Determined Daughter

By Suzy Hopkins

Before her husband built their tiny house they lived for months in a tent ... in the winter... in Alaska.

She makes her own bread in a solar oven.

My daughter has no running water, just a 55 gallon barrel she fills by a bucket with river water. She has one light bulb running from the generator she runs for a few hours a day keeping the freezer cold. That is vital since she caught 30 salmon, her annual quota, has a moose cut up and frozen that her husband killed and mountains of vegetables she grew this past summer carefully packed in the good-sized freezer.

Once a month she goes to town on a chartered tiny airplane to buy paper products, take a shower at the laundromat, do laundry, buy dog, rabbit and chicken food and mail me her previous 30 days journal.

Why does she live this harsh, rustic difficult way? She wants to prove to herself and her husband that she can live off of the land.

I've never gone to visit her. Why? Are you kidding? No bathroom.