



Leah Thibault is the talented designer who brings us [Wetherell](#) this issue, as well as our first blog post from Winter! You can also find it (and more!) on her [blog](#); or you can catch her chirping on [twitter](#).

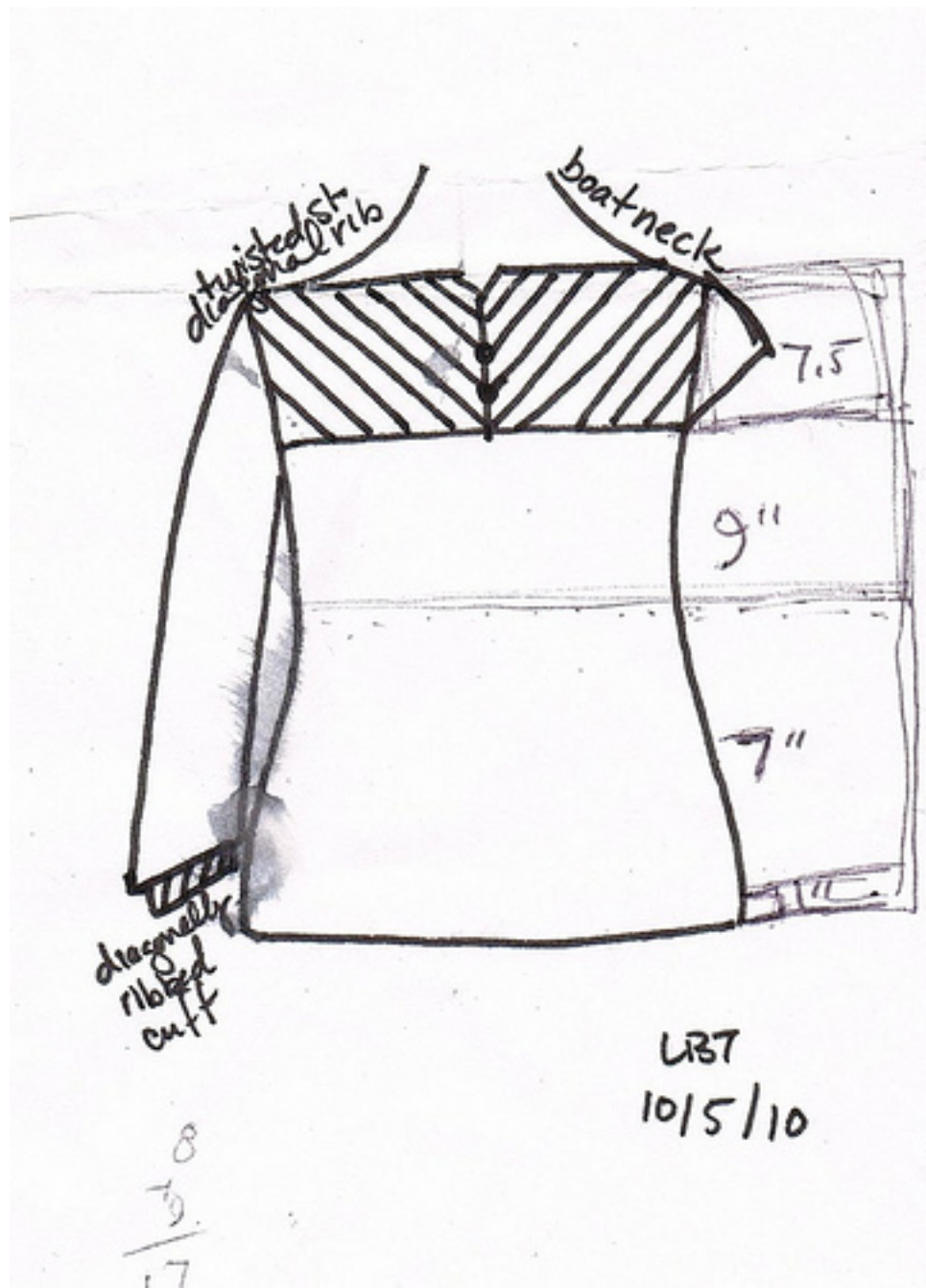


It's been a big week for me a designer, I've had not one, not two, but three designs come out in the past four days. The one I'm perhaps most excited is Wetherell, which came out in the Winter 2011 issue of Twist Collective.



This design started way back in the early days of 2010, when I challenged myself to design a sweater as my 2010 knitolution. I've knit plenty of sweaters, and adapted a few, but I wanted one that was all me.

As with most deadlines, I procrastinated and didn't even start thinking of my design until early October, when I was doodling during a meeting and came up with this (and promptly dripped water on it):



The big question was how to do the diagonal feature on the yoke. After flipping through some stitch dictionaries, I decided on modifying a slip stitch pattern. I love slip stitches because their woven-look texture and I find them less commonly used than other stitch patterns (though it is my [second Twist pattern](#) featuring slip stitches).



The downside to this heavy of a slip-stitch pattern is that it takes almost twice as many rows to get the same length as Stockinette stitch. The upside is that it looks great and since it's confined to the yoke and the cuffs, it isn't overwhelming. The name for the sweater came when [Bristol Ivy](#) and I did this photoshoot in March. It comes from the copy of [The Wide, Wide World](#) I'm holding in the shoot, a 1850 novel by Susan Warner, published under the pseudonym Elizabeth Wetherell. According to Wikipedia, it is often acclaimed as America's first bestseller (if you're interested you can read the whole thing [here](#)).



The front and back of the sweater are knit flat, while the sleeves are knit in the round until the sleeve cap, then everything is blocked and seamed together. The sweater is finished off with a knitted hem on the bottom. All together it's a simple sweater with the right amount of detail.

Both my prototype and the Twist sample were knit in [Valley Yarn's Williamstown](#), a worsted weight wool/acrylic blend in a lovely range of tweedy shades. I even found matching buttons 8 months apart in the button box at [Z Fabrics](#)



The pattern is available [here!](#)