



## What the press is saying about Jason Isbell's *Something More Than Free*, thus far...

★★★★ - Billboard      9/10 - UNCUT

*"With his honeysuckle drawl and unrivaled knack for lyrical detail, Jason Isbell is arguably the most revered roots-rock singer-songwriter of his generation...It's a master class in songwriting..."* ★★★★★ - Rolling Stone

*"...he has developed into one of the great American songwriters...in a world where most pop songs are lies, Isbell is determined to find truth."* ★★★★★ - USA Today

*"...another career definer from one of America's most unsung voices"*  
Grade: A - Entertainment Weekly

*"...Something More Than Free is a collection of songs about how the narrator is freed from the bondage of self, so that he can be of better use to other people. The music may frequently be quiet, but it as often as not rings with the promise of joy."*  
- NPR Fresh Air

*"The artistry at work here makes this album instantly accessible, engaging, but also built to last—a smooth yet deep outing that proves, along the way, that Jason Isbell, who is now finding growing popular success, has the goods to be a James Taylor- or Paul Simon-level singing, songwriting star." –* Wall Street Journal

*"Isbell's terrific new album is as solid as they come...as a lyricist, Isbell is in peak form here." -* Los Angeles Times

*"...what's impressive is that Mr. Isbell, working again with the renegade country producer Dave Cobb, has maintained a taut precision in his new songs."*  
- New York Times

*"...the album balances clarity and grit in a way that highlights Isbell's competing halves: On one side, he's an immaculate songsmith of the old-school tradition; on the other, he's a rebel with ragged edges." -* NPR Music

*"It's not just a good album. It's an album so good that I now have to rethink my opinion of an entire genre." -* Stereogum

*"This is a record designed for close listening and intense dissection, as Isbell casts himself as a woeful troubadour possessing an immeasurable level of depth."*  
★★★★ - ABC News.com

*"There's no better songwriter on the planet at this moment, no one operating with the same depth, eloquence or feeling." -* American Songwriter

*"Each song is chock-full of sharp lyrics, wry observations, and effortless turns of phrase, solidifying Isbell and one of today's most gifted songwriters."*

**- Garden & Gun**

*"There's not a singer-songwriter around right now half as mindful of plot and character motivation."* – **Esquire.com**

*"There's a lot of sighing inherent in Isbell's music, confronting a lot of awful—and sometimes beautiful—truths about Southern life and history."* - **Pitchfork**

*"...he presents 11 tracks so fresh-faced and downright beautiful that you'd think he was a no-name musician writing for his life...Isbell's writing is empowering, but sensitive and humble."* - **Relix**

*"...from the start through the finish of 'Something More Than Free', Isbell cements his position as the best songwriter of his generation...he joins a rarified fraternity that includes the likes of Neil Young and Bruce Springsteen."* - **TONE Audio**

*"...when relating his ever-literate tales of down-on-their-luck characters, there's a welcoming hopefulness — a sly grin and a knowledge that, worry not, it does get better."* - **SPIN**

*"Even if he never gets a snappy nickname like Bruce did, though, Isbell has already joined the pantheon of history's greatest songwriters."*

**- 9.5 out of 10 – Absolute Punk.com**

*"Isbell carefully crafts vignettes that somehow manage the trick of sounding both modern and timeless."* - **Boston Globe**

*"...expansive in scope and theme...each time I listen to the album I am drawn to a new song, for a different reason than the last time I heard it."* - **Oxford American**

*"Isbell's increasing skill as a storyteller, and the natural affinity he has for melody, combine to make 'Something More Than Free' a masterful piece of work."*

**– Paste**

*"'Something More Than Free' is like a novel set to music, each of its 11 songs a separate chapter that, when absorbed in full, leave you with the same kind of psychic shift a good book sets into motion."* - **Blurt**

*"Like Steve Earle, Bruce Springsteen, and James McMurtry, Isbell writes about blue-collar lives that may not currently be his own, but his lyrics shine with the authenticity of firsthand observation."* - **A.V. Club**

*"Isbell's very best tunes will seize your heart and empty the oxygen out of your lungs."* - **Grantland**

*"What 'Something More Than Free' does best is confirm that Isbell is a rare talent, one who doesn't need a major life event to inspire him to make great music."*

**8 out of 10 - PopMatters**

*"Jason Isbell cements his ability to pack enormous punch into taught, concise lyrical phrasing that would make any poet jealous."* – **Diffuser.fm**

*"... one of the most talented and truthful songwriters on the scene. "*

**- Consequence of Sound**