

Episode Title: Miranda Lambert's Cast of Characters

Episode Summary:

In this week's episode, Sid Evans, Editor-in-Chief of Southern Living Magazine, chats with Miranda Lambert, a woman who's fearlessly blazed her own path through country music. Growing up in small town Texas, where there were seemingly more churches than people, she encountered every aspect of life thanks to her supportive parents and family. Her loving parents were private investigators and often opened their home to clients and other people in need – especially women who needed a safe place to escape to. And these encounters provided inspiration for much of the world weary songwriting that may have sometimes outpaced her own lived experience early in her career. But while she's been standing firmly on her own two feet for a while now, she still has an impressive intergenerational support system of women who back up her confidence and now she's got a cookbook that pays homage to them.

Episode Type: Full

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Episode Transcript:

Music: Biscuits and Jam Theme begins.

Sid Evans (VO): Welcome to Biscuits and Jam, from Southern Living. I'm Sid Evans, Editor-in-Chief of Southern Living Magazine, and in this episode I'm talking with a woman who's become one of the most successful and recognizable names in country music. Miranda Lambert grew up in a small town in Texas where there were seemingly more churches than people, but she was also exposed to some tough realities at a young age. Her parents, who were private investigators, often opened their home to clients and other people in need – especially women who needed a safe place to stay. Miranda turned some of these experiences into songs, and eventually a reputation as a tough, fearless performer who knows how to tell a story. But despite her independent streak, she also gives credit to an intergenerational support system of women who have always had her back, and now she's got a cookbook that pays homage to them. We'll talk about all that, plus her farm to table childhood, her mom's famous meatloaf, and her new hit with Morgan Wallen on this week's Biscuits & Jam.

Music: Biscuits and Jam Theme ends.

Sid Evans: Miranda Lambert, welcome to Biscuits and Jam.

Miranda Lambert:

Biscuits and Jam, what a name. (laughs)

Sid Evans:

(laughs) And especially when we're talking about your new cookbook. Congratulations on that.

Miranda Lambert:

Thank you.

Sid Evans:

So, Miranda, this is actually way more than just a cookbook. I mean, it's really a love letter to your mother, and your grandmother, and this tribe of incredibly strong (laughs) Texas women who helped to raise you.

Miranda Lambert:

Yeah.

Sid Evans:

What are some things that all these women have in common?

Miranda Lambert:

Oh, man. I think the one thing they all have in common is confidence. They all know who they are, they believe in themselves. They taught me that, just by watching them and there's so much, and we'll dig into that, (laughs) I'm sure. But I think confidence would be the word.

Sid Evans:

Yeah. Well, so paint a picture for me of this cast of characters. Who are we really talking about? 'Cause it's a lot more than just your mom.

Miranda Lambert:

It's my mom, who's Beverly, and I call 'em my aunts. That's what I call these ladies 'cause that's what they are to me. (laughs) I have a very small family. My dad has one sister and my mom has one brother. I have one blood cousin. So it's very small. And so we kinda just chose our family, (laughs) you know? With these women, Heidi and Vicky, who are sisters from Austin, Texas. And Denise, she's our resident Cajun. Her family's from Louisiana. And she's from East Texas. These cast (laughs) of characters is exactly what it is, these women that were, for lack of a better word, boss (expletive) (laughs) in their life, but to me, they're just my aunts who helped to raise me and I am so lucky to have had them. And then, the generation before that was my grandmother and her group of friends, which we called the Ya-Yas. We did steal that from Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants, (laughs) obviously. Um, and that was Ya-Ya generation one. And then my mom's and my aunts are generation two, and now me and my friends are gen three of the Ya-Yas. So this book is stories from every single generation.

Sid Evans:

So there are a lot of pictures of this crew in this book, and it looks like y'all had a lot of fun being together. What was a funny moment that happened when you were doing the photo shoots and putting it all together?

Miranda Lambert:

Oh gosh. Well, I mean, the group texts of what to wear. (laughs) I mean, they were so long. It's like, "What's everybody wearing? Should we color coordinate? Is anyone wearing fringe?" Of course we're wearing fringe, we're from Texas. (laughs) That was funny. And all of our photo shoots involved drinking.

Sid Evans:

(laughs)

Miranda Lambert:

(laughs) Because that's what we do when we get together. (laughs)

Sid Evans:

Well, you need a little bit of that just to get the smiles going, right?

Miranda Lambert:

Yeah. (laughs) Take the edge off. (laughs)

Sid Evans:

Yeah.

