

I have a neighbor who is driving me crazy.

(she is so perfect)

My nearest neighbor is from East Tennessee. She lives just up the road in a small frame house with a tin roof. ^{from her husband's deceased grandparents,} An old house - the kind you generally see doublewides parked in front of. In S. Ga. we love our cars & we love our mobile homes - any thing with wheels and a radio or TV to keep us ^{entertained} ~~up on the latest~~.

But Jennifer, ~~the~~ neighbor is foreign to our ways. She kept the lichen-coated wood gate with it's old bell & weights that keeps it closed. She kept the brittle old barns & sheds & planted mangolds around them. She kept the oldest tree on the sideyard; she kept the grape arbor & the ~~refutable~~ garden. One morning when I passed, she was standing barefooted on the tin ^{roof} ~~skirt~~ of the front porch. (She's not trying to make the cover of Better Homes either.) She painted the wall section beneath the house (Seble). She painted the house cream with white trim & hung baskets of ^{purple} Petunias beneath the tin eaves. The ^{old} cedars ~~flowers~~ beneath the tin eaves. The ^{old} cedars each side of the doorsteps ^{stone} stand out like -
About four years ago we had a freak winter storm, and our power had been out for a couple of days. One night my husband & I were coming home from Valdosta, and Jennifer was standing in the ditch about a mile north of her house. She was holding a deer rifle & aiming it at (in S. Ga.)

the top of a power pole as if she ~~was~~ out for 2
revenge against the power company. We stopped & she
told us she was

She bakes bread for Christmas & packs it in
a tissue lined basket with a jar of frozen
blueberry jam. She last ~~Sat~~ ^{Sun} evening after
an afternoon shower, she showed up with her
two little girls on back on a pickup. They'd
barefoot in long sundresses, they got out brought
us watermelon.

~~She's a school~~
She's now a school teacher. She got her
degree in less time than it takes to go to
beauty school. She's a mom. She's a homemaker,
She's making me look like a slob.