

Transcript of artist B. Proud's audio content about Holly and Shelley

Holly and Shelley live off the grid in Whiting, Maine, a tiny town near the farthest, easternmost point of the United States. In their own words, it is a very white, conservative area of the country. They are currently living in the basement foundation of a home that they are in the process of building while also starting the Wabi-Sabi Homestead, a farm of chickens, pigs, rabbits, and more. While the farm grows and becomes self-sustaining, they are both working full-time jobs. Holly is a nurse at a local hospital and Shelley at a local restaurant. In the course of her job waiting tables and tending bar, Shelley got very familiar with the local regulars who came to like her very much. This is one of those stories where the concept of getting to know someone is the key to acceptance and understanding. One night at the bar, a man became very enamored of Shelley and made some advances. When he found out that she is transgender, he threatened to kill her. But her friends and neighbors came to the rescue. They stood up for her and protected her, checked on her safety at home, and put the man in his place. They saw her as a human being.