. I can get the scarf going. All right, let's give it a shot. I'm gonna use my wide brush for the scarf. You can see it already bled a little bit into that. That's okay. There we go. Now let's see what it does on that. We're gonna see how activated it gets on there. It might be a lot, but we're just gonna play with what it does in there. I can even move the water around a little bit. Just gonna see what it does first. Maybe I wanna keep the, keep that there. Just gonna let it do its thing. I'm gonna wait for that to dry a little bit. Maybe I'll even try the eyedropper just 'cause it feels like we're getting a lot of water. It's kind of turning it pink, so I will wait for that to dry. I kind of don't even mind. You see, like, how I put that little spritz there? I don't really mind those things. I kind of like those when I have that, so don't worry about when that happens. We can put in the lights. So, we wanna put a, as you can see in the sketch, we wanna put this long line going from one part of the branches to the other. So, I'm just gonna imagine that the lights start from here. There. That's good. And we will really loosely kind of continue with the lines. Now we will wait a little bit more. I'm wondering if I should even dab that. I don't wanna mess with it too much, but we can do other things. Let's go to the orange nose. We can use a more precise brush. Let's get that orange. I'm gonna try to get an orange that feels like it has a touch of the red I'm using for the scarf. That looks pretty good. You know what, I think I'm gonna eye drop a little wet in there, and I don't want it to bleed too much, so I'm gonna eye drop that too. Okay. Let's dab this a little bit and put a little bit more red in there. All right, we got the scarf in there. We're going to damp out there. And I'm gonna put the little lines for the hat in there now that it's a little drier. I like that I can bring the eye up to the texture there. I am going to work on the Christmas lights now. We have oranges and yellows, so we're gonna play with the lights being orange and yellow. I have to wait for that to dry to get in there. So at this point, we can do the face. Put the eyes here. Now with the nose, I'm gonna grab this orange pencil and see if there's another orange that might work. Here, this one might be good. There. All right, we're getting there. We just have the cheeks and a tiny little pink cheek. That's fine. And anything else? Oh, you know what? Let's just, I think this is dry enough to put a couple little shots of color in there, so let's do that. Let's try it at least. Oh, that's kind of cool. It almost looks like it's glowing on there. I like that. All right, let's put the shadow and then we'll be good to go. Wanna make sure that the shadow is a little bit more blue, 'cause I don't want it to look too much like the snowman himself. All right, I think that looks pretty good. Yes, I'm really happy with how that looks. I really like the way that started to glow. I wasn't expecting that. And that's what's so nice about watercolor is every time you get in there, little happy accidents as Bob Ross likes to say happen. And that's what makes it so exciting to work in watercolor.

Pipe cleaner snowflakes with Courtney
- Hey, everyone. I'm super excited to kick off this 25-day challenge of ornament making for the

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holiday season. I know Leanne and Faith and I are really excited to share some of our favorite ornaments that you can make, either as package toppers, you can use them for any kind of holiday decor, and of course you can hang them on your holiday tree. I thought I would start it off really nice and easy and we'll do something simple like snowflakes with pipe cleaners. I absolutely love pipe cleaners, and I'm always looking for more excuses to use them and bring them into my life. So I thought I'd share a few easy and quick pipe cleaner snowflakes that you can make. Pipe cleaners come in many sizes and styles. I love these kind of vintage ones that have these wider, it's kind of like when you paint with a paintbrush and you press down on your brush and you get a thick stroke and then a thin stroke when you lift up, that's what these remind me of. So you can find these sometimes in craft stores in multi-packs. And these are now called chenille stems, because a true pipe cleaner is actually this. This is a hundred-percent cotton pipe cleaner, and you can order these online. Those are fun though, because they have a nice wintry texture. I love these iridescent ones. And then pipe cleaners also, or chenille stems also come in three different sizes. This is a three-millimeter, which is probably the finest you'll see, a six-millimeter, and then this is a nice juicy nine-millimeter one. And the techniques I'm gonna show you can work on any of these, and you can play with the different styles. So let's just do our kind of traditional six-millimeter. I'm gonna start by just trimming this in half. I'm gonna make an X, and then I'm just gonna twist. Do two twists so it stays nice. Let's take another pipe cleaner and cut it in half, you can just eyeball it. We'll put it in the center, and then we'll just take a portion, you can take half or just two, just make sure you somehow incorporate that new one, and you can rearrange all your little spokes. Now that's the beginning of a snowflake, but there are a couple of options for creating a little bit more decoration. I like to, if I take this and cut another piece in half again, you can wrap this around once and then kind of style it. And I'm gonna leave them long and then we can trim them down if we want. I'm just kind of finding the center, wrapping it around once, and then forking it out like that. Again, cut in half, cut in half again, that's what we're working with, are these quarter pieces. And we're just gonna repeat this all the way around our snowflake. So wrap and adjust. Wrap and adjust. The one thing about these chenille stems is if you have a pet or your hair sheds, it definitely sticks. Keep an eye out for that. All right, and then you can kind of flatten it, because you've been bending it. So that's really cute, you could start that way. You could add more of these little Vs. You can also trim these down if you want something that's a little bit smaller on the edges. So we could do like every other one here. Keep that one long, and do this one short. And that's a variation. And then to hang it, I actually just like taking something really thin to create a string to hang my ornaments. This is a six-strand embroidery floss that I've just taken apart, and it's metallic. So I'm using one strand, but you can also use thread if you wanted. And we're gonna take, kind of eyeball it in half, take the two ends, do an overhand knot around our finger. And this is what you'll see most of us use throughout the month, is this as our hanger. And then you can just attach it anywhere. So you just are looping the end through the loop here, if you can see that. And then it's just super fine, which is really pretty. Here is the one that uses the chenille stems that have the fat and thin, which I really like, because you don't actually have to add any little Vs to it. It's ready to go because of the way it tapers on its own. Here's one where I use the iridescence. And to make this motif in the center, I think I cut it in half, folded it in half, and then this just gets kind of played with. So you can do your twists and then play with these ends and see how you want to kind of manipulate them to make different snowflake patterns. So that's where these little guys came in. And then these are mixed with the actual pipe cleaners. Here's one with the full pipe cleaner, but this has the double pointed ends. And here's one, I really like the effect on this. This is just a really large V, just like we just did together, but pushed