Miranda Lambert:

Those ladies... when we're together, there's coffee with Baileys or mimosas in hand upon rising. (laughs)

Sid Evans:

(laughs) There is a wonderful picture in this book, in the first few pages, and it's you, and your mom, and your brother, Luke, and you're working in the garden together. And you looked like you were maybe eight or 10 years old. Tell me a little bit about where that was and kind of paint a picture of that place for me.

Miranda Lambert:

That was at what we call The House That Built Me. It is the house that I grew up in, in East Texas. It was a run-down farmhouse that my mom somehow made into a beautiful home, little by little. That's why that song was so special when I heard it, because I lived it. And that was when we had kinda lost everything and my parents were starting over.

We had to start over a little bit, and move to a different town and my dad and my mom just rebuilt. I mean, they literally were like, "We're gonna start over, and rebuild our lives, and get back on our feet." And my dad decided that his family would never be hungry, and he would live off the land, and do a subsistence farm. And that's exactly what happened. My dad's a hunter, so we had tons of meat. And he planted a garden in a compost pile, and we raised rabbits and that was us working in that garden. My

mom would literally be like, "Go pick out what you want for dinner. We're having stir-fry." (laughs) And I feel like those lessons were so valuable and I didn't even know it at the time. But my mom canned everything and just really learned what survival is and really took it back down to the basics, you know? Like, we still had Fruit Roll-Ups and Pop-Tarts, but, (laughs)

Sid Evans:

(laughs)

Miranda Lambert:

But those were treats, you know? And I'm so thankful because the first thing I did whenever I became an adult is buy a farm and start a garden (laughs). I'm not very good at it. I leave town too much to grow anything, usually. (laughs) But I have help, thank God. But I think that picture sorta sets the tone for the book.

Sid Evans:

So this is in Lindale, right?

Miranda Lambert:

Mm-hmm.

Sid Evans:

They were really kind of ahead of their time, in terms (laughs) of the whole back (laughs) to the land, farm to table...

Miranda Lambert:

Yep.

Sid Evans:

... thing.

Miranda Lambert:

They were, yeah. I mean, farm to table is popular now, but we literally lived farm to table. (laughs)

Sid Evans:

Well, it's a very serious garden, and you see this picture and it's beautiful, but there was a lotta work that must've gone into that before that picture. You know?

Miranda Lambert:

Yeah.

Sid Evans:

Moving all that dirt, getting it ready to plant.

Miranda Lambert:

And we didn't have a tractor or anything. My dad did that by hand. You (laughs) gotta row to hoe.
(laughs)

Sid Evans:

Yeah. (laughs)

Miranda Lambert:

We were all part of it. My brother and I had to wake up every morning, and feed the animals, and gather the eggs and help Mom gather the veggies before school. It was such a cool way to grow up. And our house was the, not the fancy one. We didn't even have central heat and air, we had window units, but it's where all the kids wanted to come because it was homey, and it was fun, and it was free and it was in the country. And run around barefoot, and pet the goats. You know what I mean? And I feel like that foundation is such a part of me now, and who I am as an artist and as a woman.

Sid Evans:

Mm. I wanna ask about your grandmother, Nonnie, who seems to have inspired so much of this book, and of course inspired you. Tell me a little bit about her and how she brought the family together.

Miranda Lambert:

She was very fancy. It's (laughs) funny because, the other day, my brother, my mom, and I were together and Mom's like, "Did you think Nonnie was as fancy as Miranda did?" to my brother, Luke, and he's like, "Oh, yeah. Super fancy." (laughs) So, it's confirmed. She loved jewelry, and she loved finer things. She drove a Cadillac and she had one of those cigarette pouches that was sequinned, and she smoked Virginia Slims. (laughs)

Sid Evans:

(laughs)

Miranda Lambert:

She was very much glamour to us. She lived in Mesquite, Texas. I think I was 10 when she moved to Lindale to be closer to Luke and I, but she just was, like, super glam and she always had crystal and her china always matched. Going to Nonnie's for a holiday felt very glamorous to us, and I think that's where I get my love for the pretty things in life, is from her. She loved fur and, (laughs) just really, for a small town person, felt very big. You know?

Sid Evans:

So she really would've loved the Nashville scene and some of the-

Miranda Lambert:

Oh, yeah.

