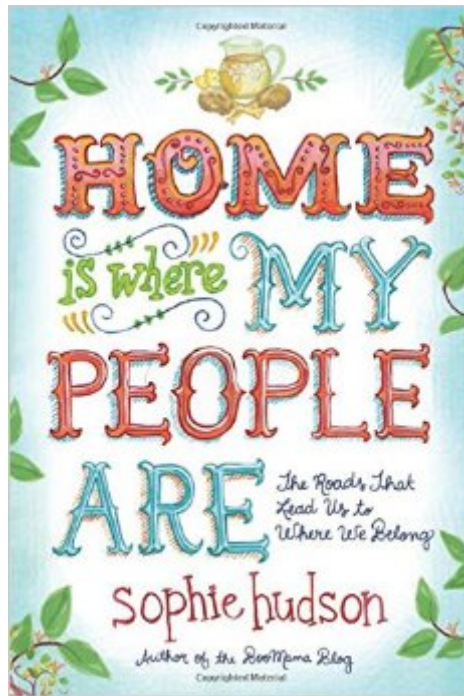


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# Home Is Where My People Are: The Roads That Lead Us To Where We Belong



## Synopsis

All roads lead to home. It's easy to go through life believing that we can satisfy our longing for home with a three-bedroom, two-bath slice of the American dream that we mortgage at 4 percent and pay for over the course of thirty years. But ultimately, in our deepest places, we're really looking to belong and to be known. And what we sometimes miss in our search for the perfect spot to set up camp is that wherever we are on the long and winding road of life, God is at work in the journey, teaching us, shaping us, and refining us—sometimes through the most unlikely people and circumstances. In *Home Is Where My People Are*, Sophie Hudson takes readers on a delightfully quirky journey through the South, introducing them to an unforgettable cast of characters, places, and experiences. Along the way, she reflects on how God has used each of the stops along the road to impart timeless spiritual wisdom and truth. Nobody embodies the South like Sophie Hudson, and this nostalgic celebration of home is sure to make even those north of the Mason-Dixon line long to settle in on the front porch with a glass of sweet tea and reflect on all of the people in our lives who—related or not—have come to represent home. Because at the end of the day, it's not the address on the front door or even the name on the mailbox that says home, but the people who live and laugh and love there, wherever there might happen to be.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Sophie Hudson's new book *Home is Where My People Are: The Roads that Lead Us to Where We Belong* is funny, touching, and unexpectedly soul-stirring. Sophie takes the reader on a journey from a Mississippi childhood to adult life in Birmingham, Alabama. With a truly Southern flair, this

memoir chronicles not just life's eventful moments but highlights the people who walked the journey with her. I loved this book for several reasons. First, I laughed a lot! Sophie's discussion of poor clothing choices sent me into giggles. As a 20-something in the 90's, I can recall having every appalling outfit she describes in my closet. Even better is when Sophie shares stories of her first years as a teacher and the chaos and uncertainty she faced every day. O how I related! One of my favorite chapters is "Seventeen Helpful Terms for the Formerly Wayward and/or Semi-prodigal Who Decides to Go to Church Again." Those of us who have grown-up in church will so relate to these churchisms that the new Christian doesn't really get. Her definitions of "edge of protection," "small group," and "season" had me rolling my eyes and laughing in agreement. Amidst the chuckles, there were several moments when I requested another tissue from my stylist. The book brims with tucked away sentences that bring the big truths of life into focus. The reality of each one brings to mind how that truth is evident in your own life. I've moved around a good bit (much like Sophie did) and left "my people" behind in another state. When she speaks of being vividly aware "of a profound feeling of familiarity" a confidence in being known by the people who belong to a place, the tears flowed. I was overcome with an urge to pick up the phone and call those who truly "know" me yet still love me.

Do you want a fun read, guaranteed to make you laugh til you want to pee? Sophie Hudson's book, *Home is Where My People Are*, will make you laugh, cry, and laugh some more. Sophie writes the blog, BooMama.net. I got real close to meeting her at Allume in Greenville last October. I was at the back of the crowd, standing on my tiptoes to glimpse her after she made me cry with her Allume keynote speech. I signed up to review her latest book with Tyndale House Publishers. I have had this book for a month. It did not take me a month to read, however. It took me just one day! I have since been savoring the chapters, reading them over and over again. And rewriting drafts of this review. I mean it is hard to review a book like this in a way. What can I say other than it was great! My favorite chapter of the book is her discussion of the New Orleans wedding in July entitled, "Friends Don't Let Friends Plan Late-Summer Weddings." She writes: "Certainly, I understand that New Orleans has a reputation for great food and great music and a certain degree of, um, mirrh, but none of that negates the fact that July and August are miserable down there. | OH, MY SEET FANCY MOSES. All I could think of was a song I used to hear on Hee Haw when I was a little girl: Gloom, despair, and agony on me Deep, dark depression, excessive misery | Not that I was being melodramatic or anything." Then her prayer made me roll: "Dear Heavenly Father, I realize I have been a little distant lately, what with all my

questioning and stubbornness and insistence that You should really consider doing things my way. Forgive me for all that, Lord, and help me to trust You more.â œNow.

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