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down halfway, and when they kind of touch each other, they make a second star in between. They're not actually connected though, so that makes that really easy. And here's one like we did just now together, but this is the three-millimeter and this is the six-millimeter. These of course, can be made in advance. You can hang them in a window, they would make really a pretty decor for a kitchen window, a living room window, maybe a mantle piece. Like I mentioned before, you can use them as a package topper to add a little bit of sparkle. Of course, you can hang them on your holiday tree. I think they're just really sweet and simple to make, and they have a little bit of glitter, which is always fun during the holidays.

Cricut-cut magnetic snowflakes with Amber
- Give your fridge a wintry makeover with today's project using magnet paper. We're gonna be using magnetic paper that has an adhesive backing to create magnetic snowflakes to give your home a little wintry wonderland feel. First, let's head over to Design Space, and pick a snowflake image. You really can pick any image you want. My only recommendation would be to pick a snowflake that doesn't have a bunch of extra free-floating pieces. You know, you don't wanna have extra pieces to your magnet. You want it to be one complete magnet. I'm going to select, so many choices. I'm gonna select this one right here. That's a cute one. And I'm going to insert it into my canvas. You can make this as big or as little as you want. I'm gonna make mine about five inches big. And now we'll send it to the machine. We're gonna select our material by browsing all materials, and typing in the word magnet. We're gonna select magnetic sheet that's 0.5 millimeters, because my magnetic sheet is a bit thinner. If you have a thicker one, choose that. Here's a cool feature, if you're at all concerned that your machine isn't gonna cut through the material, you can actually adjust the pressure of your blade. Right here, you click on default, and you'll get a dropdown menu, and I can select more. This means the blade will put more pressure on my material, and be more likely to cut all the way through. Now we're gonna prep our magnetic sheet. I'm going to peel off the backing to expose the adhesive, and then take a pretty piece of patterned paper, and place it right on to the adhesive on the sheet. Flip it over, and use a craft knife and a self-healing mat to trim off the excess. Now we can place this on our mat with the magnet side facing down, and bring it over to our machine that's fitted with the fine point blade. (Cricut machine whirring) Once you're done, peel the magnet sheet off, and it should come off pretty easily. And now we have a decorative magnet that you can use to hold all those beautiful holiday cards onto your fridge.

Winter wreath card with Hero Arts
- Hi, welcome back. Today we're gonna continue on with our holiday cards we were making yesterday, using the same build-a-tree stamp set. And today we're gonna use those same components of the set to build a wreath. So with this build-a-tree set that we used yesterday, if you look at all the leaves, and pine needles in here, you can see they have a natural bend to them. And I thought that looks like it could all curve together to make a wreath. I'm gonna pick some certain elements from this set, but really any of 'em would work. I'm just gonna pick kind of randomly what I'm gonna use to build my wreath. So let's get started with our inking. I'm gonna start with some of the pine needles. And I'm gonna use my Antigua ink for this. Just like yesterday, I'm gonna ink it up, make sure I'm getting good coverage on there, and just press it straight down on my paper. (tapping) I'm gonna do several of these all in a row. Okay. I am gonna move on to the next pine needle. Again, I'm gonna use that same color of ink. I think I'll use a few of the cute little leaves in this set as well. I'm gonna go ahead and move on to another ink. I think I'll start with my mint julep.