Sid Evans:

... the fancier aspects of your (laughs) life. (laughs)

Miranda Lambert:

She did. She came to Nashville. We lost her five years ago this week, actually. But she actually was front row in the pit at almost all of my shows for the last 20 years. I would look down and Nonnie's at the back rack with all these kids getting beer spilled on her, and she's probably spilling the beer to be (laughs) honest. Her and her friends were just a little bit wild and free. And they were just truth tellers. They would sit there with a bourbon and Coke at 1:00, and smoke, and drink and tell the truth. And I, as a songwriter, am so glad I got to witness that. (laughs) I tried to absorb every piece of it I could.

Sid Evans:

There's a great picture of her on the very first page, and it's this beautiful Thanksgiving turkey. And she looks beautiful.

Miranda Lambert:

Yes.

Sid Evans:

She's gorgeous.

Miranda Lambert:

Super glam, right? (laughs)

Sid Evans:

She really is stunning. Talk to me about the holidays with her. What did a holiday celebration look like, um, when you were at her house?

Miranda Lambert:

It was very traditional, and her and my mom ended up getting in arguments about it later on 'cause my mom was like, "Why can't we do, like, Italian Christmas?" And, (laughs) you know, it's traditional, like, turkey, dressing, ham, green bean casserole, homemade rolls, cheesecake. She really was a stickler to make the holidays very traditional. And I'm a little bit like that now too. Her dressing is famous and it's not been mastered since we lost her, but I've gotten really close. Last year, my family voted that I got the closest that anyone has since we (laughs) lost her.

Sid Evans:

Wow, okay.

Miranda Lambert:

My brother and I videoed her telling us how to make it, just 'cause we knew we would want that one day. And she would just go, "It's all in the hands." And I'm like, "What does that mean?" (laughs) And I would say, "So how much sage?" "Well, just a pinch. Not more than a pinch, 'cause then your dressing will be green." And we're like, "Okay, well, How big is a pinch?" (laughs)

Sid Evans:

(laughs)

Miranda Lambert:

Her recipe was not to the T, but it was to the T to her. So, it's a very special thing, the Nonnie dressing, and she would always make six big tin pans of it 'cause she knows we would all want dressing for days after Thanksgiving. (laughs) So, it was really special. I mean, holidays were a huge deal to her. And she had all the Santa plates, and the Santa glasses, and the red candles. I mean, she really did it big for Christmas, for sure.

Sid Evans:

I'm sure you have some of that in your house...

Miranda Lambert:

Yes.

Sid Evans:

... now.

Miranda Lambert:

I was lucky enough to get her crystal. She gave it to me. And a couple of things that she used to love to serve on she gave me. That's what's so special, is – and I don't think it's a Southern thing; I think it's just universal – this idea of passing something down that already carries so many memories and so much of your heritage. I think that part that we reiterate in this book is so important because, when I hold a plate that was my grandma's or my great-grandma's deviled egg plate, I'm like, "How many memories does this thing have? This is so great." And I feel a duty to carry on the traditions of whatever that plate represented, you know?

Sid Evans:

Mm, I love that. You talked about how each of your mother's friends had their own strengths.

Miranda Lambert:

Yeah.

Sid Evans:

Like your mom, for example, was the queen of chicken salad.

Miranda Lambert:

Oh, yeah. (laughs)

Sid Evans:

So, talk to me about how they would all sort of bring different things to the table.

Miranda Lambert:

Everybody kind of brings a piece of their personality, I feel like. Vicky's always very put together. We call her Princess V because she thinks she was royal in a past life, and she's obsessed with Tiffany's. And she's bougie. (laughs) Bougie in the best way. And more bougie than the rest of us. Like, her cupcakes always are on a tower and match the theme of whatever the party or celebration is. And so she always brings the fancy. And then Heidi is always the solid one. She's probably the best cook of all of us. Her and Denise are the best out of everybody, but she just is consistent. Heidi is one of those people that you feel the love baked in the muffins. You know she just sprinkled 'em with all this fairy dust. And Denise is our resident Cajun girl. So we've got all this amazing, rich, Cajun influenced food with the gumbo, and shrimp toast. And Denise is not about a calorie count. It's just going all the way for it. And there's enough to feed an army, no matter what. If Denise makes it, there will be leftovers (laughs) for days. So everybody kinda has their specialty. I am the kid, so I'm usually the one that's running and refilling the cocktails.

