

An encouraging testimony from Sunny Sweeney

As a fan of American Country music, I recently bought Sunny Sweeney's new album "Married Alone" (I recommend the tracks: "Easy As Hello", "Want You To Miss Me", and "All I Don't Need"). This month, Sunny was interviewed on the Jack Ingram show:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UERcbgRSWyU>

53.27 minutes in, Sunny tells how things were going badly, having been dropped by her record label and she wanted to give up:

"In 2012, I got dropped from Big Machine [Records]...

I told my Mom ... "I'm quitting, I cannot do this anymore."

She's like, "OK, do me a favour. You need to get down on your knees and you need to pray. Because I know that this is what you're supposed to do. But if you ask God for a sign, a visible, undeniable, 100% can't walk away from it sign, and you don't get that sign, then I will stand behind you and I will be proud of you no matter what you do. But you have to do this for me, please, and give yourself a time limit."...

I gave myself 14 days and I was praying like I've never prayed. I was like, "Hey Man, 14 days, I need a sign. And if you don't give me that, I'm quitting. So, if you want me to use my talent, that you gave me, you better come up with a plan Dude." That's what I said to God.

And I was praying hardcore.

So, on the 14th day morning, I called my Mom and said, "well, hope you're prepared, today's the day."

And, she's like, "Fully understand, whatever you need, I've got your back. If you did this truthfully and this is what you've come to, I support you."

Five O'clock, Bob rung me up from the ACMs, [Academy of Country Music Awards] - who I've never spoken to in my life - calls me. Says that I've got an ACM nomination.¹ Without a song on the radio. Without a record deal. Without anything.

I lost my s**t ...

I'd never been nominated for anything in my life, ever, 'specially music related. No songs on the radio in two years at that point. No record deal. I think I might be the only artist that ever has got a nomination from the ACMs that was without a record deal.

So, that was in December of 2012. So now we're ten years later. Still to this day, when things get hard, and when I go 'I hate everything. I wanna quit', then I always go back to that and go, 'I know this is what I'm supposed to be doing'. So, that day is why I will not give up."

Adrian Vincent. October 2022.

¹ New Female Artist of the Year nomination 2013: <https://countrymusicrocks.net/2013/01/sunny-sweeney-garners-acm-new-female-vocalist-of-the-year-nomination.html/>