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And again, just tap, tap, tap. So I'm clearly not building this into the form of a wreath yet. But what we're gonna do, is we're gonna learn about die cutting today. So I'm going to stamp all these out, get 'em ready, and then I'm gonna show you how to die cut them for our final project. Alright, I'm gonna move on to the next leaf. And this one, I think I'll use the tide pool ink. I'm just, I just picked some colors of ink because I like the colors. I love this cool, mint juleppy kind of look. There's nothing in, especially in particular about this kind of ink that made it necessary for this project. Okay. Then I'm also gonna just tuck in some snowflakes I think. I think that would be a cute little addition to our wreath. So I'm gonna take my snowflake stamp, put it on a block. And I'm gonna stamp that one with the deep ocean, which is a blue. And I actually think I'm gonna need another piece of paper for that. I've filled up this one already. And I'm using card stock for this, nice heavyweight card stock. I like to use card stock on my cards rather than just regular printer paper. It's heavy duty and it holds up well. Makes a nice finished product. Okay, so another little thing I wanna do before I start my die cutting, is I'm gonna add some color to these leaves. I have some markers here, in a, in colors that roughly match the inks that I'm using. I'm just gonna fill those in. Okay, now that my coloring is done, I'm gonna show you how to die cut. This is the exciting part of today. I'm gonna pull in my big old die cutting machine here. Any kind of die cutting machine will work with these dies. This is just the one I happen to be using, any kind of manual where it's cutting from a metal die, not an electronic file. And, we're gonna be using dies that match this clear set. So for a lot of these stamp sets, they have an actual die set that will cut out all of the individual little images in here. So you can see in the set, there's one for every little leaf and snowflake in this set. So I'm gonna show you how to use this. It comes like this, all attached together, and you'd be like, "What? How, how do I do this?" I'm gonna take it out of the package, pull it off. It's on there with just a little bit of adhesive. And then I'm gonna take my wire cutters. And you can see there's a little piece of metal in between each die. And I'm gonna go ahead and snip those apart, just like that. Easy peasy. And I'm gonna figure out which ones I need for this project. I'm sure I need this great big pine bow one. So you can see there's still a little knob right there. I actually like to cut those off really close to the die, and separate all of 'em. I already have some separated, so I'll go ahead and pull those in. And from my die set, I'm gonna go ahead and find the dies that match what I'm cutting out. So I can see that's the one for the pine needle. That one also matches one of the pine needles. And you can see I'm gonna have to go through my machine several times in order to get these all separated. So when you look at your dies, you can see one side has a ridge to it, and one side is completely flat. When I'm lining up onto my stamped image, I always put the ridge side down, because that is our cutting surface. So you want that touching your paper, so it's gonna cut all the way through. To keep my dyes well aligned as they're running through the dye cutting machine, I love to use washy tape. Obviously any design of washy tape will be fine for this. We're just using it on our dies. And to get rid of the sticky, 'cause, I don't want that tape to pull up my paper at all, I like to put it on the back of my hand. And that just takes a little bit of the sticky away from it. And then I make sure it's good and aligned around my die. And hold it in place with the washy. I'm gonna do that for all my dies. I'll be able to send all these through at once, and then keep going to get 'em all die cut. Now that my stamps are all set with their dies, matching dies, I'm gonna go ahead and take the platform out. So I mentioned you can use any die cutting machine when you're die cutting. You just wanna make sure you know the sandwich that's called for your machine, the order that all the plates go. On this particular machine, it has a big platform, and then it has two cutting plates. So I'm gonna put these all in together. Since I'm not cutting that end of the paper, it doesn't matter if it hangs out the back of my die cutting machine, but anything that you want to have cut, you need to