Sid Evans:

(laughs)

Miranda Lambert:

So I don't cook a lot when the queens are around. It's funny 'cause when they came to Nashville so we could get some footage and stuff last month, I flew them all up here, and they were like, "What's funny is, we haven't seen you cook, and you have a cookbook." (laughs) And I was like, "Why would I when y'all are in the room?" (laughs) But my friends, my generation, our Ya-Yas, we're carrying it out. So when the queens aren't there, I do work in the kitchen. But when they're there, I'm like, "Nope. I'll make the drinks." (laughs)

Sid Evans:

(laughs) So, Miranda, you've had more success than just about anybody in country music. I mean, you've won so many awards, but you've also been through some tough times – a divorce, the loss of your father's best friend. What are some of the ways that these women have rallied around you when you really needed it the most?

Miranda Lambert:

In every way. They've been there for the first time I ever performed on a stage, and they - were there to pick me up when I was at my lowest, just having a rough time. And same for them. This group of ladies, they're all 20 years older than me. At least. And, um, they're in their 50s and 60s, and, I mean, Denise used to change my diapers. I've known her my whole life and met Heidi and Vicky when I was about eight. So, I feel like watching them go through so much life, it prepared me for what was coming, in a

way. And as a songwriter, I started writing at 17. I didn't have a ton to write about then, yet, so the dinner table is where I started gathering information, or hanging out with those girls on a camping trip, just being around stories of real life stuff. There's breast cancer, and illness, and death, and divorce, and breakups, and marriages, and babies, and (laughs) graduations. You can't make old friends. This is a whole life full of life, and we did it together. And so, when they sorta rallied around me as a grown woman versus the kid of the group, I felt really supported and they were my first call when I got engaged, and my first call when I got divorced. You know? That's just kinda how I needed them on both ends of that spectrum. (laughs) And they were there, and they have been there through everything. I'm so lucky to have that group of aunts (laughs) around me. I feel like everybody has that group. And if they don't, I hope this book inspires them to go find that group for themselves because it's so important to have friendships and family, whether it's family by blood, or family you choose, to celebrate with. 'Cause, at the end of the day, we're all driven, and we have careers, and everybody goes 100 miles an hour in their lives. But the memories are all we're left with, so we have to make some.

Sid Evans:

That's the truth.

Music: Biscuits & Jam theme begins as a music bed.

Sid Evans (VO): After the break, I'll talk more with Miranda Lambert about her church, her mom's marriage-worthy meatloaf, and much more.

Music: Biscuits & Jam theme fades up, then out.

[AD BREAK]

Music: Biscuits & Jam theme fades up, then down to a music bed.

Sid Evans (VO): Welcome back to Biscuits & Jam, from Southern Living. I'm Sid Evans, and today I'm talking with country superstar and now cookbook author, Miranda Lambert.

Music: Biscuits & Jam theme fades out.

Sid Evans:

I've heard you say that you grew up going to church quite a bit. And I think you said in the book there was something like 212 churches in Lindale. (laughs)

Miranda Lambert:

(laughs) In Smith County there- I had not...

Sid Evans:

(laughs)

Miranda Lambert:

... realized that til my husband, I took him home. He's a New Yorker and (laughs) he just was like, "Why are there so many churches everywhere?" (laughs)

Sid Evans:

(laughs)

Miranda Lambert:

There's more churches than people.

Sid Evans:

(laughs)

Miranda Lambert:

And I was like, "That's an interesting thought. I never-" I just was used to it. So, you know, the south. That's just how it is. There's a Baptist church on every corner, and I Googled it, and it was like 200-and-something churches in our county alone. And I (laughs) was like, "Oh my gosh, that's crazy." But, yeah, faith was such a huge part of growing up for me. It was church every Sunday, every Wednesday night. I sang in the youth group, I sang in the choir. My dad played guitar in the church band. It was a big part of what I built my foundation on. And I think that having that small town childhood with the living off the land and survival skills that my dad had instilled, and then our faith as a family, I feel like really carried me through those first crazy years of getting into the music business. It's not easy and you can be pulled in a thousand directions. And I feel like, if I hadn't had that foundation, I could've strayed off in a million other directions and maybe not stayed true to my core. But I've always stayed so true to my gut and the core of who I am because of all those things I just mentioned.

Sid Evans:

Yeah, so can you describe the church that you went to? I mean, there's so many churches in that county. What did it look like? What did it sort of feel like?

Miranda Lambert:

I grew up Pentecostal first. And then, when we moved to Lindale, we kinda went nondenominational, but it was kinda labeled as Baptist. So sort of a mix. We had the most awesome pastor. We were really close to his family, the Offett family. And it was all about music. I think I really learned how to sing. You know? Growing up with the Pentecostal, that's all about the music and the hairpins flying and, (laughs) raising hands in the air. And I think that's where I started to pick up harmonies and understand what that meant. And then I started singing in seventh grade, in the youth group, and I was very shy. But church felt like a good place to start because it wasn't as scary because (laughs) it felt like a safe house. And I really learned how to sing at church.

