Love & Laughter
In the Heartland
Librarians: ya gotta love ‘em.
Dear Papa,

These pictures are for your book. I drew one of Opa and one of Oma. They are doing things they love. I drew them from these foto's below.

Happy Holidays

♥-U-LOTS

♥ Ellen

P.S. These are rough drafts. So I’ll do better ones sometime in the summer probably.

♥-U-♥-Ellen
Rex

This farm dog could play baseball 500 (and always win), bring cows home from the pasture, and would sleep on the top of Big Brother’s car!
Together.
An aerial view of Opa and Oma’s farm in the winter.

Oma once found a newborn calf out in a field in a snowdrift. It survived alone overnight!
Illustrator Andrew Holmquist at Opa and Oma’s farm.
Stage 2: Pen and ink drawing
Stage 3: Scan and color drawing
Stage 1: Pencil drawing
Stage 2: Pen and ink drawing
Stage 3: Scan and color
Rex

The farm dog loved playing baseball 500, hauling hay, and sleeping on the roof of Big Brother’s car, Minnesota Mama!
JOHN DEERE would be proud. This snow-sculpted tractor graced the lawn of a farmhouse on Co. Rd. 110 West in Minnetrista earlier in the week. By now, it’s likely just a memory.

PHOTO BY BILL HOLM
With these illustrations Andrew would start with a pencil drawing on watercolor paper and then paint in loosely with watercolors. He would then develop the illustration with pastels while leaving some areas of the water color underneath showing through.
Andrew would then put a piece of vellum, which is like tracing paper but it holds inks better, over the colored piece and trace the image with india ink and quill pens.
Andrew would then separately scan the color page and the black line page into the computer and digitally combine them in Adobe Photoshop. He would then further color and clarify the illustration until all of the layers came together to create a rich and polished piece.
Printing Process
Color Printing Machine
Computer calibrated amount of ink flows onto press
Laminating multiple covers
Trimming
Blade Cutting Machine
Stacking book covers
Pallets of stacked book covers
Warehouse of finished books
Miracles abound. Come join Oma as she relives a farm story about a calf born in a snowstorm. Alone on the farm, Oma’s resourcefulness saves the life of a calf in a way every family will appreciate.
Climb high with your dreams!

See you soon (and maybe in a book)!
Good-by from our family in Minnesota (Land of Sky Blue Waters)