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101 Ways to Say Thanks to Your Mom

Multi-platinum selling country music star Jo Dee Messina coauthors this entertaining, heartwarming Chicken Soup for the Soul collection

COS COB, Conn. – When was the last time you thanked your mom for all her hard work? And do you sometimes wonder if your own parenting efforts are making a difference? Jo Dee Messina knows exactly what that’s like: “We women tend to be self-deprecating. We wonder if we are ‘enough.’” In fact, the lyrics to Jo Dee’s song, “Me,” which talks about how mothers sometimes wonder if they are “enough,” are included in the book, along with a link to a performance of the song by Jo Dee.

Mothers need to know they are appreciated, that they make a difference, and that their children view them as role models. And that’s just what this collection of entertaining, heartwarming stories accomplishes. It’s a gigantic “Thank You” to mothers of all ages, and a confidence booster for moms who are still in the trenches raising their kids. Whether you’re 16 or 60, this is a great way to let your mother, your stepmother, your mother-in-law, and any other mom in your life know that she did a great job and that you love her. She’ll laugh out loud, she’ll nod her head in recognition, and she may even tear up a few times as she reads the 101 personal stories in *Chicken Soup for the Soul: Thanks to My Mom* (Chicken Soup for the Soul Publishing, LLC; Amy Newmark and Jo Dee Messina; March 17, 2015, 978-1-61159-945-9, \$14.95).

Jo Dee Messina tells a story about her biggest, most supportive fan—her mom. From her first day of kindergarten to her first national tour to her new role as a working mother, Jo Dee’s mom has always been there for her, saying, “Remember, there is a string that goes between your heart and mine. Even when you think you’re far away. Our hearts are joined together, always.”

Chicken Soup for the Soul: Thanks to My Mom shares stories about every aspect of motherhood. You’ll chuckle over moms who make waves, like the one who wheedles her way onto a secured Navy airbase just to deliver cookies to her son. You’ll laugh about moms getting into the kind of trouble their kids used to get into, like the one who snuck into a tattoo parlor to see if they could remove the Sharpie cat whiskers on her face. And you’ll be impressed by the moms whose lessons about integrity, fair play, respect and compassion are still guiding their grown children’s lives. What will strike you the most is the lasting impact that mothers have on their kids, proving that all that hard work does indeed pay off!

ABOUT JO DEE MESSINA

Jo Dee Messina is currently out on the road in support of her latest album *ME*, which is being dubbed her best album to date, combining 12 tracks of up-tempo songs and heartfelt tunes. *ME* showcases the journey Messina has been on since parting ways with her record label in 2012 and breaking out with her own Dreambound Records. Known for her electrifying live performances and powerhouse vocals, it comes as no surprise that Messina’s ever-growing devoted fan base across the country continues to surpass expectations with their support. Messina’s latest single, “He’s Messed Up,” is a rock-infused track written by Messina and Alyssa Bonagura that features back-up vocals by the fans who helped make Messina’s new music happen as Kickstarter backers, including a 14-year-old who took the day off from school to be a part of the record. The single has gained great momentum at radio and has quickly become a fan-favorite out on the road. Since breaking onto the music scene with the hit “Heads Carolina, Tales California,” Messina has had nine #1 songs, including “I’m Alright,” “Bring On The Rain” (a duet with





Tim McGraw), “That’s The Way,” “Bye Bye,” and “My Give A Damn’s Busted,” as well as thirteen Top 20 singles. She has scored three #1 albums, sold more than 5 million albums worldwide and has won countless awards including the Academy of Country Music's Top Female Artist of the Year and the CMA's prestigious Horizon Award. Jo Dee was the first female country artist to score three multiple-week #1 songs from the same album.

ABOUT CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE SOUL

Chicken Soup for the Soul, the world’s favorite and most recognized storyteller, publishes the famous Chicken Soup for the Soul book series. With over 100 million books sold to date in the U.S. and Canada alone, more than 250 titles, and translations into more than 40 languages, “chicken soup for the soul” is one of the world’s best-known phrases and is regularly referenced in pop culture. Today, 22 years after it first began sharing happiness, inspiration and wellness through its books, this socially conscious company continues to publish new titles, but has also evolved beyond the bookstore with super premium pet food, a line of high quality food to bring people together for healthy meals, and a variety of licensed products and digital offerings, all inspired by stories. Chicken Soup for the Soul has recently expanded into visual storytelling through movies and television. Chicken Soup for the Soul is “changing the world one story at a time®.”

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To receive a review copy of *Chicken Soup for the Soul: Thanks to My Mom*, or to request an interview, please contact Shelby Sledge at (512) 206-0229 or shelby@sheltoninteractive.com.