Sid Evans:

So I wanna talk about your mom for a second, Miranda, and we actually have a little bit of history with your mom, and her meatloaf.

Miranda Lambert:

Yeah. Oh, I'm aware. (laughs)

Sid Evans:

So we ran this recipe, I think it was about 10 years ago.

Miranda Lambert:

Was it 2010? I think it was.

Sid Evans:

So even 13 years ago, maybe.

Miranda Lambert:

Yeah. It was a long time ago.

Sid Evans:

It's called Bev's Famous Meatloaf, and it's still up on the site, and still going strong, and you claim that this recipe will get you married.

Miranda Lambert:

Yeah. Well...

Sid Evans:

So- (laughs)

Miranda Lambert:

... she claimed that, and so now that's a thing. She always says, "It's the loaf that'll getcha the ring," and I mean, it worked for me twice, so (laughs) there's that. (laughs) Everybody that knows our friend group, knows these ladies, knows if you're getting serious with someone, you either bring 'em to Bev Lambert's house to have the loaf, or you make it for them yourself. And I think there's, like, 10 cases where people either brought 'em to Mom's and then got engaged, or made the meatloaf and then got engaged. (laughs) I don't know, it's just like a little spell. There's something in there. (laughs)

Sid Evans:

Well, it seems to work, clearly, and people love it on the site, and I'm glad they're still coming back to it. (laughs)

Miranda Lambert:

Yeah.

Sid Evans:

All these years later.

Miranda Lambert:

It's literally one of her biggest moments of her life is getting editor's pick in Southern Living. She'll never not talk about it. (laughs)

Sid Evans:

(laughs)

Miranda Lambert:

And, also, she named it Bev's Famous Meatloaf. (laughs)

Sid Evans:

(laughs) Well...

Sid Evans:

... it is famous now. (laughs) So, your mom clearly knows how to have fun. But she's also a pretty tough customer. She was a private detective.

Miranda Lambert:

Yep.

Sid Evans:

And she did a lot to help victims of domestic abuse. What are some things that you learned from your mom about helping people?

Miranda Lambert:

We had an open door policy growing up. Anyone that needed help, we helped because people did that for us when we were in a struggling situation. I think that her and Dad just had a calling for really trying to lift these women up that were going through a rough time, and I saw a lot. I had a pretty sheltered childhood in a way, because it was like church on Sunday, football Fridays. Mom had cookies when we got home, even though she had just been staking out somebody's house, watching them cheat or (laughs) whatever. It still felt really normal to Luke and I. But we saw firsthand, with these women and children coming into our home, sitting around our dinner table, helping us do dishes, they had bruises on their face and they were battered, and abused, and their kids were, and they were living in our home, and it was just a lot to see up close. But I think that my mom- I'm glad that her and Dad didn't shy away from letting us see that because that's real life. That's hard stuff, man. And you can't just live in their

small town little Baptist bubble. That's not reality. And so I'm glad that I had firsthand view of, "Oh, life can really be a (expletive) sometimes," (laughs) and I think that's where I got a lot of my material for songwriting early on is seeing hard stuff. And also the servant's heart of helping people through something. I just think it's so important of a lesson to learn to, stop and take a minute and help somebody. When they need to be picked up, pick 'em up. You know? And that was really instilled in Luke and I from early age.

Sid Evans:

Mm. Miranda, you had a big hit back in 2011, I think, called "Mama's Broken Heart." And it was all about a girl and her mom who have kind of two different ideas of getting through a breakup. What did Bev think of that one?

Miranda Lambert:

She loved it. I mean, that story is not necessarily her, but there is a lot of women out there that would rather sweep it under the rug. There's an element in every southern woman's home of, like, "The preacher's coming. Clean, put everything in the laundry room. That's just how it was. Make sure nobody sees our dirty laundry", and she's definitely not like that now. But there was a little element of that, but I feel like I wrote a few songs about my mom because, like any mom and daughter, my teen years weren't that easy. We were not best friends at that point. We are now, and we were before then, but 17 to 20 is pretty hard on mom and daughter, especially we were working together. She was trying to manage me, kind of. She was just trying to get me gigs, and trying to help me get on the radio, and we were traveling around the country in a Ford Explorer with bologna sandwiches like Loretta, just trying to get heard...

