Song Stories With Amanda Cook

**“You Make Me Brave”**  
\* The best songs are written in a moment, but take a lifetime to create.  
\* A massive tidal wave was coming, and instead of running from it, you were waiting for it to come and take you under and over and out.  
\* Songwriting is visual, and it is a partnership. “Ok, God, you show me something and I will sing the picture you show me.”  
\* Written out of a holy fear of the Lord, and an awareness of His goodness and faithfulness, and that He is for us.  
\* The bridge came later - it was language for a response to an invitation.  
\* It requires bravery to be seen and known, to become intimate with someone, and let them that close.  
\* “You make me brave” is a prophetic statement against fear.  
\* The natural response for human beings is to be afraid when God wants to come close.  
\* He is and always has been an all consuming fire, but it is the sin that keeps us away from Him that he consumes, so that He can be close.  
\* It requires bravery from human beings to say yes to something we will spend the rest of our life searching out.  
\* “All of heaven is always shouting ’do not be afraid” - Will Matthews

**“We Dance”**  
\* Co-written with Steffany Gretzinger  
\* Steffany painted the picture of dancing and intimacy, and Amanda added the concept of looking into the eyes of Jesus.  
\* The concept is looking into the eyes of the Lord. They eyes are the window to the soul.  
\* It is one of the most intimate acts.

**“Shepherd”**  
\* 28 years in the making, written in 5 minutes.  
\* Keep the perspective of the faithfulness of the Lord in your life.  
\* It is a song of rememberance.  
\* “Oh how I love You, You have not forsaken me” a stamp on her life.

**“Closer”**  
\* Great songs are springboards that take you to the song that is in your heart to sing.  
\* The chorus was written out of a moment.  
\* “pull me a little closer” was like a whisper dare.  
\* Bridge - the “woahs” were a feeling that she did not have lyrics to express.