

When I was a little girl, what I wanted most when I grew up was to be just like my Mama. Every day she woke up with a smile on her face and a song in her heart - even though she worked long, hard hours. She loved to cook. She served every single meal with love and gratitude for all of the blessings in their lives. She learned this from her Mama.

In honor of them, I'm so proud to be able to bring you *Southern Plate: Classic Comfort Food That Makes Everyone Feel Like Family*. It's a collection of the recipes that have been handed down through my family along with the stories of the good folks who made them and what they taught me. I put my heart into this book and I hope it will reach out and touch your heart as well.

Even though I have children of my own, to this day I still want to be just like my Mother when I grow up and I wanted you to know that there is someone who feels that same admiration for you. A copy of *Southern Plate* has been pre-ordered as a gift to you and will be mailed out as soon as it is released this October.

I hope you enjoy it with your family, and know how grateful we all are to mothers like you for the full and wonderful lives we lead today.

Christy