Miranda Lambert:

... with my guitar. And so we fought a lot. But I got it out of my system with that song because we had had those hard years.

Sid Evans:

Well, you must look back on all that time and think, "What a gift, all that time with my mom, driving around," and-

Miranda Lambert:

Oh, yeah.

Sid Evans:

...might not have seemed that great at the time, but those bologna sandwiches probably seem pretty cool now.

Miranda Lambert:

They were. And I know how hard the entertainment industry is because I've lived in it forever. But I am so thankful for a support system. My parents heard me when I said, "I wanna do this. I'm gonna chase

it." And they were like, "We're gonna spend your college money on it, so there's no net. There's no backup plan." You know? And it made me just work that much harder, because I didn't have a backup plan, but I had a support system in my brother, and my parents, and my uncle and my aunts. And everybody was, like, cheering me on and there to help me push through the hard. 'Cause early on they work you to (laughs) death. There's some really hard days. I missed every birthday party, funeral, wedding. I mean, I missed everything. I was on the road for 300 days a year. But I am making up for that now and nobody held it against me.

Miranda Lambert's song "Mama's Broken Heart." fades in and we hear the following at full volume:

:43 seconds to 1:06(fade out in the instrumental)

Go and fix your makeup girl, it's just a breakup

Run and hide your crazy and start actin' like a lady

'Cause I raised you better, gotta keep it together

Even when you fall apart

But this ain't my mama's broken heart

Sid Evans:

I wanna ask you about another mom song. And that's one you recently wrote with Morgan Wallen. It's called "Thought You Should Know." And it's turned into a number one hit. Tell me how that one came together.

Miranda Lambert:

My friend, Nicolle, was over at my house and we were drinking rosé. We were supposed to write, but we just hung out. (laughs) And she called me the next day and was like, "Hey, I have a write with Morgan today, and somebody backed out. Do you wanna come?" And I was like, "Sure." And so, we had the best day. We sat on her porch and made a couple drinks and just really talked. And I got to know Morgan. He's a sweetheart. He's a little East Tennessee boy and a new artist. I try to be there for new artists of any kind because I know the road ahead, and that it can be bumpy. We were just talking about, like, "What do you wanna write about?" And he was like, "I kinda wanna write a song to my mom 'cause I know she worries about me so much." And so we did. We wrote three songs that day, actually. I love them all. But this one was for sure special. And it was really cool for Morgan to let down his guard and write with two girls about somebody that's so special to him. I'm glad that he felt comfortable enough to, like, open up to us and let us sorta tell that story for her. I still haven't got to meet her. But I'd wanna give her a hug round her neck 'cause I'm very proud to be part of a song that's about her.

Sid Evans:

Well, I think that's somewhere in your future. I'm sure of it. (laughs)

Miranda Lambert:

Yeah.

Morgan Wallen's song, Thought You Should Know" (co-written by Miranda Lambert) comes in and we hear the following at full volume:

*I thought you should know
That all those prayers you thought you wasted on me
Must've finally made their way on through
I thought you should know
I got me a new girl down there in Jefferson City, and
She lets me fish whenever I want to.....*

Sid Evans:

Well, Miranda, I just have one more question for you. What does it mean to you to be Southern?

Miranda Lambert:

Oh, man. (laughs) Well, I'm Texan and Southern. (laughs) So, it means the world. Sometimes there's this connotation with Southern people and the one thing I know about us is that we're welcome, come one, come all, come as you are. And I take so much pride in that. Our book is very much about being Southern, but it's the not judgmental kind, and that's the most important thing to me. It's come as you are, stay as long as you need to. That's southern to me.

Sid Evans:

Well, Miranda, congrats on the book. It's just great. And thanks so much for being on Biscuits and Jam.

Miranda Lambert:

Thank you. It was a great interview. I really appreciate it.

Sid Evans:

Really enjoyed it.

Miranda Lambert:

All right. I'll talk to you soon.

Music: Biscuits and Jam Theme begins.

Sid Evans (VO): Thanks for listening to my conversation with Miranda Lambert. Southern Living is based in Birmingham, Alabama. Be sure to follow Biscuits & Jam on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, or wherever you listen. And we'd love your feedback. If you could rate this podcast and leave us a review, we'd really appreciate it. You can also find us online at southernliving.com/biscuitsandjam. Our theme song is by Sean Watkins of Nickel Creek. I hope you'll join us next week for an encore with one of my favorite young performers in country music, the incredible Lainey Wilson. We'll see you then.

Music: Biscuits and Jam Theme ends.