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make sure it's on the platform in between the two plates. So I'm gonna go ahead and put that in, and just run it through by turning the handle. I like to put one hand on top of it while it goes, to keep it in place, and then crank it with the other one. Now that washy tape I reuse. I go ahead and just put it right up on top of my machine, as I'm figuring this all out. And here is my snowflake. The great thing about die cutting with a machine like this with metal dies, is it makes a nice little finished edge on your die cut. So it kind of turns downward a little bit. And that makes a nice edge, and a clean look on your project. Continue your die cutting to get all your stamp pieces cut out. You're gonna wanna end up with about 15 components to use to build your wreath in the end. Once you have all your pieces die cut, you're gonna go ahead and start composing your wreath. I'm gonna take a circle die. This is just another one of my dies from my collection, and it's just something round. So anything you have that's a circle that you can use to trace is perfectly fine for what we're doing here. I'm just gonna take a pencil, and draw lightly my wreath shape, which is a circle, just to have a little guide as I'm putting down my pieces. Now using my liquid glue, I'm gonna just start building my wreath. I'm gonna take these pieces, and start kind of figuring out where I want them. I'm gonna put my runaway lid over to the side. Alright, let's see. I think I'll start with the big pine needle bows, and I'll put them kind of in... There's three of 'em, so I'm gonna kind of put 'em in three different areas of my circle. I'll go ahead and just put those down. My liquid glue. I'm working on a piece of card stock, a nice blue color that I mounted onto a top folding piece of craft card stock. We call that color sand at Hero Arts. I'm just gonna keep gluing these down. You can see I'm kind of putting the, the tip of the stamped image onto the line of my circle, just to keep the flow of the circle going. Alright, next we'll do the pine needles, the smaller pine needles. Now that we've finished our larger ones. Again just, it's not super particular where you have to put each thing, just put 'em into a nice shape to make a circle. Alright. And I'll go with my bigger leaves. And kind of hold them in the direction that makes sense for the flow of the piece. I like to say there's no rules in crafting. You just keep going. Okay, and then I'll finish with these last little leaves, which are in the lighter color of ink. Just wherever I feel like there needs to be something to fill in. Like up here, there's still a little area that needed something. And I'll put this last one right down here in the bottom right. Now, I still have those snowflakes that we cut out. I'm gonna use something a little different to put those down instead of my liquid glue. Just push those down one more time. I'm gonna use some foam tape. So any kind of dimensional tape that you have. I'm using the scrape big roll. And I'm gonna take my scissors, and cut off three little pieces to put behind the snowflakes. That went flying. So, this is double sticks. I'm gonna just stick it right down on the center of my snowflake, peel off the little backer piece, and then just stick that right down. I think I'll put one there. Get another one. I'll put this one maybe right here. Then my little piece that went flying. I need to make that just a little bit smaller to fit on the back of that snowflake. And then this one I'm gonna put over, more towards the left of the piece. If I can get that backer off there. Sometimes they're a little tricky to get off. There we go. Let's see. I'll put this one right here to kind... I'm also kind of hiding some of the stems as I put those down. Now, that looks great as is, but I think I want a little bling on this as well. So I'm gonna pull out my sequins. This is one of my sequin mixes. It has some cute little stars in there, and also some clear sequins. I'm just gonna lay some out into this card. The reason I'm using a card, is when I'm done, I can easily pour it right back into my little baggy here. Now, if you had a little jewel picker, it'd make picking up these sequins even easier. But I'm just gonna use my fingers. And the way I do it is, I put a dot of glue right down on my piece that I'm gluing the sequin to, and then I pick up my sequin, and stick it down right where I put my dot. This adhesive dries, as I've said, completely clear, so you don't have to worry. Right now, you're gonna see the glue, but it's not

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gonna show once this is completely dry. There's actually a white, like more of a opaque sequin in here. And also a clear. I'm just grabbing out the clear ones just because that's what I like for this one. Another one down. Maybe just one or two more. Put one right up there. Okay, I think that's good. I'm gonna set my glue side just for a second, and pick my sequence back up. Show you that little trick of putting 'em in with the card. Okay. Now to finish off this card, I think every wreath needs a bow. So I'm gonna take my twine, and I, the way I like to add a bow to my cards, is I'll tie my bow first, and then I'll use my glue to stick it right on there. Sometimes I wrap the whole twine around the card. That's another way you can do it. But in this case, I'm just gonna tie a bow with my fingers. I'm tying the two loops together. Trying to push it through. Okay, I'm gonna tighten up my bow a little bit. Here's a super cute little twine bow. I'm gonna shorten the ends. And then again, I'm gonna take my liquid glue, and I'm gonna put my bow right beneath the wreath. Right there with a dot. This is really strong glue when it dries. So it's gonna hold that completely in place, and it's gonna dry clear. So I'm just gonna hold that there for a second until it is set. Okay, and I'll set that aside to dry while I make a message to go on there. I think I want it to say "From me to you." So back to my stamp set that we used to get all the leaves done. I'm gonna go ahead and grab one of the messages. This one says "From me to you." And for this one, I'm gonna use my black ink again. And I've already cut some little quarter inch wide strips of the craft color card stock, which also matches the back of the card, the card base. So it'll all tie together. I'm gonna go ahead and ink that up. We've had a lot of practice with our stamping so far. I'm gonna put that down. I think I want it off to the side slightly. Put it right there. Okay. And then again with my handy dandy liquid glue that I love to use on everything. I'm gonna go ahead and put some glue on the back of that. Make sure you get the edges so it'll stay down well. And, I'm gonna stick that right to the card front under my little wreath bow. Make sure it's straight, which is always a challenge for me. (giggles) And there we go. A wreath made with stamping and die cutting.

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