Escapist by Mary Keenan

Though Victorian (and earlier) times were undoubtedly hard for many English women, period dramas in film and on television view the period with romance. I find the little knit shawls that accessorize so many simple dresses especially comforting, not remotely pointless, and irresistibly pretty. Just how you'd like life to be - especially when it's not.

Abbreviations

K: knit
K2tog: K 2 sts together (decrease)
P: purl
sl1: slip one st purlwise to right needle.
ssk: slip slip knit (decrease)
st(s): stitch(es)
wn: wrap needle - bring yarn from back to front over top of needle, then take it from front to back underneath.
yo: yarn over (increase)

Part Four

Complete the following chart once; markers are slipped between each column.

Row 1	K2	yo, K2, m1, K1, m1, K2, *yo, K2tog; repeat from * to 2 sts before marker, K2, yo - 143 sts	K2, m1, K1, m1, K2 – 7sts	yo, K2, *yo, K2tog; repeat from * to 5 sts before marker, K2, m1, K1,m1, K2, yo - 143 sts	K2
Row 2	K2	P to marker	P to marker	P to marker	K2
Row 3	K2	yo, K2, yo, K3, yo, K2, *ssk, yo; repeat from * to 2 sts before marker, K2, yo - 147 sts	K2, yo, K3, yo, K2 – 9 sts	yo, K2, *ssk, yo; repeat from * to 7 sts before marker, K2, yo, K3, yo, K2, yo - 147 sts	K2
Row 4	K2	P to marker	P to marker	P to marker	K2
Row 5	K2	yo, K3, yo, K5, yo, K3, *yo, K2tog; repeat from * to 2 sts before marker, K2, yo - 151 sts	K2, yo, K5, yo, K2 – 11 sts	yo, K2, *yo, K2tog; repeat from * to 11 sts before marker, K3, yo, K5, yo, K3, yo - 151 sts	K2
Row 6	K2	P to marker	P to marker	P to marker	K2
Row 7	K2	yo, K4, yo, K7, yo, K2, *ssk, yo; repeat from * to 2 sts before marker, K2, yo - 155 sts	K2, yo, K7, yo, K2 – 13 sts	yo, K2, *ssk, yo; repeat from * to 13 sts before marker, K2, yo, K7, yo, K4, yo - 155 sts	K2
Row 8	K2	P to marker	P to marker	P to marker	K2

Stitch count on completed chart:

2	155	13	155	2

for more information and knitting resources, visit www.marykeenanknits.com

Part Four cont'd

Border Option 1 – 3-dimensional lace with scallops, Anne of Green Gables puffs, and Nancy Drew flips

Complete the following chart once; remove markers in Row 1, then add more between each of the 13 lace repeats in Row 3 if desired.

Row 1	Knit.
Row 2	K1, P to last st, K1.
Row 3	K1, *K2tog 4 times, [yo, K1] 4 times, K1, [K1, yo] 4 times, K2tog 4 times; repeat from * to last st, K1.
Row 4	K1, P to last st, K1.
Row 5	K1, *K2tog 4 times, [yo, K1] 4 times, K1, [K1, yo] 4 times, K2tog 4 times; repeat from * to last st, K1.
Row 6	K1, P to last st, K1.
Row 7	K1, *K2tog 4 times, [yo, K1] 4 times, K1, [K1, yo] 4 times, K2tog 4 times; repeat from * to last st, K1.
Row 8	Knit.

Border Option 2 – flat, no scallops

Complete the following chart once; remove markers in Row 1.

Row 1	Knit.
Row 2	K1, P to last st, K1.
Row 3	Knit.
Row 4	K1, P to last st, K1.
Row 5	Knit.
Row 6	Knit.
Row 7	Knit.
Row 8	K1, P to last st, K1.

Stitch count on completion of either chart: 327 sts.

Cast off as follows: ssk, *wn, sl1, work all 3 sts on right needle together as if to ssk; repeat from * to end of row, cut 8" tail, pull through last remaining st.

Finishing

Wet block, blotting shawl dry in a towel before stretching and pinning it to 56" along garter edge, 29" along spine, and 42" along bottom border (or as large as you can stretch it along any side.). Air dry. If space or difficulty achieving symmetry is an issue, fold the blotted shawl down the middle of the spine – the rhythm of increased and decreased sts forms a natural fold line – and pin it out as a double layer (28" along garter edge, 29" along spine, and 42" along bottom border.) Shawl will shrink slightly once unpinned.