

# WHEN A CITY GIRL *goes country*

By Annette Bridges

## I Will Love You Until the Cows Come Home

I suspect I am not the only city girl married to a country boy who goes deer hunting. I have many fun memories of sharing my man's love of hunting, especially when the experience included camping with his best buddies and their significant others.

I will never forget the first time we butchered and packaged venison from our first deer hunting trip together. My vegetarian roommate never forgave me for using our kitchen table.

Actually, my man no longer has a deer lease or joins his buddies for Colorado hunting adventures. For most of our four-plus decades together, there were a few November nights spent apart when he went hunting without me.

It was during one of these times I started experimenting with watercolor paints. Art has always been a longing and a love. In fact, I wanted to take some art classes in college, but my schedule never seemed to permit it.

My interest in creating art goes back to my young childhood years with my daddy. He was quite talented, and I have early memories of him showing me cartoon and doodling techniques. He passed away when I was 10 years old.

I decided a person did not need to be classically trained before putting a paint brush to canvas. My initial desire during this particular trip was to paint a cute love message to my honey that I would take a photo of and text to him.

The phrase, "I will love you till the cows come home," is not a new one. Curious about its origin,



"Till the cows come home" became a way to express one's love to a humorous extreme synonymous with for ages, for an eternity, eons, forevermore, a gazillion years, forever and a day. (Photo courtesy Annette Bridges)

I did some Googling.

It seems "till the cows come home" is an idiom that likely dates back to the 16th century and may have originated in the Scottish Highlands. I read that cows were allowed to graze for months at a time before they meandered and moseyed their way home in the fall.

"Till the cows come home" became a way to express one's love to a humorous extreme. Forevermore and to infinity and beyond certainly expresses the

love I feel for my cattle ranching country boy, so adding the words, "I will love you till the cows come home," seemed appropriate.

I had so much fun painting this sweet cow. I could not stop creating my funny, cute, endearing bovine masterpieces. In fact, I have dozens of finished watercolor cows on canvas.

Something else I will say about creating art, cattle ranching or anything else that makes your heart go pitter patter, is simply to do just that. If whatever you are

doing makes you happy, inspires you, brings you peace and satisfaction, then keep doing it and do more of it.

I truly believe life is supposed to be good for us. Some people say do what you are passionate about.

You are allowed to do what you love, and love what you do. Frankly, if you do not love what you are doing, my friends, then I hope you can find a way, and sometimes courage is needed, to take that daring and bold leap into the land of what you love most.