

NOVEMBER 2005

cottageLiving®

COMFORT **SIMPLICITY** STYLE

ENTERTAIN IN STYLE

SET YOUR BEST TABLE!

Fresh ideas and sources
from classic to cool

BEFORE & AFTER

Modern makeover
for an old cottage

THANKSGIVING MADE EASY

Mouthwatering menu
Luscious sweets
Leftovers you'll love



cottageliving.com
AOL Keyword: Cottage Living

\$3.99 US



10 instant ways to thank your host

ILIANA'S COTTAGE IS A CROSS BETWEEN Queen Anne and Adirondack—"a real hybrid," she says. It stands in a wooded community founded by artists and writers.

THE COTTAGE'S SOFT CHARCOAL HUE feels just right to Iliana. Its generous wraparound front porch serves as an outdoor room for reading the paper or enjoying breakfast. Iliana re-covered the wicker furniture to match the red trim.

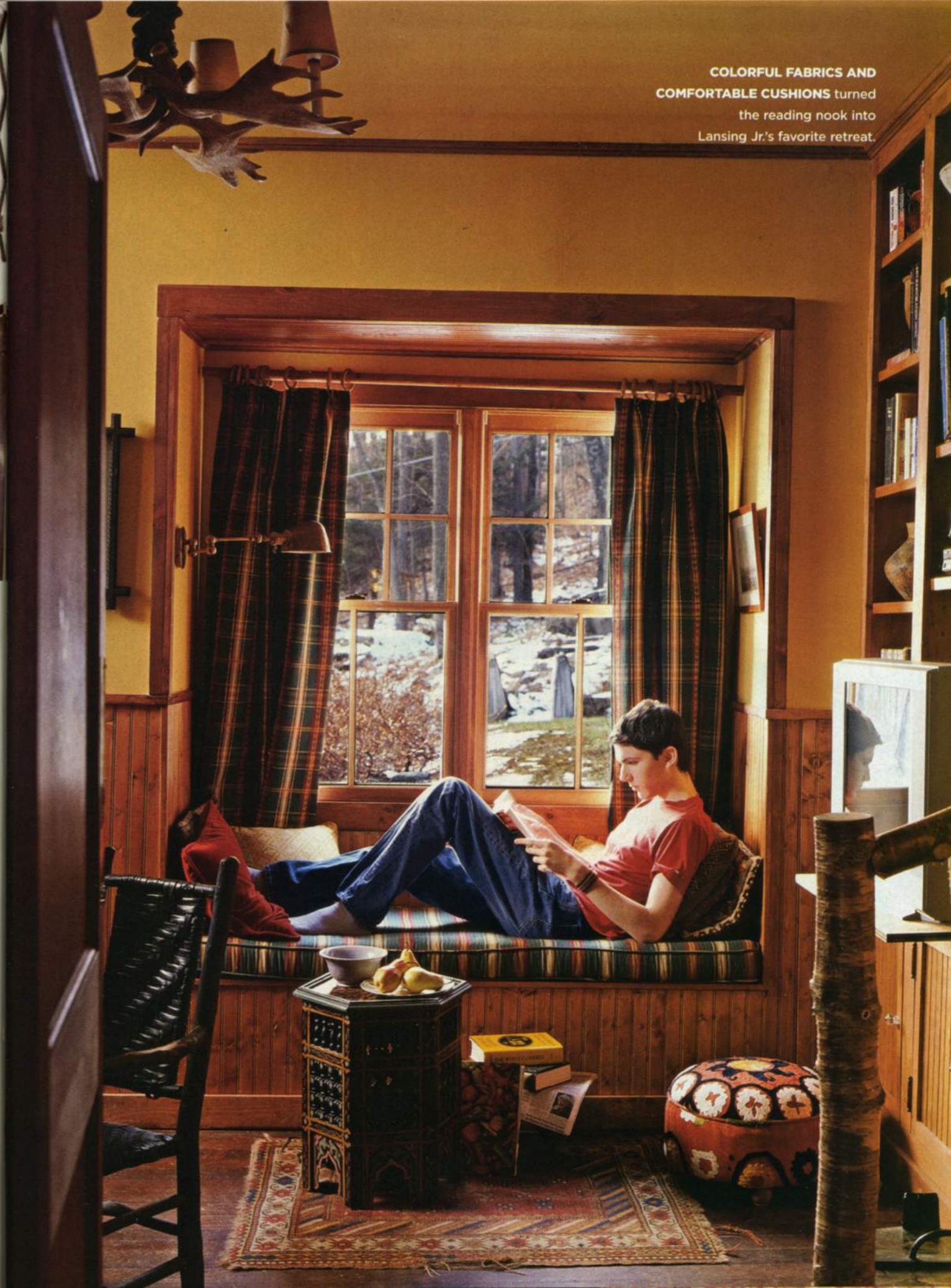


At the Catskill cottage where she grew up, designer **Iliana Moore** mixed color and pattern for a look that's part Turkish, part Victorian, and part yard sale

“This is still my favorite house”



AN INHERITED VICTORIAN SETTEE (above) sits below an original diamond-paned window in the entrance hall. Iliana's mother bought the miniature croquet set on a trip to Argentina. **ILIANA (LEFT) MIXED A "DOLLOP OF RAW UMBER"** to soften orange tones in the paint for the dining area.



