Beyond Tenniel: Trailblazing Illustrators of *Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland*
A Christmas Gift to a Dear Child in Memory of a Summer Day.

Chapter 1

Alice was beginning to get very tired of sitting by her sister on the back seat of the car, and of having nothing to do; once or twice she had passed into a book her sister was reading, but it had no pictures or conversations in it, and what was the use of a book unless one could read? So she was considering in her own mind (as well as she could, for the hot day made her feel very sleepy and stupid) whether the pleasure of making a long journey out of it was worth the trouble of getting up and picking the thistles, when a little white rabbit with pink eyes ran close by her.

There was nothing very remarkable in that, nor did Alice think it so very much out of the way to hear the rabbit say to itself "Dear, dear! I shall be too late!" (when she thought it over after wards, it occurred to her that she ought to have wondered at this, but at the time it all seemed quite natural); but when the rabbit actually took a watch out of its waistcoat-pocket, looked at it, and then hurried on, Alice started to her feet, for

155 years ago in 1865

a journey that began as this became this
1,463

the number of unique illustrators of

Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland

or

Through the Looking-Glass

or

both
as the most illustrated works of fiction in history, the two *Alice books* make are a perfect opportunity to trace changes of illustration as a form of visual translation
my specific research question*

a systematic and comprehensive exploration of every English-language edition beyond Tenniel of Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland to uncover the first appearance or significant change in a:

♣ setting or scene ♦ character
♥ sentence ♠ word or phrase

“Begin at the beginning, and go on till you come to the end: then stop.”

the challenge:

how many illustrations are there to review?
which contain something new or unique?

• there are 12 chapters in Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland

• Tenniel had 42 illustrations for Wonderland, but illustrators thereafter had more or fewer

• IF
  every one of the 1,463 illustrators illustrated an edition of Wonderland
  AND
  each illustrator had 42 illustrations per edition
  = 61,446 illustrations to examine and catalog the differences
as each illustrator descends down Alice’s rabbit hole, what do they each choose to translate visually?

“Begin at the beginning, and go on till you come to the end: then stop.”
“White. A blank page or canvas ... So many possibilities.”

Stephen Sondheim, Sunday in the Park with George

Lewis Carroll
Alice down the rabbit hole

John Tenniel
Alice down the rabbit hole

Lewis Carroll
The Mad Tea Party
first impressions: a case study

the Mad Tea Party

what did each illustrator add or change?
John Tenniel (1865)
early illustrated English-language editions that do not include this scene

- Mary Sibree, *Alice and Other Fairy Plays for Children* by Kate Freiligrath-Kroeker
  (London: W. Swan Sonnenschein and Allen, 1880; reissued London: George Bell and Sons, 1881)

- JPM, *Alice’s Wonderland Birthday Book*
  (London: Griffith & Farran, 1884)
JPM. Alice’s Wonderland Birthday Book

(London: Griffith & Farran, 1884)
L. J. (Lewis Jessie) Bridgman
and Charles Copeland (color frontispiece only)
(New York: Thomas Y. Crowell, 1893)
Blanche McManus
(New York: M. F. Mansfield; later: A. Wessells, 1896/1899)
Peter Newell
(New York and London: Harper & Brothers, 1901)

“He dipped it into his cup of tea and looked at it again”

“They lived at the bottom of a well”
F. Y. (Fanny) Cory
(Chicago: Rand, McNally, 1902)
Maria L. (Louise) Kirk
(New York: Frederick A. Stokes, 1904)
“I didn’t know it was your table,” said Alice. Page 81.

—Alice in Wonderland.
Millicent Sowerby
(London: Chatto & Windus, 1907)
Thomas Maybank
(London: George Routledge and Sons Limited; New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., [1907])
Arthur Rackham
(London: William Heinemann Ltd., 1907)
“What day of the month is it?” he said, turning to Alice.
"They lived on treacle."

"Learning to draw."
W. H. Walker
(London: John Lane, The Bodley Head Ltd., 1907)
Brinsley Le Fanu
(London: W. T. Stead’s Publishing House, 1907; first reissued London: Ernest Benn, Ltd.)
Harry Rountree
Harry Rountree

“Like a tea-tray in the sky.”

“Elsie, Lacie, and Tillie.”

“They put the Dormouse into the teapot.”
among many other early editions, I am skipping by...

Alice Ross (1907)
Bessie Pease Gutmann (1907)
Walter Hawes (1908)
Harry Furniss (1908)
R. E. [Robert Ernest] McEune (1908)
(Evelyn) Stuart Hardy (1908)
J. R. Sinclair (1909)
Mabel Lucie Atwell (1910)
E. Hatton Stanton (1910)
George Soper (1911)
Hugo [Olof] von Hofsten
A. E. Jackson (1914)
Gordon Robinson (1916)
Milo Winter (1916)
Gwynedd M. Hudson (1922) ...

... and I will hit upon just a few more later highlights
"The table was a large one, set for a great many people."
Willy Pogany
(New York: E. P. Dutton, 1929)
Ralph Steadman
Charles Blackman
(Wellington, New Zealand; and Frenchs Forest, Australia: Reed, 1982)
Anthony Browne
(New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1988; London: MacRae, 1988)
Gavin L. O’Keefe, The Alice Books
([Shreveport, LA]: Ramble House, 2011)
from the beginning, many illustrators accepted the challenge

and so many creative opportunities remain