COLORFUL FABRICS AND COMFORTABLE CUSHIONS turned the reading nook into Lansing Jr.'s favorite retreat.

A

A RACCOON FAMILY WAS LIVING UNDER THE STAIRS when Iliana Moore's parents bought an 1890s cottage in the Catskill Mountains 45 years ago. The grass around the house was hip-high, and all the interior corners were knit gray with cobwebs. Friends recommended ripping out the Adirondack birch bark woodwork and doing the place over sixties-style with carpeting and an avocado-colored kitchen. "Thank God my parents didn't listen to them," says Iliana, an interior decorator and designer. "My parents were sort of aesthetically challenged" and pretty much left the place alone.

The raccoon family went, but the birch bark stairwell stayed, as did original beaded-board ceilings, wainscoting, and a diamond-paned window and Dutch door. Here, Iliana spent blissful summers playing dress-up with the Victorian dresses

and military uniforms found in an old trunk left in the attic.

When she inherited the four-bedroom, three-bath house about 20 years later, Iliana and her husband, Lansing, an art restorer, knew it could use a makeover—but only one that preserved and respected the original spirit of the structure. It wasn't until she visited the historic home of painter Frederic Church—called Olana, in Hudson, New York (see "Worth a Detour," page 88)—that Iliana found her muse. That pilgrimage infused the Moores' 3,500-square-foot cottage with a new life, a palette of bright colors, and antiques and treasures from all over the world.

"Visiting Olana kicked off my Orientalist period," says Iliana, who filled her home with warm Middle Eastern hues, tribal rugs, and fabrics she and Lansing purchased on a trip to

“It means a great deal to me that I grew up here. I hope my son will take over someday and pass it on for another generation to enjoy.”



A RED DOWN-FILLED SOFA AND FLAT WEAVE Turkish rug make the living room a comfy retreat for everyone, including the family dog, Chester. “I love the living room best in fall,” Iliana says, “because its colors are the autumnal colors that are outside.”



LOTUS FLOWER CURTAINS IN ILIANA'S bedroom are another “nod to the Oriental theme.” One of her childhood friends made the ceramic hippo sculpture on the desk. The twig frame on the upper shelf contains an antique postcard.

IN THE GUEST ROOM, a striped Hudson Bay blanket accents a canopy bed that belonged to Iliana's parents. The antique Empire dresser is original to the house. “Back then when you bought a house, it often came with furniture,” she says.

GET ILIANA'S STYLE

- **CREATE HARMONY WITH COLOR AND FABRIC PATTERNS.** Juxtapose the high pattern of an Oriental rug, for example, with a linear striped fabric on pillows to achieve a balanced and unified feel.
- **CHOOSE YELLOWS WITH CARE.** Some yellow paint colors contain a lot of green, which can make a room seem chilly. For a warmer feel, pick a yellow that's closer to the color of cake batter.
- **MIX STYLES AND PERIODS.** An eclectic collection of interior decorations—like antique pull toys or Victorian etchings—provides an interesting yet homey feel. “I tried to capture the Victorian spirit in our cottage in a non-frilly way,” Iliana says.

Morocco. Combined with her collection of refinished Victorian furnishings, the cottage feels light, lush, and cozy.

“I like to think of my style as anthropological,” she says. “Our house is a little worn and funky-looking, filled with things that have had a long life and history.”

Decorating starts with color for Iliana, who calls the palette in her house “my Olana earth tones.” For the dining room, she mixed an “orange and pinky terra-cotta color” and added

“a dollop of raw umber to take out the brightness.” For the window seat, favored by her 15-year-old son, Lansing Jr., she painted a color called Morning Sunshine on the walls and covered

pillows with an assortment of checked and striped fabrics.

The combination of color continues in a guest room, once used by her parents as their master suite. Iliana kept her parents' canopy bed in here, but she replaced faded toile with a vivid green fabric. In her master bedroom she chose a striped fabric for the headboard and a lotus flower motif for curtains.

Iliana didn't stop there. She took her bold color combinations outside: “I chose black,” she says. “A chalky gray black for the house, with green and red trim for the dormers and porch.” She adds, “I OK'd it with the neighbors first.” The unconventional combination gives the cottage a startlingly different and stunning roadside appeal.

“I love harmony in colors and harmonious earth tones, and the house reflects this today,” says Iliana, whose family cherishes warm Sunday mornings on the cottage's generous front porch overlooking the same boulders she climbed as a child.

“It means a great deal to me that I grew up here. I hope my son will take it over someday and pass it on for another generation to enjoy.” ■ **GO TO THE SOURCE** page 140



“I love harmony in colors and harmonious earth tones”

Worth a detour

Olana inspired Iliana—pay a visit and you can get ideas, too! Frederic Edwin Church, an acclaimed American landscape painter, built the 1860 Persian-style retreat in Hudson, New York, and it's barely changed since he lived there with his family. For a tour, call 518/828-0135 or visit olana.org.